



Ampney Crucis C of E Primary School
Together we live, learn and flourish
Newsletter 2: September 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

The end of last week and beginning of this week has been a reflection on her Majesty, the Queen's life, and a celebration of all that she was and achieved.

One of my favourite quotes from the Queen is:

"When life seems hard, the courageous do not lie down and accept defeat; instead, they are all the more determined to struggle for a better future."

Our Value this half term is Courage and we once again, as a nation and a community come together to support each other and give each other courage. Of course, such a public display of grief brings to the fore our own emotions and grief, so we must remember to look after ourselves.

Remember my door is always open.

House Captains and The House System

We wish to relaunch our House System as this was something that we were unable to really run during COVID and following on from last year recognise we need to develop it further.

We have appointed new House Captains and lead Staff, with Mr Pugh having overall responsibility for the captains as they are in Oak.

Newton-	Mrs Gough	Alick and Moses
Dodd-	Mrs McKay	Thomas, Rubi and Sophie
Wilkie –	Mrs Hopkins	Nate and Max

These children are now in charge of designing a house point accumulator board in the hall. They are also going to lead the rest of the school in a competition to design a new crest for each house. Throughout the year the House Captains will run several house events from design technology to House Games.

House points will now be awarded solely to the children instead of Class dojo points. These as with Dojo points will be given for going above and beyond, rather than what we expect all children to do. The winning house each half term will be allowed their own dress down day as a reward.

PE

Thank you for sticking with us while all the arrangements for PE are finalised.

Miss Belcher will be teaching PE to Willow and Oak on a Tuesday and all the classes on a Thursday.

Swimming is counted as a PE session.

Oak has an additional session of PE in the week as they are the oldest class.

When swimming stops at Christmas, Chestnut will then have 2 PE sessions in school. Normally PE sessions are added to throughout the year when we have specialised coaches in, as before, for Cricket, Orienteering or other sports.

Children can come to school when it their PE session wearing PE Kit.

What's on this Week?



Invitation to join us for a Reading Café and meet the teacher session.

We would like to invite parents from Willow, Chestnut, and Oak class in to join their child for an afternoon session of reading, refreshments, and a chance to talk the class teacher and ask any questions. Maple children's parents will be invited in when their child has had chance to settle in full time.

Chestnut – Thursday 15th September at 2:15pm

Oak – Friday 16th September at 2:15pm

Dates for your Diary

Friday 23rd September - One of the focuses for this year is to help children recall their times tables and the related facts. We are relaunching **Times Tables Rockstars**, an online platform children can use at school and home where they can play against their classmates and on their own. Attached to this email is some additional information. All children will have their own login. This will only be for Willow, Chestnut and Oak as it is not suitable or a focus for Maple children. However, to launch this focus we would **like all the children** (including Maple) to come dress to school on **Friday 23rd September as rock stars!** We will be running Times Tables competitions during the day which we hope the children will continue to do so at home.



Day	Event
Monday 26 th September	European Day of Languages
Friday 30 th September	Macmillan Coffee Morning for parents to join us straight after dropping children off in the morning. Please provide cakes if you can.
Tuesday 4 th October Wednesday 19 th October	Open Mornings for parents wanting a place in 2023- if you know anyone, please spread the word.
Thursday 6 th October	Harvest Festival Service at 9:30- all are welcome at the Church. Details about this will be sent out towards the end of September.
Friday 7 th October	Oak to the Literature Festival
Thursday 13 th October	Chestnut to the Literature Festival
Friday 14 th October	Maple and Willow to the Literature Festival
Week starting 17 th October	Parents Evenings – details to follow.

There are other dates to be confirmed including a church service for Maple children. These will be shared as soon as arrangements are confirmed.

A Goodbye to Mrs Winter

At the end of the month, we will say a sad farewell to Mrs Gwen Winter, one of our lunchtime supervisors. Gwen has been working at the school for 17 years so needless to say has worked with and looked after a lot of children. Gwen will be greatly missed by all of us but we wish her all the best for the future and I am sure she will enjoy the extra time she has to spend with her family.

This does leave a **Vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor in our school.**

This is for 1 hour and 15 minutes a day (11:45 to 1:00) and the job includes setting up the hall ready for lunch, supervising children when eating and out at play and basic first aid.

If this is something you or someone you know might be interested, then please contact the school office for more details and an application form.

Enjoy the rest of the week.

Kind regards,

Mrs Wood

Head Teacher