



### **Dear parents,**

What a delightful time of year—I hope you are enjoying collecting leaves and the beautiful, blue sky with your children. Can we ask you to ensure that all children bring a coat into school each day now as we try to give children the opportunity to play outside at break/lunch times. We do have wet play if it rains however children are always better for having time outside to enjoy physical activity and fresh air. Thank you.

Our congratulations to Mrs Mifflin (Miss Gulliford) on her marriage during the recent holiday—she hasn't stopped smiling yet! We're all working on using her new name. We've had a great start to Autumn Term 2—busy and productive. Enjoy reading about it.

### **Mathematics Information Evening**

It was great to see parents at the mathematics information evening. It was a valuable opportunity to share how we teach the addition, subtraction, multiplication and division across the school, the new expectations for maths and our use of Mathematics. Thank you for engaging with us positively and for asking such pertinent questions. Your commitment to working together to support your children is obvious. Thank you for your feedback about what was helpful & useful: 'to understand the teaching methodology', 'to see the enthusiasm for maths amongst the staff', 'to try the visual tools and apparatus like coat hangers/pegs, 100 squares and numberlines', 'getting ideas on how to help at home', 'the use of technology in maths', 'great doing it as a workshop so we could be active.' Most parents said that a 6pm start was the best time to start an information evening— we will bear this in mind in the future. Thanks go to Mrs Mifflin and Mrs Rome for coordinating the session and to all the staff for giving their time generously.

### **Stand Up To Cancer**

The School Council wanted to raise money to support the Stand Up To Cancer campaign which support research into cancer. They did a wonderful job organising a non-uniform day with a bring and buy sale, and cakes. The whole school had fun and over £330 was raised. Well done to all the School Council team for taking a risk to lead and making a difference. We are proud of you. Thanks to Mrs Yorke and Mrs Lord for supporting the School Council in their endeavour too.

### **Photograph competition**

The photography winners, Caitlin Hennell, Ben Wheeler and Isabel Langley, loved the opportunity to work with Mr Dougan and his specialist equipment during a day of nature photography at WWT. All three pupils will enter a Gloucestershire School photographic competition with Mr Dougan's support now. Though the standard of the photographs was very high by all the children, the winning photos were taken by **Ben Wheeler** — **CONGRATULATIONS!** Our sincere thanks go to Mr Dougan for sharing his expert wildlife photography skills- thank you.

### **Harvest**

What a wonderful celebration-the church was full to bursting! The children sang, danced and delighted us with their poetry. I'm sure we all know a lot more about apples now. Special thanks go to Class 5 for leading the celebration so well. It was a lovely time for the school community to come together to give thanks for all we have and remember others. Thank you to everyone who contributed to the harvest food collection too—the local food bank were delighted.

### **Class 2 assembly**

Class 2 led a thoughtful assembly about remembrance today. They shared some of their memories and reminded us how important it is to share our memories to help us understand our happy and sad times. They led us into our two minute silence by explaining it as a time to remember those who have secured and protected our freedom. Our thoughts will be with the children and families who take part in public and private remembrance services on Sunday.

### **Photographs**

A reminder from Mrs Lester: please bring all photograph orders to school by 9am Monday please (if you haven't done so already or have placed your order online).

## Halloween

What fun! Our amazing PA team did a wonderful job providing a fantastic party. The children loved the dancing, food and face painting. Well done to everyone who dressed up and contributed to making the night a good time for all.

## Reflection

The school is exploring how we encourage children to reflect on themselves, their relationships and the world to support their social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. Miss Dracup is leading this and has devised a great structure which we are using:

**Looking out:** thinking about people or events, especially those that inspire

**Looking in:** a time to 'look inside' and think about our own actions and attitudes

**Looking ahead:** What impact will our reflection have? What will we celebrate, change or do that that will bring positive change about.

As part of this we are planning an active reflection day in Spring Term on core values such as friendship, forgiveness etc. We hope that reflective stations will be set up in the hall so classes can come in and have a short time to reflect. We will aim to give you an opportunity to come after school and join in too. More information will follow when the day has been finalised.

## Christmas

The teachers in each Key Stage have started to organise Christmas events for this year. Letters will follow with more information soon.

## Safety reminder

Please remind your children not to play in the car park before/after school. In addition we ask all children not to cycle/scoot on site at the start or end of day. All of these measures are to ensure children are safe. Many thanks for your cooperation.

## Parking

Thank you for being considerate by not parking on the drives of local residents— they have come in to say things have improved. We have a letter requesting that parents do not park in front of the gates which access fields at the bottom of Mill End Lane too as it delayed a local farmer helping a cow who was having calving trouble. Thank you for your help in this matter.

## Dates for your diary

We have listed some of the key dates for your diary.

## Term 2

### November

- Wed 2nd - Maths Information Evening for parents 5.45pm-7pm
- Fri 4th - Halloween Evening Party for pupils - run by the PA
- Fri 11th - Class 2 Assembly (10am school hall - parents welcome)
- Mon 14th - Value for learning and life: Diligence
- Fri 25th - Class 3 Assembly (10am school hall - parents welcome)
- Mon 28th - Value for learning and life: kindness

### December

- Sat 3rd - School/PA Christmas Bazaar
- Thurs 8th - KS 1 Lights, Camel, Action (2.00pm and 6.00pm - school hall)
- Thurs 15th - KS 2 The Match Girl's Christmas (1.45pm and 6.30pm—school hall)
- Fri 16th - Final day of Autumn Term 2 for pupils**

**Term break - Sat 17th Dec - Tues 3rd Jan 2017 (inclusive) .....**

### January

- Tues 3th - INSET Day (For staff)
- Wed 4th - First day of Spring Term 3 for pupils**
- Tues 10th - Reflection Day—TBC

Thank you for your support,

**Zoe Avastu**  
Headteacher



*Aiming high.....together*