



13<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Dear Parents,

**FLAMINGO ASSEMBLY:** A huge well done to Mrs Ward's class for their fantastic assembly this morning. They told us all about their study of 'Castles' this term and demonstrated how effectively the creative curriculum works (learning key skills in all subjects through the study of one topic). They showcased work from PE, maths, literacy, art and music - they have been incredibly busy! They showed a slide of their self-portraits in the style of Andy Warhol, which are of a very high standard. These are on display in Miss Ward's classroom and I would encourage you all to have a look. The vibrancy of the colours was lost slightly on the power point, so it really is worth a trip to Flamingo class to get the full effect. My thanks go to Mrs Ward, Mrs Tugwell and Miss Radwell for all their hard work with the class.

**WARWICK CASTLE TRIP:** On Wednesday the Year 2 children visited Warwick Castle as enrichment for their study of 'Castles'. They had a wonderful time and, as ever, their good behaviour and politeness were commented on by staff at the castle. My thanks go to the staff and the parent helpers for giving the children an exciting day out.

**HARVEST FESTIVALS:** We had two harvest festivals this week. Firstly, the main school held theirs at church on Tuesday. The assembly was taken by the Year 3 children who performed a delightful harvest story. They narrated the story beautifully and sang a most uplifting harvest song. The church service was led by Mr Mark Eley – this involved Miss Meyer and Mr Laurie competing in a Ready Steady Cook style sandwich making contest. It was hysterical and I have to report that Miss Meyer was a worthy winner! Secondly, FSU put on their harvest assembly on Wednesday morning. It was lovely and particularly impressive when you consider that they have only been in school for six weeks. My thanks go to Miss Meyer, Miss Greatbatch, Mrs Bell, Mrs Peacock, Mrs Obinna, Mrs Spearman, Mrs Fowler, Mrs Beckett, Mrs Merritt, Mrs Cox and, of course, Mr Eley for all their input into our harvest celebrations. A special mention must be made of Mrs Holt who organises the harvest donations and ensures that they arrive at the Bicester Food Bank – thank you. Please see below a message from Mrs Holt.

*Harvest donations for Bicester Food Bank have been collected and they were very grateful for your continued generosity. The food and goods you sent in will make a huge difference to families in our community. Janet Ray who runs the Food Bank would like to make you aware of their Christmas collection at the Tesco superstore over the first weekend of December. They are looking for volunteers to help man the collection points, as well as anyone who can spare a couple of hours the following week at the food bank offices in Market Square to sort and pack the donations. If you are able to help in any way please contact the food bank directly on 01869 357181 or email at [bicesterfoodbank@gmail.com](mailto:bicesterfoodbank@gmail.com). They are also looking for new colouring books, they have had a large donation of pencil cases and felt tip pens/pencils and would like to use them as gifts for food bank users in the run up to Christmas. Again please contact the food bank directly or drop them into the collection at the Tesco superstore.*

**PARENTS' EVENINGS:** I hope that you have all signed up for an appointment to meet with your child's teacher on Monday or Tuesday next week. If you have not done so already then please may I urge you to do so? At these meetings you will hear how your child has settled into their new year group and receive suggestions on how to best support your child at home.

**INTERNATIONAL WEEK:** Next week is International Week at KMS. I hope that you all received the booklet detailing some of the activities that the children will be involved in. Please remember that on Friday we would like the children to come dressed in the colours of the flag of the country that they will be studying. That morning we will be running a food tasting carousel and the children will be able to sample food from Spain, Malaysia, China, India, South Africa, Japan, Germany, Italy, Sweden, France, New Zealand, Australia, Russia, Mexico, Switzerland, The Maldives, Jamaica, Greece, Ecuador and Brazil. My mouth is watering as I type! My thanks go to the team here at KMS for organising such a wonderful week for the children, with a special mention to Mrs Obinna, Miss Ryczowski and Mrs Spearman for coordinating and running the whole experience.

The countries being studied are:

FSU Spain	Year 1 Australia
Year 2 Russia	Year 3 Brazil
Year 4 Germany	Year 5 India
Year 6 New Zealand	

Please note that we would like to invite you to come into school and see the work from International Week from 3.15pm next Friday.

**FSU NEWS:** This week all the children have been out collecting autumn leaves and using them in their art work. On Wednesday the reception children have made us all proud by performing their harvest assembly, many thanks for your support in watching the children and giving generously to the Bicester food bank.  
Sarah Obinna Early Years Leader

**CALCULATION EVENING:** On Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 6 pm we will be running a calculation evening for parents. The aim of the presentation is to demonstrate to you how addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are taught across the school and therefore to better equip you to support your child at home. We appreciate that things may have changed since you were at school and how frustrating it is when your child tells you that your method of calculation is wrong! The evening will run along similar lines as the very successful literacy evening we held last year. Each teacher will be running a workshop to explain the methods and show progression across the school. We would like as many of you as possible to come and to facilitate this we will be running 'hot chocolate and story time' sessions in some of the classrooms, for those who have difficulty with childcare. I do hope that you will be able to join us.

**HALF TERM BREAK:** A reminder that school closes next Friday at the usual time for the October holiday. School reopens on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October.

**FLOCK COMEDY:** You will have received a flyer for this fundraising initiative, organised by the PTA. I have been to Flock Comedy evenings and they are most enjoyable. Please come along and support the school.

**PTA DISCO:** Tonight is the PTA Halloween Disco. I hope the children have a great time. It has been brought to my attention that members of the PTA and office staff have been shouted at regarding the deadline for the ticket orders. The deadline is in place to allow the team time to organise the wristbands to keep your children safe. It is unfortunate if you have missed this deadline, but that is not the fault of the office staff or the PTA. The PTA works tirelessly to raise money for the children at this school. They are paying £5,500 for International Week – which is just one example of their generosity. If parents continue to abuse these volunteers in person or via Facebook then they will stop their fundraising efforts and the school will be a much poorer place. The whole team at KMS work hard for the benefit of your children and it is unacceptable for them to be spoken to in an unkind or abusive manner. If you have an issue then please come and discuss it with me – my door is always open. Thank you.

**SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS:** The deadline for applying for a secondary school place is Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2017. Apply on-line at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/secondaryadmissions).

**PTA CHRISTMAS CARD ORDER:** Please note that the deadline for final Christmas card orders is Monday 16th October, after which we will not be accepting any more orders. We have to place the final order before the 17th, so this deadline cannot be moved, and any orders brought in after Monday will not be processed. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a good weekend

Mrs L Daulton

Headteacher