AMCPS News 2023-24 No.33 - 24/05/24

Happy end of term 5 - I know - only 36 school days left this school year! I hope you have a relaxing break and look forward to seeing you all on WEDNESDAY 5th June 2024.

Please take time to read this weekly newsletter with your children each week.

House Point Cup Weekly Winners

The House Points earned this week were...

Ridgeway	287pts
Silbury	283pts
Kennet	281pts
Avebury	278pts

ABBEY MEADS



Well done to all!

Nursery News

We started the week with

World Bee Day. The purpose of the

international day is to acknowledge the role of bees and other pollinators for the ecosystem. We have been kindly donated a

bee house which we will be putting

up in our outside area.

We have planted some bee friendly flowers in our garden to encourage the bees to visit.



Apologies for the last-minute cancellation of the discos yesterday. Many of us were caught in the drama of massive traffic delays and no water for periods of time.

We will happily roll your entry fee over to the next disco on 18th July, but if you would prefer to have a £3 refund now and pay again in 6 weeks' time, please contact the office.



Scene of the burst water main, by the turning for Abbey Meads and the school.

Clubs now end on 8th July 2024! Just a quick reminder that Monday Clubs will end on 8th July as a result of many staff being needed to attend an event in Swindon. The original end date for these voluntarily run clubs was a week later, but the last day will now have to be 8th July 2024.



Year 1 Assembly for Parents



Thank you so much to our wonderful

children in Year 1 for this morning's assembly. The children were incredibly professional and 'slick' in their presentations, including organising their own props and stage directions. They told us all about their favourite bits of learning from this term. We were treated to some amazing facts about plant growth from a serious looking group of scientists. The acting skills of those performing Little Red Riding Hood were off the scale, as was the storytelling and actions from the whole class ... word perfect! The slideshow from their trip to Fairy Tale Farm showed just how lucky they were with the weather, and how much fun they all had on that trip. It was clear from the reaction of the largest audience ever, that all were justifiably very proud of the children's performance. Well done all. Thank you also to the staff in Year 1, who have worked tirelessly this year to make it possible for such an amazing assembly to be performed.



Year 3 build computers with Intel Year 3 were treated to a visit by volunteers from Intel this week. The children learnt all about the different parts that make up a PC.

The volunteers showed them how a PC is built, and the children enjoyed putting the various components, such as memory cards and sound cards into a computer.

It was a great opportunity to enhance the children's understanding of computing and they asked lots of interesting questions.



Sienna hits Stage 5!

Sienna is really proud of her Stage 5 swimming badge, which she was awarded last week. She has been working really hard to hit every target to earn her badge and we are delighted that all that hard work has paid off.



Well done Sienna!

Rosette for Rory

Congratulations to Rory, who did his first show jumping competition last Saturday and received his first rosette for coming in 1st place.



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Sisters achieve Gracie Jiu Jitsu Grey Belts

Congratulations to Beatriz and Antonia, who have graduated with a full grey belt in Gracie BJJ (Brazilian jiu jitsu) They have worked so hard and deserve their success!



<u>Planning Ahead Next Term</u> (click here)

- 5th June Start of Term 6 •
- 5-7 June Curriculum Week Olympics
 - 7th June Non-Uniform (Summer Fete Bottle Donations Please) 14th June - Reception Classes Assembly 9am 14th/15th - Camp Out - Year 6 19th June - Sports Day -Years 4-5-6 - 10.30am 19th June - Sports Day - Years 1-2-3 - 1.30pm 25th June Open Hour - 9-10am
 - (Come see us teach Reading.) 28th June - Non-Uniform Day
 - (Summer Fete Chocolate donations please)
- 5th July Summer Fete 4pm until 7pm
- 11th July Open Hour (Collect Pupil Reports) 4.30pm
- 15th July Foundation Stage Sports Day Nursery and Reception children - timing tbc
- 17th July Children meet next year's teacher
- 17th July Musical Extravaganza 1.30pm
- 18th July Art Day
- 18th July Discos 5-6pm and 6.15-7.30pm
- 19th July Break the uniform rules day
- 22nd July Yr6 Performance 1 2pm
- 23rd July Yr6 Performance 2 6.30pm
- 24th July Yr6 Party Day (provisional depends on appropriate persuasive letters to Mr. Buckley from Yr6!)
- 24th July Last day of school year!

Kindness Café

At AMCPS we always try to focus on the best behaviour first and children regularly collect house points for being kind citizens; over 2000 a week! When children are spotted doing 'the right thing', such as just being kind or helpful, being thoughtful of others, sticking to the rules and continuously Paying Forward they have the chance to be rewarded by being invited to the Kindness Café. The Café runs once a term and children share hot chocolate and cookies with



Dates for your d

Ash - Eddie & Chloe Oak 1Elm - Antoni & Kimberlyn - Poppy & Evan 1Holly 2Beech - James & Olivia 2Hazel - Sienna & Eliza 3Alder - Georgia & Samuel 3Birch - Erin & Bless 4Chestnut - Max & Davit 4Hornbeam - Imogen & Florence 5Rowan - Ella & Riley - Lucas & Joel 5Sycamore 6Juniper - Heidi & Josh 6Willow



- Ava & Brian... Plus Phoebe and Theo who were featured in News 32!

We are so proud of you all. Thank you for Being Kind and Paying Forward! Thank you to the ladies in the kitchen for making cookies and hot chocolate for the Café.

Active8 Club a huge success

The Active8 group have been amazing, in their weekly club and participated in tennis, football, basketball and dodgeball over the 3 terms. A big thanks to Mr Maguire for running the club as well as Mr. Shore for helping set the club up and Mr. Buckley Junior for supporting and delivery of the sessions.



