

ST. ALOYSIUS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 12/05/17 Summer Term ~ Edition 1

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

<u>May 2017</u>	
Tuesday 16th	Willow and Fir Class Bookfeast Visit
Wednesday 17th	Oak, Ash and Tigger Class Bookfeast Visit
Thursday 18th	Ash Class Swimming - please remember kit
	Fig Class Bookfeast Visit
	Fir Class Music Workshop
Friday 19th	Bay Class Bookfeast Visit
	2.00pm - May Procession - parents welcome
Tuesday 23rd	Oak Class Pitt Rivers Museum Visit
Wednesday 24th	NO OUTDOOR LEARNING - moved to Thursday
Thursday 25th	9.30am - Ascension Day Mass at School
	Ash Class - NO SWIMMING
	OUTDOOR LEARNING - volunteers needed
Friday 26th	3.05pm - Start of Summer/May Break
<u>June 2017</u>	
Monday 5th	SCHOOL CLOSED - INSET DAY
Tuesday 6th	8.35am - Start of Summer Term
Thursday 8th	Ash Class Swimming - please remember kit
	OUTDOOR LEARNING - volunteers needed

FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers,
The weeks have really flown past since Easter. Year 2 and Year 4 have had wonderful residential trips (photos attached), we have held a very successful Science Day, the Year 6 pupils have completed their SATS and you have raised a staggering £602.24 for the Father Hudson Appeal. This is the largest sum the school has ever raised. Thank you for your generosity. Furthermore, sixty one backpacks have been donated for the Mary's Meals Backpack Appeal and will be collected shortly. Thank you for all your support with this very worthy cause. You can find out more about this appeal by watching <https://www.marysmeals.org.uk/get-involved/campaigns/the-backpack-project>. I hope you have a lovely weekend. Tom Walker - Headteacher.



The Trap Grounds

The Trap Grounds is our local Town Green and wildlife site, situated just off the towpath, immediately south of the Frenchay Road canal bridge. On Sunday 21st May from 2.00pm to 4.00pm there will be an open afternoon with activities for families. There will be opportunities for visitors to spot and identify wildlife, do some pond dipping, look at mammal skeletons, take a guided walk and do some creative writing. There will also be a special bush craft session particularly suitable for 8-12 year olds at 2.30pm. All children need to be accompanied and supervised by an adult.

Childcare Vouchers

With the opening of Acorn Nursery Class in January, the decision was made to accept childcare vouchers. These vouchers can be used to pay for Breakfast Club, nursery care and in September, after school club. The schemes we are currently registered for are Edenred, Computershare, Care-4 and KiddiVouchers.

Oxford Greenbelt Fun Day and 10k Fun Run - Saturday 20th May

Please remember to come along to the inaugural Oxford Greenbelt 10k Run and Fun Day. Saturday 20th May, 11.00am, Louie Memorial Fields, Botley OX2 9JD. Further information about the day can be found at www.runandfunday.com. There will be a great barbeque!!!! Thanks.

PRAYER FOR THE FAMILY

We beg you, God of grace and eternal life, increase and strengthen hope in us. Grant us this virtue of the strong, this strength of the confident, this courage of the unshakable. Then we can boldly grasp, again and again, the challenges in our lives. Then we can do our work and know that you - without us and where our strength may fail - still work your glory and our salvation, according to your good purpose. Strengthen in us your hope. Amen.



PTA MUSIC EVENING SATURDAY 20TH MAY

With MANOUCHE etcetera. Doors open at 7.30pm, concert starts at 8.00pm. Tickets are £10 (available to buy from the School Office) and include a glass of bubbly and nibbles on arrival. Manouche etCETERA are a versatile trio whose repertoire includes everything from fiery gypsy dances to comic songs and classic swing numbers (<https://www.manoucheetcetera.com/>).

Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers

Please remember to give us your ACTIVE KIDS vouchers. The promotion ended on 2nd May. The collection box is located outside the school office. Thank you.

RNIB - Royal National Institute of Blind People - USED STAMPS!

We are collecting used postage stamps. The RNIB can raise money from British and overseas new and used stamps. They also collect first day covers, presentation packs and albums. Please leave approximately 1cm of envelope around each stamp and place them in the post box outside the office and when we have a goodly bundle we will send them off to the RNIB.

Oxfordshire County Music Service

Oxfordshire County Music Service provide a wide variety of music lessons for children. We currently have children learning violin, cello, guitar and clarinet via OCMS. If you would like your child to learn an instrument, please click [HERE](#) for further information.

The Giving Machine - MONEY FOR FREE!

Did you know that most major retailers will donate money to causes like St. Aloysius PTA every time you shop online with them? All you need to do is access the retailers webpage via The Giving Machine website [HERE](#). Stores that support The Giving Machine include; Sainsbury's, Tesco, SportsDirect, Boden, John Lewis, Waitrose, EBay, Asos and many more. Thank you for your support.

Parents, welcome to:
Schoolgateway

The easy way to pay online for dinners and other items.

Download the app. Android and iPhone
or visit: www.schoolgateway.com



Activate your account today!



School Motto

Be ambitious for the higher gifts.

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CLASS REVIEWS

Willow Class - During the past two weeks Willow Class have been working exceptionally hard preparing for and taking their SATs. The children have enjoyed revising using some unconventional methods such as treasure trails and team quizzes! Many of the staff in school have commented on how calm and prepared the class appear and I have been extremely proud of their conduct and hard work. Fingers crossed it all pays off! In addition to this, Willow Class has this week welcomed Miss O'Kane, a third year teaching student from Oxford Brookes who will be teaching in Year 6 for most of the final term.

