

ST. ALOYSIUS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER 24/11/17 Autumn Term ~ Edition 4

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

NOVEMBER 2017

Saturday 25th 11.00am - Willow Class Confirmation at The Oratory
 Monday 27th 11.00am - Year 4 Alter Serving Training
 Thursday 30th 3.15pm - Year 3 FHC Sacramental Preparation Meeting with Fr. Daniel in Oak Class

DECEMBER 2017

FRIDAY 1ST

MUFTI DAY in exchange for contribution to hampers/tombola prizes (poster attached)

Monday 4th 11.00am - Year 4 Alter Serving Training
 Tuesday 5th 2.00pm - Bay Class Confessions, The Oratory
 Wednesday 6th **WHOLE SCHOOL CHRISTMAS LUNCH**
 Thursday 7th **NO SWIMMING**
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, The Playhouse
 Acorn Nursery Class Songs and Mince Pies
 Friday 8th 10.00am - Immaculate Conception Mass, The Oratory
 Monday 11th Bay Class Making Soup for The Gateway
 11.00am - Year 4 Alter Serving Training
 Tuesday 12th 6.00pm - Tigger and Fir Classes Performance
 Wednesday 13th 2.00pm - Ash Class Confessions, The Oratory
 6.00pm - Fig, Oak and Ash Classes Performance
 Thursday 14th 6.00pm - Bay and Willow Classes Performance
Friday 15th PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR
 Monday 18th School Christmas Lunch

FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers, Thank you for your wonderful generosity! The Winter Ball was a great success and everyone really enjoyed it. Serious inroads are being made into the fundraising target of £15k. To purchase a new, larger climbing frame (including installation costs) will be somewhere in the region of £20k. School will be contributing £5k from some additional funding provided by the Government to develop active playgrounds. No doubt our new equipment will last many years. Our current climbing frame was installed in 2004, it needs to retire! We are looking forward to our Confirmation Service on Saturday very much. Have a lovely weekend. **Tom Walker - Headteacher.**

After School Club - Space Limited

After School Club is now full most evenings and we can only take bookings via the booking form. Priority will be given to those who have made a booking and paid at the same time. A Booking Form is attached to this newsletter. If you would like a paper form, please either speak to or email the school office. If you have an outstanding bill, please can you pay it promptly. Your child's place at ASC may be at risk!

Oak Class (Year 3) Meeting

Sacramental preparation meeting with Father Daniel for all those children preparing to make their First Holy Communion. Thursday 30th November 3.15pm in Oak Class.

Fir Class Outdoor Learning - 29th November

Next Wednesday is the last Outdoor Learning this term. Outdoor Learning will resume in the New Year.

Winter Ball

Staff and parents all dressed up in their glad rags on Saturday night to attend the (hopefully annual) PTA Winter Ball. It was such a successful evening at the Museum of Modern Art. We started with canapés and fizz and then had a sumptuous banquet of so many different dishes. Those of the sweet tooth variety finished their dinner with Eton Mess and Brownies - yummy!! After supper everyone's attention was focused on the amazing Auction of Promises where lots went for some very large sums of money. Mrs. Walker's Brownies sold for £120.00 (thank you to the generous parent who bought these, an absolute bargain). Thanks also to all the other parents and staff who bid both successfully and unsuccessfully on the lots. Throughout the evening we were accompanied by great live music from Manouche et Cetera and then after supper everyone donned their dancing shoes to take a turn around the dance floor. It was a fantastic evening and everyone enjoyed themselves. Initial indications from the PTA are that they raised a massive £2,200 - which is astounding! Huge thanks to all the parents who organised the evening and made it such a memorable occasion.

