

Headteacher:  
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**5th October 2016**

# Newsletter



## From the Headteacher



### **Pantomime**

Letters have gone home regarding this year's trip to the Robinson Crusoe pantomime at Chipping Norton. Replies should be back to school by Friday next week and if we have more than 45 responses places will be drawn out of a hat.

### **Secondary School**

Applications for September 2017 secondary school places should be made by 31 October latest. We wish all our Year 6 children good luck in attaining their preferred choice.

### **Bikes**

There are quite an impressive number of bikes and scooters parked in the shelters but please do lock them up during the day. If for some reason you don't have a lock then park them in the top shelter near to the Nursery where they will be much safer than by the main entrance. Thank you.

### **Respect**

The NSPCC revisited our school yesterday to complete workshops with Years 5 and 6. We were compared very favourably with other schools and our children emerged with great credit for their listening skills and the way in which they engaged with tasks and thought about others. If you wish to make a contribution to the charity please return the envelope provided to school as soon as possible. To find out more about the programme please visit [www.nspcc.org.uk/schools](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/schools) where there is information and downloadable resources are available.

### **Parent Consultations**

The first parents' evenings of the term are on Monday 17 October (6.00-8.00pm) and Tuesday 18 October (3.30-6.00). This is your first opportunity to see how your child has risen to the higher expectations of their new year group, and we hope to see as many of you as possible. Letters to arrange appointments will be with you on Friday.

Wywiadówki będą w dniach 17 i 18 października. Jeśli potrzebujesz pomoc tłumacza, należy podać na recepcji: imię i nazwisko dziecka, imię nauczyciela i podać godzinę wywiadówki.

Best wishes,

*Neil Blackwell*



*Parents, Teachers & Friends Association*

### **PTFA**

Advance warning of the date for the PTFA Annual General Meeting, Monday 7 November from 8.00 to 9.00pm, where we briefly go over what we achieved this year and vote in new members. Please come along if you can to help us keep supporting the school through fundraising and events. Drinks and nibbles will be provided ☺ - any new parents very welcome. Venue to be confirmed when we know numbers.



## What we are doing!

### Focus on Year 3

Year 3 have made a great start to the year. They have enjoyed learning about Banbury's history and last week wrote instructions for making Banbury Cakes, which were delicious! They are currently developing their stitching skills to make their own hobby horses and using maps to learn all about the local area. Shadows and Light has been a very popular topic in science, and children have made shadow puppets, measured their own shadows throughout the day and will now be looking at how the Earth moves around the sun. In PE they have been developing their football skills; learning how to tackle, defend and turn with the ball.

### Waddesdon Manor

Year 4 had a great trip to Waddesdon Manor last week and their behaviour was fantastic. In their art this term they have been studying the work of ceramics artist Kate Malone who has an exhibition at Waddesdon, inspired by the nature around it. They were completely inspired by the setting, both the house and its grounds, and created their own harvest themed objects made from clay.

"This has been one of my top 3 best days out, ever" (Mohammed Esa); "I'm going to ask my mum to bring me back" (Danyal and Brandon); "I'm going to use nature in my art because Kate Malone was inspired by nature" (Ivan)



## Learning News

### Building Learning Power

You will recently have received a short colour leaflet explaining the eight learning powers and the attributes of each. The leaflet has also now been posted on the school website. There were some fantastic examples of learning powers in our Celebration Assemblies on Friday with Star of the Week certificates being awarded for having a go, being co-operative, never giving up, and always trying to improve their work. Please try to encourage these attributes at home, too.

### The power of 'yet'

Three letters but this small word is a powerful tool in the classroom. Try reading the following sentences:

I can't do it.

I don't understand it.

It doesn't make sense.

Then add the word 'yet' to the end of each sentence and the message is transformed. I have even heard Year 1 children using this phrase as they engage positively with their learning. It is all part of developing a Growth Mindset and is something that we are encouraging across the school.



## Dates for your Diary



**Monday 10th October:** Parents' Phonics Sessions at 2.30pm & 6.30pm

**Wednesday 12th October:** Open day for prospective new parents at 9.30am

**Monday 17th October:** Parents' open evening 6pm—8pm

**Tuesday 18th October:** Parents' open evening 3.30pm—6.0pm

**Wednesday 19th October:**

- School photos
- Harvest service at St Leonard's Church year 5

**Friday 21st October:** Term 1 ends at the usual time

**Monday 31st October:** School closed (INSET day)

**Tuesday 1st November:** Term 2 begins



## St Leonard's Church

Find out what is happening in our church by going to their website:

<http://saintleonards.org>