



Cropredy C of E Primary School

'The Lord is my shepherd.' Psalm 23

31st January 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Hopefully, you have all received your ballot papers for the election of a Parent Governor. This is a really important role for the school and the successful candidate will make a huge contribution towards our future success. It's a chance make a real difference to how the school works. Our Governing Body underpins the day to day work of the school by challenging and supporting us and by scrutinising all aspects of our performance. For headteachers, the Governors are critical friends who help decide our strategic direction. Please make sure you exercise your right to vote by returning your ballot paper in the envelope provided and posting it in the box in the office by Friday 7th February.

This week we recognised the huge achievements of our pupils from the previous merit system. This was an important occasion because so many of the children had worked really hard for their merits. Many pupils had even worked through the system twice and some had achieved gold. We clapped until our hands had no more claps in them! Well done to all the pupils for their well-deserved praise. I'm looking forward to our first certificates for accumulated CBGs (Caught Being Good).

Our Eco Club initiative 'Bird Watch' flew into the headlines. Children were encouraged to spot and count all the birds around the school and at home. Even the Wagtails on our school roof were included. On Thursday, the Eco Club members counted their birds and reported that 12 different kinds of birds had been seen but only multiple sighting had been made of the wren, the magpie and the pied wagtail. The most common sighting was the magpie with 13 being spotted. Excellent research Eco Club. For more information go to www.rspb.org.uk/birdwatch

It sounds like Year 6 had a great time on their Junior Citizens day. Miss Tritton returned very excited and very impressed with our pupils. They were given several challenges to which they had to respond as responsible and conscientious citizens. It sounds like they had the sort of lessons not easily taught in schools. Well worth it. Congratulations to them all and thank you for being such good representatives of the school.

Magic Moments:

Firstly, I loved joining the Year 5 class for their Artic Animals art work. Their recall of the techniques and tools from a previous lesson showed good learning. Their sketches were very impressive. Drawing animals is so challenging but their work showed real talent with some of the animals striking realistic poses. I'm really looking forward to the sketches been used to make their 3D clay models.

Secondly, I enjoyed a cracking Year 1 science lesson. They were experimenting with the concept of 'melting'. The children were totally absorbed by the science and their use of scientific vocabulary was soooooo good. They had to predict results and draw conclusions from their observations.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs M C A Gwynne

Interim Headteacher

Class News

Cygnets

We have really been zooming around their topic of 'What happens when I fall asleep?!' We kick started our topic with a visit to a planetarium at The Grange where we saw stars and constellations, learnt stories and had a super time completing space themed activities!

Since being back at school we have been exploring the story of 'Whatever Next!' and next week we will be innovating the story - changing the destination that Baby Bear visits and thinking about what he needs to take on his new journey. We have created some fabulous constellation art, painted aliens and planets, learnt some bedtime lullabies, created some fantastic junk modelling rockets and thought about times of the day and our bedtime routines.

We are really looking forward to sharing our lullabies and work with you on our Forest School Open Morning around a camp fire on Tuesday 11th February from 10.30am and also on Friday 14th February from 1.45pm.

Year 1

Our 'Muck, Mess and Mixtures' topic is now well underway! Last week the children enjoyed a very busy Art Morning, when they created different paint mixtures and experimented with a range of applications. They shared poetry which reflected our colour mixing theme and produced some wonderful acrostic poems using the names of different colours.

This week our focus has shifted to thinking about food mixtures, particularly those that involve melting the ingredients. The children followed a recipe to make delicious cookies in DT. They listened to food themed poetry and wrote super, descriptive reviews. In science they heated a range of foods over hot water and predicted and observed which ones melted quickest. During Forest School they made ice cream in a bag!

Year 2

In Year 2 we have had a fantastic term undertaking our topic of Muck, Mess and Mixtures. Last week we spent the morning with year 1 creating lots of different pieces of Artwork for our art exhibition at the end of term. This included studying the work of Jackson Pollock and experimenting with different techniques for painting... all great fun (and messy!).

We have been keeping active in PE by learning new hockey skills. Mr Owens and Mr Pemble have been helping us to control the hockey ball with a stick while travelling between gates and passing. We are looking forward to playing some attackers vs defenders games in the next few weeks. By following the Croppedy Way, we have been extremely successful in our PE lessons this term!

"The Day the Crayons Quit" has been our text this term. We have looked at the emotions of the different crayons and the structure of letters and then written our own responses to Duncan, the owner of the crayons.

In Maths this week we have learnt some new tricky vocabulary. We have learnt about inverse operations and how multiplication and addition are commutative.