THIS TERM'S HOUSE POINT TOTALS

Ashmolean 206 Bodleian 141 Radcliffe 269 Sheldonian 250
 Summer Term House Point Cup Winners - **ASHMOLEAN**

ACT OF FAITH PRAYER

O my God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three divine persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. I believe in Jesus Christ, your Son, who became man and died for our sins and who will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths that the holy Catholic Church teaches, because you have revealed them, you can neither deceive nor be deceived. Lord, increase my faith. *Amen.*



ACORN NURSERY CLASS

(For 3+ Year Olds)

PLACES AVAILABLE NOW

For an application form, please email Jo at office.3842@st-aloysius.oxon.sch.uk

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.



Vouchers

We now take vouchers from numerous voucher schemes including Kiddivouchers, Computershare, Care4, Edenred and Busy Bees. You can use these vouchers to pay for nursery, after school and breakfast clubs. If your employer uses a different scheme, please speak to Jo who should be able to register with that scheme.

The Giving Machine - PTA MONEY FOR FREE!
 * Did you know that some major retailers will donate money to St. *
 * Aloysius PTA every time you shop online with them? **PLEASE SEE** *
 * **THE ATTACHED POWERPOINT FOR MORE INFORMATION.** All you *
 * need to do is access the retailers webpage via The Giving Machine *
 * website [HERE](#). Money for FREE. Thank you for your support. *

CHRISTMAS FAYRE - FRIDAY 15TH DECEMBER

Come along and enjoy games, crafts and our Christmas Café. There will be a Tombola and we will be raffling our fantastic Christmas Hampers. There will also be a selection of great craft stalls, more information to follow ... Come along - the fun starts in the School Hall at 3.05pm.



School Motto

Be ambitious for the higher gifts.

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CLASS REVIEWS

Ash Class - The children wrote about their weekends on Monday, using a checklist of 5 grammatical features that they had to include, from abstract nouns to adjective phrases. This was to check their understanding, and they all showed good understanding! In RE Ash Class have been looking at Jesus teaching us how to pray. We read the story of Mary and Martha; and could all relate to what happens. They understood that listening is an important part of prayer. The children role played the story, quoting directly from Luke's Gospel - and then crafted impressive diary entries from the perspective of Martha. Well done Ash Class! Mrs. Black



In Science the children have been learning about food chains, reinforcing key vocabulary such as herbivores, carnivores and omnivores. They have designed a number of their own food chains through drawing and mobiles. Alice in Wonderland continues to provide valuable stimuli for written work in English lessons. Children are becoming competent at making constructive use of their writing target bookmarks. The class welcomed Mrs Steele as she supports reading groups and accompanies children to weekly mathematic sessions led by Magdalen College School Year 11 pupils. In Maths the class have become more familiar with aspects of time, using and converting analogue time to digital time, use of 24 hour clock and solving problems around use of train and bus time-tables. One pupil, Sofia Sordo, has demonstrated that she has real entrepreneurial skills. She is a very keen artist and has designed a number of different greeting cards (birthday; get well etc.) She has managed to sell quite a few to her class friends. The funds are going into school funds to support PTA. She is being encouraged to set up her own stall at this year's Christmas fair. Here she is pictured holding up a few designs alongside her first customers. Mrs. Brookes

Oak Class - In Oak Class we are all in an acting frenzy as we rehearse our lines for our performance of Peter Pan for parents and friends on Tuesday 28th of November at 2.30pm. The children have all worked very hard and I am sure you will all enjoy the fruits of their efforts. We have also been learning songs for our Christmas show. We have been working hard in class too. In Maths we have been rounding numbers, practising subtraction and developing our understanding of 3D shapes. We have been writing our own traditional tales that we will turn into shadow puppet shows over the next three weeks. I think one of the highlights of the past few weeks has been the teamwork and concentration of the whole class during our football skills sessions. We had a fantastic 14-a-side match with every class member giving 100% and what a great team Oak made. Go team Oak.

