

PARSONS DOWN PARTNERSHIP OF SCHOOLS



Executive Headteacher: Mrs D Fox

NEWSLETTER

www.pdp.w-berks.sch.uk

28th September 2018

Dear Parents and Friends of the Partnership,

It has been a very busy fortnight across the Partnership. It was lovely to see so many of our Foundation Stage parents joining us for our first EYFS opening morning. Thank you. This newsletter will give you a few of the highlights. Thank you for your continued support.

Inspiring Excellence

Learners of the Week

Congratulations to the following Learners of the Week:

Foundation Stage

Moon Class – Willow, Ollie, Alannah and Leighton.

Stars Class – Isaac, Ruby-Leigh, Logan and Cassie.

Year 1

Fox Class – Ryan, Ava, Bethan and Jacob.

Owl Class – Alfie, Freddy, Harrison and Sophia.

Year 2

Turtle Class – Harry, Kaja, Imogen and Finley.

Penguin Class – Harrison, Freddie, Chiara and Nick.

Dolphin Class – Rowan and Harrison.

Year 3

Avon Class - Dennis and Sophia.

Lambourn Class - Madison and Oliver.

Greenham Class - Finley and Annabelle.

Year 4

Donnington Class – Neve, Brooke, William and Kyle.

Ashmore Class – Charlie J, Kira, Charlie P and Reagan.

Year 5

Ufton Class – James, Taya, Keelin and Georgia.

Shaw Class - Kate, Owen, Maia and Hannah.

Years 5/6

Littlecote Class – Jessica, Holly, Charlotte and Alex.

Year 6

Douai Class – Adam, Jack and Harry.

Highclere Class – Scott and Kara.

Governors' Awards for Excellence

The Infant School Summer Term Governors' Awards for Excellence were presented earlier this term. Well done to the following children who were nominated for the awards:

English – Molly G, Madeleine S* and Isabel S.

Maths – Joseph M*, Nick F and Jacob C.

Science - Anderson P*, Shreyash P and Noah B.

The awards were presented to the children whose names are marked with an asterisk. Congratulations to you all!

Dates For The Diary	
Monday 1 st October	A chance to meet with the governors to discuss the plans to improve the school buildings. Junior School hall 3.30pm
Monday 1 st October	PDSA meeting 7pm Henwick Class (Juniors). All welcome.
Tuesday 2 nd October	Fox class trip
Wednesday 3 rd October	Owl class trip
Friday 5 th October	Roald Dahl dress up day (see Pride section for details)
Monday 8 th October	EYFS First Class photo with Newbury Weekly News
Tuesday 9 th October	Individual photos (see separate letter for more information)
Friday 12 th October	PDSA Discos
Tuesday 16 th October	Book Fayre at PDI
Wednesday 17 th October	Year 1 pet dress-up day and parents are invited from 9-10.30am.
Monday 22 nd – Monday 29 th October	Half Term Holiday
Wednesday 7 th and Thursday 8 th November 3.30pm to 6.30pm	Parents Evenings
Thursday 20 th December	Last day of autumn term
Monday 7 th January	First day of spring term

Making A Difference Together

Attendance Awards

Congratulations to Moon, Dolphin and Turtle classes for winning the Infant School Attendance Cup over the last two weeks.

At the Junior School, many congratulations to Donnington and Littlecote classes for winning the Herons Cup over the past fortnight.

Parsons Down Schools Association (PDSA)

We are very fortunate to have such an active and successful group of parents and friends of the schools who put on an amazing variety of events over the course of the year to both enrich the children's experiences and raise vital money for the school. On Monday 1st October, they are holding their Annual General Meeting. Please do come along and join us. The meeting will be held in Henwick Class which is situated by the pond at the Junior School on Monday 1st October at 7pm.

Challenge

Summer Reading Challenge



Well done to all of the children who have taken part in the summer library challenge. The challenge finishes on 30th September. If your child has completed it and would like to bring in their certificate we will be celebrating the children's achievements across the Partnership next Friday.