Oak Class - Oak Class have begun the term by completing the final chapter of Winnie-the-Pooh and writing favourable reviews reflecting on their enjoyment of the humour and characters they became familiar with during the Spring Term. They are working hard on spellings with prefixes such as dis-, im-, in-, which create antonyms. They began by describing themselves, sharing what they enjoy, dislike, find funny or makes them angry, favourite books and authors, hobbies and interests. They have been very motivated in creating montage portraits of themselves. The combination of these pieces of work can be seen on display in the entrance hall. Miss Pablos and Joanne Mocek have been very supportive in creating the montage portraits. In Maths they have been looking at how to use represent numbers, addition and subtraction using Numicon. They also worked on a code investigation once again supported by Numicon. Mrs. Brookes has been very impressed by the range and hard work produced for Science Day. In class it became a day and a half as they worked on investigations connected to friction using Newton measures, ramps, stop watches and different materials - see photos. They found it great fun. Several amusing YouTube clips showing life without friction and ducks landing on ice made it most memorable. They have enjoyed learning about the structure of flowers and been awed by the process of bees pollinating plants. In RE they have been looking at resurrection stories in more depth. Fr. Daniel was impressed by the knowledge they have as First Holy Communion get nearer. The children have compiled questions for their topics on bees and Africa. These questions show real curiosity and motivation to find out facts. This week Oak Class welcomed Miss Evans, who is from Brookes University on her final placement before beginning her job as a teacher in Liverpool in September.

Tigger Class - Tigger Classroom has turned into a haven for minibeasts over the last couple of weeks - we have a daily intake of insects and spiders that are being tracked down inside and out and after looking closely at them with magnifying glasses, we have been talking about how important it is to return them back to their natural habitats. Most exciting has been watching our pet caterpillars who have grown from the tiny 6mm length when they arrived to the whopping 40mm fat and hairy caterpillars we have now. The children have been fascinated to watch the caterpillars go through the moulting process as they've outgrown their skins and we think they may soon getting ready to form their chrysalises. Seeing this all happen before our eyes is really helping the children understand the different life-cycle stages. We have written What Am I? leaflets using clues to describe our favourite minibeasts and in maths we have been making tally charts and bar graphs to show the different colours of bugs found in the school grounds.

Fir Class - Fir Class have shown great enthusiasm for our new Fire of London topic and many of the children are now experts on the cause of the fire and what events happened during that week in September 1666. The class have also enjoyed reading some of Roald Dahl's stories; they've written Enormous Crocodile story and devised their own marvellous medicine recipes. In maths the children have been looking at patterns that occur when adding pairs of numbers and using these to help solve sums. In art the children created some great pastel pictures of The Great Fire of London and in RE they have been reflecting on the season of Easter. Overall a busy couple of weeks in Year 1!

Acorn Class - Acorn Class have been busy exploring our new topic, People Who Help Us. We have been dressing up as police people and burglars inspired by reading Burglar Bill. For the past week we have been role-playing putting out fires as fire people. We have also been planting beans and hope they will grow on the classroom window sill. A big thank you to the parents who were able to come to our stay and play sessions. It was lovely to see so many of you enjoying finding out what we do in Acorn Class.

THIS TERM'S HOUSE POINT TOTALS

Ashmolean 91 Bodleian 76 Radcliffe 90 Sheldonian 96
Autumn Term House Point Cup Winners - BODLEIAN

Fig Class - Fig Class have had a busy few weeks. Science day was not only great fun, but we all learnt a lot about wind power and how it might be used in the to propel vehicles in the future. The children designed and made cars that were propelled when air was released from a balloon which was attached to it. Last week we all had a fantastic three days at Hill End. The children rose to all the challenges presented including the challenge course, the habitat trail, the water fight and the outdoor toilets! I would like to thank all the staff who made this such a successful and happy trip. This week we have written our own versions of the Little Red Riding Hood story adding adjectives and adverbs to develop the characters in the story. We are now looking at the features of diary writing and using these in our diary entries about Hill End. In Maths we have been working with money - making and comparing amounts- and have looked at fractions of shapes and fractions of a number. In RE we are thinking about promises, what it means to make a promise and how difficult they can be to keep.



Bay Class - Easter chocolate stupor was speedily dispatched at the beginning of term by the need to prepare for Science Day. Once again the standard of Science projects was high and my gratitude to parents for their undoubted help towards guiding their offspring to knowledge scientific. We spent the day in Bay Class building a machine to pop a balloon using at least three simple machines with a time limit and thinking about the energy transformations occurring. Much recycled material was utilised (thanks again to parents who heeded the call for toilet roll tubes - I am surprised at usage in some households). The pupils are looking at shape and transformations in maths and revisiting co-ordinates. The book this term is The Railway Children which will be driving the numerous literacy strands of English. In History the children will be examining the social and economic issues of life in the late 1800s and the early 1900s in England. With Spring in the air, Science will be focusing on Life Cycles of animals including humans. Frog spawn anyone?



Ash Class - After an amazing trip to Woodlands, the class have been getting back to normal school life. This week we have welcomed a new member of the class (Sammy) who we hope will love St. Aloysius just as much as we do. Back to what they have studied. They have written up times where they achieved their course aims from last week which will be going on a display. It was great to read all the times where they overcame a fear or worked well in a team. In maths, we have focused on reading, writing and comparing 5-digit numbers and negative numbers. The children seem to quickly grasp this using their place value knowledge from previous

lessons. Lastly in topic, the class have carried on looking at recycling but this week focused on how all our recycled materials make it from home, how it is sorted to the original product again.



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SCIENCE DAY 2017

THURSDAY 27TH APRIL 2017

Science Day was an exciting and informative day!! All classes were involved in a variety of different practical science activities. During the day we considered how science impacts on our everyday lives and how it can change our understanding of our world, the universe and our part in it.



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