



Dear Parents,

How wonderful to be enjoying the Autumnal sun — I'm sure it makes everyone smile.

We have enjoyed exploring courage and risk taking during assemblies. Particularly well done to Matilda in Class 2 who explained how she was courageous when facing the challenge of a tall wall at a climbing party. She tried several times and conquered her fear eventually—she even enjoyed it. Our teachers are entering into the assembly challenges too. Mrs Strang was worried when faced with a hairy spider in the bath tub! She was courageous and helped the creature to safety without Mr Strang's help!

Class 4 Assembly

Thank you to the Class 4 team who led a thought provoking assembly on the courage needed to be different. We found out about a boy called Wesley who stood out from his friends because he didn't like pizza, fizzy drinks and wearing his clothes back-to-front! He had the courage to be himself and not join the crowd. In fact he set up his own civilisation called 'Weslandia'. In the end the other children wanted to join his new group.

Big Friends, Little Friends

The children in Class 1 and Class 5 have been paired by our teaching team. This supportive partnership is an opportunity for our older children to take on board a leadership and nurturing responsibility. It also supports the younger children in feeling safe and happy within school. The children have already enjoyed book sharing and I've seen many children playing happily together during break times.

New notebooks

We are delighted that the children have been using the new notebooks in class to support their learning in other subjects: researching animals, canopic jars and Howard Carter, learning Letters and Sounds and developing keyboard skills. Thank you to the PA for their support in upgrading our resources. Children in all year groups are benefitting greatly.

KS2 Educational visit

The KS2 children loved their educational visit to Bristol Museum where they explored a range of Ancient Egyptian artefacts, including seeing a mummy! In addition, the pupils engaged in a wonderful workshop on evaluating art. Many pupils led presentations on artworks they enjoyed—much to the delight of the listeners who commented on their confidence and strong communication skills. Enjoy the views of some of the children... *"I learned it was different in Ancient Egyptian times because there were temples instead of churches and people wore different clothes because it was so hot."* Poppy Jones *"I learned that paintings were made from different materials and I really enjoyed seeing the mummy!"* Amber Price-Lawson

Book Week 2015

Thank you to all the TA team for organising the Book Fair so well over Parent Evening week. Hopefully we have some happy and grateful children who will have their noses tucked into their books as the nights draw in. The school's commission will be shared between the classes to further develop their class book selections.

Harvest

We're looking forward to Harvest Celebration led by Class 5. We would be delighted to accept fresh or packaged produce which will be displayed in the church. Please bring food into the school foyer on Thursday the 8th in the morning. The food will be given to a food-bank to support our local community.

Fair Funding

The Government is reviewing how schools are funded across the UK. At present different counties receive different funding and this in turn can lead to significant disparities in the amount of money schools receive per pupil, per year (up to £2000). GCC are undertaking a petition to support their desire for greater funding. If you wish to support Gloucestershire County Council there will be a petition in the school foyer which you can choose to sign.

Parent Association

The PA do a wonderful job of raising funds and facilitating community events for us to enjoy. Their next meeting is in Class 3 on Oct 15th at 7pm. Do come and get involved.

Police Notice

The police have notified us of a spate of car break-ins around our locality. They advise keeping belongings out of sight.

DIY team

We have a list of maintenance jobs which need to be undertaken on the school site. Mr Elliott, our School Governor who leads the premises committee, **is trying to gather people with skills and a little time to offer. The jobs vary in size and all help would be gratefully accepted.** If you want to join the team please call Mr Elliott on 07557 360901 or offer your name and skill to Mrs Lester in the office. Many thanks.

Dates for your diary

I have listed below some of the key dates for your diary. In addition I have included the focus of our assemblies so you can think about these values with your children—sometimes I will be asking them to talk to you and report back so be prepared! Individual class teachers will inform you of other activities including educational visits that are planned for terms 1 and 2.

Term 1

October

- Thurs 1st - Special 'Cowboy' lunch menu. Yee-ha!
- Mon 5th - Reception pupils commence fulltime
- Thurs 8th - Harvest Celebration led by C5 (2.00pm St Michael and All Angels church - parents welcome)
- Fri 9th - School photographer (individuals and families - school hall)
- Mon 12th - Value for learning and life: Sense of Fun
- Thurs 15th - PA meeting in Class 3 at 7pm. All welcome
- Mon 19th - Class 2 Assembly (school hall - parents welcome)
- Tues 20th - Final day for pupils of Autumn Term 1**
- Wed 21st - INSET DAY (For staff)

Term Break - Wed 21st Oct - Fri 30th Oct

Term 2

November

- Mon 2nd - Term 2 commences
- Mon 2nd - Value for learning and life: Diligence
- Fri 13th - Class 3 Assembly (school hall - parents welcome)
- Mon 16th - Value for learning and life: Cooperation
- Mon 30th - Value for learning and life: Friendship (continued until end of term)

December

- Tues 1st - Musicians to perform for the Bluebell Club (village hall)
- Thurs 3rd - KS 1 (Infants) Nativity performances (2.00pm and 6.00pm - school hall)
- Sun 6th - School/PA Christmas Bazaar (12.00pm school hall)
- Wed 9th - KS 2 (Juniors) Christmas performance (6.30pm school - school hall)
- Thurs 10th - KS 2 (Juniors) Christmas performance (1.30pm and 6.30pm - school hall)
- Fri 18th - Final day of term 2

Term break - Mon 21st Dec - Mon 4th Jan 2016.....

Term 3

January

- Mon 4th - INSET Day (For staff)
- Tues 5th - Term 3 commences for pupils

Thank you for your continued support,

**Zoe Avastu
Headteacher**



Aiming high.....together