



Ampney Crucis C of E Primary School
Together we live, learn and flourish
Newsletter 2: Autumn Term 1 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

The last couple of weeks have already flown by, all the children seem so settled and are working hard.

It was lovely to see so many parents and guests join us for Willow and Oak's Reading café on Friday afternoon (photos are on the website) and I look forward to seeing Chestnut parents on **Friday 6th October at 2:00pm.**

What has been happening in School?

Maple children have already completed nearly 2 weeks of being full time and are proving to be a delightful group of curious and energetic children who have already embraced being outside at Forest School and taking part in PE lessons. They have already worked hard on their mark making and phonics and we can't wait to see what else they are going to achieve.

Willow have started their whole class violin lessons and produced some quite good tunes at their first couple of attempts! Forest School has also started for Year 1s. All the children have been working hard with their writing and have reproduced some great versions of the Three Little Pigs! In Maths we have been working on one more and one less (Year 1) and recognizing numbers in a sequence and what might be missing (year 2) amongst other concepts.

Chestnut have investigated the impact of drinking a lot of water, cola and smoothie on our teeth - with surprising results! The children were fascinated to see how some of the eggshells changed over a few days of being kept in these liquids. It really made us think about looking after our teeth! We have been writing our Ancient-Egyptian themed stories in English and learning about the daily life of ordinary people in Ancient Egypt in History. We were surprised by how advanced this civilisation was, although we were not convinced by their choice of 'pillow'! In computing, we found out how the world-wide web is only a part of the internet and considered all the ways in which we use 'the web' every day. We were staggered at how fast - and how far - the information travels!

Oak All the children in oak have been working hard and have made a great start to the new academic year. In English over the last few weeks, we have been looking at the work of the poet Valerie Bloom. At the moment we are writing our own poem in her style about the most annoying animals in the world. Another topic the children have been enjoying is our history unit on the Maya civilisation. This week we have started a time traveller's guide to what life was like for rich and poor in their society. We are also all enjoying our class book Crater Lake by Jennifer Killick. A story about a school residential trip that goes very, very wrong!

Cross Country

Congratulations to all our children who took part in the first Cross Country race of the season at Kingshill on Tuesday. Jessica, Patryck, Sebastian, Dan, and Louis were all first timers and did exceptional well in horrible conditions. There were some great placings and children showed real perseverance. Well done all!

Clubs

As I am sure many of you are aware we have lots of clubs that happen both during the day and after school. **There are still some places available in Cross Country on a Wednesday and photography on a Thursday.**

Clubs this term include:

- Cooking with Mel from Kitchen Club
- Atlas Sports for KS1 and KS2 children
- Cross Country – Wednesday with Mrs Wood (no charge)
- Young Voices Choir (30 children already signed up)
- Photography Club – with Kami Beddoe (please contact the office for details)
- Forest Green Football Club for Year 5 and 6
- Art and Craft Club at Lunchtimes – children are invited to this.
- Book Club – Thursday lunchtime for children invited from Chestnut Class
- **Netball Club will start next week on a Wednesday lunchtime** for children in Chestnut & Oak

We encourage the older children to also run their own clubs at lunchtime. On a Thursday lunchtime there will be a KS1 football club and on a Wednesday lunchtime a Chess Club. If you have a chess set at home you no longer want please bring it into school.

MacMillan Coffee Morning



Not wanting to clash with the one being hosted at the Village Hall on Friday we will be holding ours on **Friday 6th October** straight after drop off in the morning. Please join us for tea, coffee, biscuits and cakes and chat! If you are able to bake or buy any cakes that would be very much appreciated, please bring in the day before or on the morning.

Harvest

Our **Harvest Church Service will be on Friday 13th October at 9:30** at the Church of the Holy Rood in Ampney Crucis. All parents and other guests are very welcome to attend. If you haven't been to our church before parking can be a little tricky so please allow time to park and then walk or you can walk with the whole school as we make our way to the Church. A separate letter will be sent out about **Harvest** with additional details on it.



WANTED

Lunchtime Supervisor

We currently have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor from 12:50 to 1:00 every day. This job involves supervising children in the hall while they are eating and leading play on the playground. If you or anyone you know is interested, then please call into the office.

Parent Governor

We currently have a vacancy for a Parent Governor on our Governing Body. Skills in finance, marketing and or education would be beneficial, but we need people who are able to make 6 meetings across the year, dedicate some time to being in school looking at specific areas and be able to report back to Governors on what they have seen. It is an interesting role which enables you to learn more about what goes on behind the "Scenes!" If you are interested and would like further information, please contact Mrs Wood and she will arrange a meeting with the Chair of Governors, Mr Beddoe.

Enjoy the rest of the week and the weekend.

Mrs Wood