



Happy Friday all!

Ms Boswell: I wanted to write this week's newsletter as I wanted to personally tell you about the school improvement work that has been going on at Cropredy in recent weeks. Before I do though, I really must tell you how much I enjoy my 2 ½ days at Cropredy; everybody has been so welcoming and eager to work alongside me. As you know, I am here to support the school team and community in making sure that the school improvement journey continues. It has been most enjoyable getting to know the students and it has been a pleasure to meet and work with some parents already.

School Improvement: There is a lot to do to ensure that we expedite improvement in all areas of school life; from making sure that teaching and learning is consistently 'Good' to making the school building and environment fit for purpose. The jewel in your crown is your students who are bright, happy, polite and eager individuals. From looking at their learning, I can see that they are doing well but they have the potential to do even better and that is what our collective target must be. In order to do that, the curriculum must have depth, breadth and be inspirational; and behaviour and attitudes to learning must be outstanding.

Teaching must be at least 'Good' at all times and resourcing must be of a high standard. Those expectations come at a cost though and like all schools, Cropredy is strapped for cash, so it is going to be a challenge to secure what we need to, in order to make our school better. Priority investment is being put into the curriculum and resources and into a safeguarding management system that includes Special Educational Needs management and record-keeping. Because teacher laptops are not fit for purpose, further investment will be put into them also. As well as that, repairs and maintenance to the school building are a huge priority and essential.

Communication: I know that communication from school frustrates some of you. We are working on improving this and in addition, Facebook will be up and running very soon so that we can share daily learning and events with you as and when they happen.

Head teacher Search: We are very excited at the prospect of appointing a new head teacher very soon. Governors are keen to appoint an experienced head teacher with an outstanding track record for school improvement and I am confident that their quest will come to fruition. The Governors will keep you updated on developments.

Attendance: So many children have suffered from the nasty tummy bug and sickness this week, but our little soldiers are still battling through. It is hardly surprising that whole school attendance has plummeted to 94.9%. Hopefully, we are all over the lurgy and will be fit and well for the rest of the term. Well done Year 1 and Year 3!

Up to date class attendance:

CYGNETS 90.6%

Yr1 96.8%

Yr 2 94.1%

Yr 3 99.0%

Yr 4 95.4%

Yr 5 94.2%

Yr 6 95.0%

Netball: I was thrilled to have two of my schools go through to the March Area Competition this week! Not many head teachers have that privilege. Well done Cropredy: 4th place was well-deserved as you have worked hard in practice; keep at it! Congratulations to James L; Ellis H; Sam S; Harry S; Millie A; Jasmine A; Jolie P-D; Lily T-D; Hattie E-L and Isabelle A-H. Extra congratulations to James who won the RESPECT Award.

Eco Action: At Eco club today the children were concerned about caring for the birds in our school grounds throughout the cold winter months. We rolled up our sleeves and made bird feeders which we shall hang outside next week. You may be interested to watch on 'catch-up'; a programme presented by Chris Packham which was on ch5 last night: "Plant a tree to save the world". Chris looks at how the climate crisis can be reversed.

We are due to receive a donation of trees from the Woodland Trust in the next few weeks. A tree would make an excellent Christmas present for a friend or relative, if you are stuck for ideas.

Year 1: Our roleplay area is a Christmas packing and weighing station. If you have any old wrapping paper, decorations or cards or similar that need to be recycled, we would love to have them please.

Forest School: Please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for forest school. It is getting much colder now so everyone needs a warm jumper or coat underneath their waterproofs. Hats and gloves are a 'must' too. As it is very muddy, please bring in a spare carrier bag in which muddy clothing can be taken home.

Congratulations: Well done to our latest Celebration Certificate recipients:

Merits:

Red – Oliver B,

Green – Sawyer K, James K

Purple – Ellen C, Henry L-M,

Gold – Ben Mc

Red 2 –Daniel A

DATES FOR THE DIARY (New items or amendments in bold)

DATE	ACTIVITY	Notes	Extra-Curricular	Notes
Mon 2 nd Dec	Choir club	Lunchtime		
Tues 3 rd Dec				
Wed 4 th Dec				
Thurs 5 th Dec	Year 5 swimming	Swimming kit		
Friday 6 th Dec				

After School Clubs: All After school activity clubs have now finished for the term.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

Diary Dates 2019/2020 Autumn Term Date	Time	Event	Who
Wednesday 11 th December	1.15pm 6pm	Nativity Performance Christmas Music Extravaganza Cropredy Village Hall	Cygnets, Years 1 and 2 Selected pupils
Thursday 12 th December	Morning and Afternoon	Nativity Performance 9.30am 1.15pm	Cygnets, Years 1 and 2
Friday December 13 th		Christmas Jumper Day in aid of NSPCC Wear a jumper and contribute £1 or more	Whole School – decorate a jumper with Christmas Deco- rations or wear a Christmas jumper
Tuesday 17 th December		School-based pantomime – Cinderella	Cygnets– Year 4
Wednesday 18 th Dec	8.45am	Snow Queen	Years 5 and 6
Thursday 19 th December LAST DAY OF TERM	1pm	Christmas Service 1pm Cropredy Church – Children may be taken home from church.	
Monday 6th January		First Day of Spring Term—SCHOOL OPEN FOR BUSINESS	

Have a great weekend all. Keep warm and safe.

Muri Bix