Enjoyment

Year 3 Visit to Stonehenge

On Friday 21st September, Year 3 went to explore Stonehenge. We had a wonderful day. We got to see Neolithic huts, made from lime and sticks. There was a museum that told



us all about people in the Stone Age, how they lived and about how Stonehenge was created. Later we went to see the stones. They were huge and we couldn't believe they weren't blowing over in the gale force winds! We had a fantastic day and learnt a lot.

Year 2 Tour of Thatcham

Year 2 had a great time on Wednesday afternoon on our tour of Thatcham. The children were looking for human and physical features around our local environment. We used our map skills to follow a route and spotted the 12 Apostles on the Bath Road. Thank you to the parents who walked with us.



MacMillan Coffee Morning

Thank you to all of you who were able to support our Macmillan coffee morning yesterday by baking and donating cakes and to those who were able to join us on the morning.



We would like to say a special thank you to Mrs Lock for donating a beautiful homemade 'Macmillan mug' cake for our raffle prize.



We raised over £100 during the morning, a fantastic effort. It would be lovely to see you again next week

when our weekly coffee morning returns.

Harvest Thanksgiving Children's Choir

Thatcham Baptist Church is forming a children's choir to sing at their Harvest Thanksgiving service on Sunday 7th October at 10.30am. If your child would like to take part please see the attached flyer for more information.

Cricket Camp

Berkshire Cricket Foundation is running a half term cricket camp for children in Years 1-4 this October at St Bartholomew's School in Newbury. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

Pride

Roald Dahl Dress-Up Day

Assemblies across the Partnership will be celebrating talents next week and we will be exploring the work of the very talented author, Roald Dahl. We are encouraging children to come into school on Friday 5th October dressed as their

favourite character from one of his many books. There is a link below with a few ideas.

<https://www.roalddahl.com/charity/fundraising-and-events/dahlicious-dress-up-day/dressing-up-tips>



As part of our ongoing work to support children to develop a love of reading we will also be celebrating the children who have taken part in the summer reading challenge during celebration assembly on that day.

Respect

Harvest Festival

We celebrated Harvest Festival in both schools last Tuesday. Thank you so much for your very generous donations for the West Berkshire Foodbank. In the Infant School, the EYFS children joined Key Stage 1 to celebrate the harvest and find out more about where our food comes from. In Key Stage 2, we discussed the concept of food miles and the advantages and disadvantages of importing food. Thank you once again for your generosity.

Key Stage 2 Friendship Buddies

This week we saw the very welcome return of the Friendship Buddies in Key Stage 2. Their role is to support children to have a happy lunchtime. Key Stage 2 children wrote a mission statement together with Mrs Fox.

Our Mission is; Respect and Kindness.

To respect everyone and everything, will mean that we can work hard in all that we do and try our best to achieve our goals. Being kind and friendly means we will include everyone and accept people for who they are. Working together we will be a strong team.

The Friendship Buddies are out on duty every day and will support children to find someone to play with, suggest games and help with minor fallings out. Thank you to: Ethan, Jack D, Inez, Niamh, Olivia, Ava , Curtis, Alex, Libby , Erin and Mia.

Safety

Fencing

We need to obtain some quotations for wooden fencing in the Foundation Stage area. If you are involved with a business which installs fencing or if you are able to recommend one please could you contact the office at either school with the details.

Bikes and Scooters

Every day we see huge numbers of parents and carers who support us with this by asking their children to get off and walk as soon as they come through the gate. Thank you!

=====

School Dinners

ISS Catering has asked us to let you know that school dinners at the Junior School cost £2.35 from the beginning of this term. If you have been paying for lunches at last year's amount please could you pay the difference due. Thank you.

Under Data Protection Law and in line with our Records Management Policy, this document will be retained for the period of 2 years and thereafter disposed of securely.