Acorn Class - Acorns have had a busy few weeks thinking about different celebrations. We have looked at Hanukkah, Eid and birthdays! We have played in a dark den with torches, glow sticks and sparklers thinking about light and dark. We have made Menorah candles out of cones, handprints and collage materials. We had a go at writing Jewish letters. We talked about the celebrations of Hanukkah and Eid, and the differences and similarities to our own celebrations. We enjoyed dancing to Jewish music. Father Daniel came in again and we sang a Round and heard a Creation story. We had a birthday party in our home corner and the children enjoyed taking part and playing party games! We made cupcakes and decorated them, party hats, bunting and painted cupcakes. We have talked about our own birthdays, thinking about how we celebrate.

Fig Class - In Geography, the children are continuing to research a country of their choice, finding out about climate, human and geographical features and any other interesting facts. They are using a range of resources to support the research including: books, the internet and asking people who have lived in the country. Using this

information, the children are then creating a PowerPoint presentation, using recently learned skills including hyperlinks, inserting images and choosing designs and transitions. In Maths, we are using place value skills to problem solve and work out money problems. In cooking we have remade the porridge oats biscuits practising skills and making improvements. We will now use the same basic biscuit recipe but see what happens if we change some of the ingredients. Next week we will add chocolate chips to some of the biscuits and cocoa to others and see which we prefer. In Spelling we are adding the suffix 'y' to root words and learning that if the vowel has a short sound, you double the last consonant e.g. fun becomes funny, hop becomes hopping. We are also learning that if the word ends in an 'e' you drop the 'e' when you add 'ing' e.g. ride becomes riding, hope becomes hoping.

Bay Class - Bay Class have been looking at newspaper reports recently and this has revolved around the book Tuesday by David Wiesner. They have started to write interview questions to the witnesses of this strange event. Over the next few weeks, we will be focusing on page 126 of Pig Heart Boy where you will find a newspaper report on the protagonist. In Maths, we have looked at division using the chunking method although some have started to learn the new concept of the bus stop method (short division). We have just started on angles where the children have understood the different names of them, how to draw them and measure. It would be great to get them to show you how they can measure angles at home. In RE, we have looked at our gifts and talents and how we can use those to help reflect God's image. Lastly, Christmas play rehearsals are well underway and well done to those who have already got costumes ready. If you don't know what your child needs to wear then there is a list on Miss Joyce's door.

Willow Class - We have done a lot of work on fractions including multiplication, fractions and also converting from fractions to decimals and to percentages. We also converted mixed numbers to improper fractions and improper to mixed. We had a test covering almost everything we have learned. In English, we worked on script writing and reading. We took paragraphs from Harry Potter and turned them in to scripts. In the last few days we have attempted auto-biographies and biographies. In grammar we have been doing top trump battles for a while and now we have four winners; Cata, Jean Paul, Lev and Sandra. Willow Class also have a new teacher for two weeks called Mr. Fowler. *Written by Rita Iannacci in Miss Joyce's absence.*

Tigger Class - This week we have started looking at the 'Ice' element of our Fire and Ice topic. We are learning all about the Polar regions and the animals that live there. The children have taken a keen interest in the animals so we have been learning lots of facts about them. There have been some interesting comments made about why things happen and how things work when we have been investigating different things in the world. We are becoming really confident reading and spelling words in our phonics, keep up the good work Tiggers!

Fir Class - In RE Fir Class have created some lovely writing based on the Wedding at Cana and are now moving onto thinking about Advent and then the Christmas story. In our music lessons we are now learning all our songs for our play. In Maths the children have worked hard to really try to understand what the numbers represent in 2 digit numbers and how to order them on a number line. This week the children made banana cakes and started to look at a recipe as an example of instructional writing. They are also learning about rhyming words and so are learning some short nursery rhymes.

BBC Gospel Choir of the Year Final

Miss Joyce is part of the Oxford Gospel Choir who will be on BBC Gospel Choir of the Year Final scheduled for BBC1 for Sunday 26th November (3.15pm) and the following Sunday 3rd December (4.15pm) as part of Songs of Praise. Good luck to the choir and Miss Joyce.



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