Mrs Mallock and Mrs Grant have been working on different celebrations of New Year in RE and this week have been looking at how New Year is celebrated in the Jewish faith.

Year 3

This week we have been researching and learning about all the different aspects of Viking life. We have had fun designing and creating our own Viking Shields ready for our Viking Fair in 2 weeks time. In maths, we have begun to learn the expanded column written method for addition and used equipment to support us in this.

Year 4

We have been reading different texts of the legend of King Arthur over the last couple of weeks and the children have begun to write their own exciting versions of the story. We have been continuing to explore electricity in Science which has involved lots of exciting opportunities to make bulbs light up and motors turn. Finding out about Viking life has included designing and making Viking shields

this week. Thanks to Henry, Joshua and Freddy who have brought in some wonderful different Viking models that they made at home.

Year 5

The topic of 'Frozen Kingdom' has captured the imaginations of children in year 5, and they have impressed with their enthusiasm, knowledge and work produced so far. Using their fantastic Arctic story maps created at home, the children are in the midst of writing thrilling traditional stories set in this Polar desert. In art, they are exploring arctic animals through clay sculptures and have enjoyed drawing out their designs. The imminent threat of global warming to the arctic regions have inspired current affairs discussions on climate change issues. It has been great to see parents join in on our weekly debates and I know they have been impressed with the children's diverse opinions and good ideas.

Year 6 continue to enjoy our topic of Frozen Kingdoms - we have been exploring seasons and climates in the Arctic and Antarctic and have been fascinated by parallel lines of latitude, Meridians of longitude and how time zones work. We've unexpectedly enjoyed algebra and co-ordinates and the children have produced some thrilling writing-in-role as the characters in our class novel Sky Song, which we are all captivated by. Lino cut printing - with designs based on Polar animals was a great success and our exciting Junior Citizens trip to Rewley Road Fire station, to take part in an invaluable series of safety scenario role play, was every bit as exciting as we'd hoped it would be.

School Saplings Secured!

We have 30 sapling trees donated to Cropredy School from the Woodland Trust. Mrs G A saw an advert from the Woodland Trust about the scheme, "Planting to Tackle Climate Change" and immediately thought it would be a great opportunity for our Eco Club to get involved and join other schools on the journey towards the government's climate goal by pledging to plant in The Big Climate Fightback.

Did you know that the UK's woodland cover is just 13%?

Not only will we be reducing the carbon footprint but we shall also be providing homes for wildlife such as bees, birds and small mammals.

The "copse" package includes Silver Birch, Rowan and Wild Cherry. It promises to be an oasis for birds. The aim is to use these trees, not just at Forest School but throughout our beautiful rural primary school, perhaps as a tranquil pathway through unmown meadow grass leading to Forest School. Hopefully, the meadow walkway will become a new eco system for bees and butterflies and further sources of food for the birds who will visit the new trees.

How can you help?

It would be great if we could have a planting session on Thursday 13th February around 3.15pm. So, you can pop into the PTFA 2nd hand book sale, in your wellies, and then come and join in the planting fun (please bring your own spade).

Thank you

Mrs G A

Cropredy School PTFA

We will be holding a second hand sale in the school playground on Thursday 13th and Friday 14th February from 2.40 – 3.15pm each day.

Donations are needed of adults and children's books. There will be a box in each classroom from Monday 3rd February for donated books. Thank you for your support.

Dates for your diary

5 th February	Year 5 Banbury Mosque
10 th February	1.45pm KS2 open afternoon
11 th February	Cygnets Forest School open morning 10.30am
12 th February	Year 3 & 4 Viking Day
13 th February	3.15pm Tree planting on the field – bring wellies & a spade
13 th & 14 th February	2.40-3.15pm PTFA second hand book sale in the playground
14 th February	1.45pm Cygnets & KS1 open afternoon
17 th – 21 st February	Half Term
25 th February	Cygnets & year 6 height & weight measurement
3 rd April	Easter Church Service 1pm
6 th – 17 th April	Easter Holidays

Adverts (at a cost of £1 & in no way endorsed by Cropredy School)

Harry Potter Day at Banbury Library on Saturday 1st February

Join us for a celebration of everyone's favourite wizard! Activities will be going on all day. This is a free event, children under 11 must be accompanied by an adult.

Bourton Village Hall is still taking bookings, great for children's parties etc

Contact Maggie 750497

Lift needed from Great Bourton to Banbury, office hours

Is there anyone who drives into Banbury for 9am and/or returns at approximately 5.30pm able to offer a lift from Great Bourton, Monday to Thursday, starting February? I will contribute to fuel costs! Please call or text Chris on 07803902030