Art Day Next Term - 18th July 2024

For those eagle eyed among you who spotted on the dates section that an Art Day has been added...

... here is a short outline.

We will be holding an Annual Art Day to ensure children learn about a range

of specific artists, architects and designers throughout their time at Abbey Meads. This is in addition to the art curriculum already in place.

Children will learn about the work of a range of artists, architects, craft makers and designers in history, and be describing the differences and similarities between different practices and disciplines. As always we will be and making links to other aspects of their work.

Each year group will focus on a specific person and generate activities based on their work.

Children can wear non-uniform that day!



A big thank you was said today to Mr Buckley (junior!) who leaves us after a short time helping in classrooms and running PE sessions for the children. Most messages from the children read, "Good luck in your new job Mr Buckley, we hope you come back and visit soon."

Mr Buckley (Snr) isn't too sure about that, as he has had to put up with not being the most popular Mr Buckley on the staff for the last 6 months! 😊

Harry now returns to a role in industry after a week off to play golf!







WHAT IS LIGHTHOUSE?

We are an Early Intervention service supporting children and their families within the Blue Kite Academy Trust schools.

We are made up of Family Workers, Inclusion Workers, an Educational Psychologist, Educational Welfare Officer and Trainee Play Therapist.

We work in many different wayssometimes directly with children, sometimes with parents and carers. We also offer regular workshops, courses and 1:1 drop-in sessions for one off advice – please speak to your child's school for more information or if you feel you, or your child, may benefit from Lighthouse support.



LIGHTHOUSE NEWSLETTER! SPRING / SUMMER 2024

Welcome to our second newsletter! We will send a new one each long term for all parents- so keep an eye out. We will be sharing the events and courses we are running, top tips and more! See below for more information on who we are and what we do.

EVENTS

FRI 24TH MAY

MANAGING SCREEN TIME WORKSHOP- 1 HOUR 9AM- ROBERT LE KYNG PRIMARY

TUES 4TH JUNE-TUES 9TH JULY FAMILY FOUNDATIONS 6 WEEK COURSE AT

RUSKIN JUNIOR SCHOOL (BOOKING NECCESARY)

MON 15TH JULY

MANAGING BIG FEELINGS/EMOTIONS (1 HR) 9AM WANBOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

All sessions are open to all Trust families not just those at the school it is being held in. No booking required for any workshop- just Family Foundations

FINANCIAL SUPPOR

The Lighthouse team recently had some training with the Advice and Financial First Aid (AFFA) team from Citizens Advice Swindon and learnt more about the many ways they can help. If you need advice about finances, they run regular drop in sessions and offer appointments where they can support with things such as:

- Checking eligibility for unclaimed benefits and help them, or give them the tools to make a claim Checking eligibility for grants or hardship payments and
- help make a claim
- Providing emergency support where needed eg fuel vouchers, referrals to foodbank and accessing SBC **Emergency Assistance Fund**

www.citizensadviceswindon.org.uk

There are also lots of places that offer Kids eat Free or very cheaply during the holidays such as: • Asda- Kids eat for £1 with no minimum adult spend

- Morrisons- Kids eat free when adults spend £4.50 in the . café

Tesco- Kids eat free with any adult purchase in the café See our Instagram page for more places!

FOLLOW

FOR REGULAR FAMILY LIFE TIPS. LINKS TO USEFUL POSTS AND DATES FOR YOUR DIARY PLEASE FOLLOW OUR INSTAGRAM PAGE:

LIGHTHOUSE BLUEKITETRUST

THIS MONTHS TOP TIP

How do we know a table is a table? Because growing up the adults around us would have labelled it so, 'Put this on the table.' 'Sit at the table.' This too is how we learn about emotions and feelings, with the adults around us helping to label them. ALL feelings are OK- some might not feel very nice but its healthy and normal to show a range of emotions. If we are taught to suppress and hide our feelings it can have a big effect on our wellbeing throughout life. So how do we teach our children? We try not to TELL them how they feel, but can instead suggest with sentences such as, 'Your face looks like you might be feeling a bit angry about that.' 'I wonder if this puzzle is making you feel frustrated?' You can also point it out in books and films or ask how they think that character might be feeling. Ask them a time they felt a certain emotion and share a time that you did too. Bring it into your every day vocabulary. A quote we love is, 'Labelling emotions is key. If you can name it, you can tame it.' If children can TELL us how they feel they are less likely to have to SHOW us how they feel with their behaviours.

GSTRUGGL

Many families find the morning can be a high stress point of the day. This can often be linked to children Finding it hard to leave you to go into the classroom in the morning. Try some of these tips to help:
Reduce stress and rushing by getting all items needed for school out and ready the night before.
Have a visual chart of the morning routine for them

- The division of the morning routine for them to follow so you don't need to nag and remind! With things such as 'get dressed', 'brush teeth' etc. Come up with a goodbye routine with your child for when you leave them such as '2 Hugs, a kiss and a high-5' This can help as it increases predictability and reduces the '1 more hug' delaying tactics! If they are getting upset often do chat with their teacher too for more support.

MAYHALFTERM

- Head to the 'Swindon Rocks' website to find out details of various events happening around townboth free and paid.
- Put some masking tape around your childs wrist with the sticky part facing outwards then go for a nature walk and find things small enough to stick
- on to create their very own nature bracelet! Have a games night with team work games such as how many items can you can collectively move from one bucket to another while simultaneously keeping a balloon up in the air- team games can build sibling relationships and avoid upset or competitiveness if this can be an issue!