



Dear Parents and Carers,

15<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**LEOPARD CLASS ASSEMBLY:** Well done to Miss McGuire's class for an excellent assembly this morning. They told us about their study of Thailand during International Week and their work on Ancient Greece. In Science they have been learning about Space and they sang a song explaining our Solar System. We also watched them perform their 'P' Factor winning entry, 'I Saw My Teacher Out on a Saturday' – which made us all laugh again. My thanks go to Miss McGuire and Mrs Chaundy for all their hard work with the class.

**CHILDREN IN NEED:** It looked as though the children (and members of staff!) had simply rolled out of bed this morning and come straight to school as most were still in their pyjamas. It is fantastic that the school gets behind such fundraisers. We have a huge mountain of cakes to sell at break time and I am hoping that we will raise a lot of money for Children in Need. We have had 220 entries for the Pudsey competition which has raised £110 alone. I will let you know in next week's newsletter what the total is. My thanks go to everyone who donated cakes and to Mrs Heason and the School Council for running this event.

**PTA COMEDY NIGHT:** By all accounts, the Comedy Night was a huge success. Not only did those in attendance have a great night out but a staggering £1002.57 was raised for the school funds. My thanks go to the PTA for organising such an enjoyable evening and to all of you who came along and supported the event.

**STAFFING:** I am sad to report that Miss Ellis, Flamingo class TA, will be leaving us at the end of next week. Miss Ellis has worked at King's Meadow for ten years and we will miss her greatly. We wish her well in her new job at Fringford Primary.

**INTERVIEWS:** On Tuesday we held interviews for 3 Teaching Assistant positions in the school. We received a lot of applications and the field was strong. I am pleased to announce that Mrs Yvonne Jordan will be working in the Nursery, Mrs Simona Adhikari will be joining the Reception classes and Mrs Jacqueline Farrell will be Flamingo class' new TA.

**SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL:** Last week interviews were held for the School Crossing Patrol post. I am pleased to advise that there is a potential candidate. We are awaiting confirmation from Oxfordshire County Council subject to a satisfactory recruitment process.

**CINEMA TRIPS:** The children all enjoyed their trips to the cinema. They will all be bringing home a free child's cinema ticket, when accompanied by a paying adult, today. My thanks go to Vue for their generosity.

**PTA NEWS:** It was a busy week for the PTA last week. Thank you to all who attended Comedy night on Friday. It was a great night and we raised a fantastic £1002.57. We are currently looking for volunteers for the Christmas Fayre on Friday 6th December. If you can help to set up, during the fayre or to clear up afterwards please let us know either through the Facebook page, the PTA email or your class rep. All help is gratefully received. We are also looking for donations of teddies for our Teddy Bear Tombola. Donations can be left at the school office until 9am on Thursday 5th December. Our next event is tomorrow, Saturday 16th November. We are hosting a Christmas Shopping Event in the school hall from 2-4. We hope to see you there. Mrs Nash PTA Chair

**RECYCLING:** This year, at King's Meadow we are striving to be more Eco friendly. One of our key aims is to recycle as much as we can. To do this the children will now be able to recycle any brand of crisp, popcorn or pretzel packets at the end of lunch time. These will be then taken to a TerraCycle and KP Snacks drop off point. For more information please visit: <https://www.terracycle.com/en-GB/brigades/kpsnacks> Thank you for your support. Miss Meyer, Eco School Coordinator

**CROSS COUNTRY:** On Wednesday afternoon, we took 48 children down to the annual Bicester School Cross Country Competition. In a change to previous years we were limited to 12 children per race, which meant the children that we took to this event had already qualified as a fastest finisher in their year group races at school. Upon arriving at the Bicester School, it was great to see so many ex King's Meadow children welcoming our runners in their role as sports leaders. They helped the children warm up and we were soon ready for the races. The year 3/4 girls race started with lots of enthusiasm and after a very fast start things looked good. By the end of the race we had some very muddy faces and some very weary legs. A top 20 finish from Lily J was very impressive. Onto the Year 3/4 boys' event and lots of competitive boys pushing and shoving their way to the front of the pack. Our boys came out fighting though with 5 children finishing in the top 21. We are hoping that this will help the team qualify for the North Oxfordshire finals, although I will need to wait for confirmation of this. Isaac W and William C led the way just inside the top 10. In the Year 5/6 girls race there were a few very nervous faces. There was no need for nerves though as Isla W led the girls home with a podium position and Chloe and Meadow followed her home just inside the top 10. This, and with Ellie A's fast finish just inside the top 25, I also hope that the girls' team has qualified too. The year 5/6 boys' race was also extremely competitive with some fabulous runners from the Bicester area. Jimmy M can be very proud of his top 10 finish and will head to the North Oxfordshire finals as an individual runner. Well done to all those who took part and to Mrs Devaney, Mrs Targus-Stone and Mrs Lee for helping with the team. Mr Roberts, P.E Coordinator

**FSU NEWS:** In Reception, we started our focus on 'People who Help Us' and had a visit from Elaine, the Vet, who talked about her job, including taking x-rays and how she helps animals when they are hurt or unwell. Next week we will be meeting Inspector Biggs. On Wednesday we had a very successful visit to the cinema to watch Angry Birds II. The children really enjoyed the film and could recall their favourite bits and characters. Thank you to the parents who were able to support us with this. Thursday morning was our second book share session. It was fantastic to see the children enjoying the various story sacks and if you haven't been able to join us for one of these sessions, please look out for the date of the next one after Christmas. To round off the week, the children made apple crumble, which they enjoyed eating with some custard! In Nursery we have been on another Autumnal walk and have been learning about hedgehogs. On Wednesday we have our first book share where parents or grandparents are invited to come into Nursery and spend about 20 minutes reading with their child. We hope you can make it. I would also like to remind you of our weekly 50p contribution, which can be made in cash or via ParentPay. If you have already contributed for this term or have paid for the whole year, we really appreciate it as it allows us to enrich your child's experience in school. Ms Rainer, FSU leader

**RECEPTION MORNING ROUTINE:** From Monday 18th November, we will be opening the gate to the Reception garden, just after 8:30am, and you are more than welcome to come in and wait with your child until we open the classroom door. Once the door is open the expectation is still that your child will come into school independently, however we are reducing the distance from parent to classroom, which will reduce the anxiety some of our children are still feeling at the start of the day. For this new system to work we do need your support in ensuring the children are not playing on the climbing area before school, as it is quite slippery in the mornings at present. Additionally, children should not be in the play house as they need to come into school quickly once the bell is rung. Thank you for your continued support and we look forward to greeting you in the garden on Monday. Ms Rainer, FSU leader

**MATHS INFORMATION EVENING:** Although the turnout was not as high as we had hoped, Wednesday's Maths evening was very successful. The teachers delivered excellent workshops that demonstrated how Maths is taught, and the progression of Maths, across the school. It is hoped that those in attendance left armed with ideas on how best to support their child at home. I would like to thank Mr Cox, Maths Coordinator, for organising the event and the teachers for planning such interesting activities – the parents really appreciated it and their feedback was 100% positive. My thanks also go to the staff who ran the hot chocolate before bedtime creche.

**ANTI-BULLYING WEEK:** Next week is 'Anti-Bullying Week' at King's Meadow and we will be exploring the theme 'Change Starts with Us'. The aim of this national initiative is to help children and young people, school staff, parents and other professionals who work with children to understand that whether it is verbal, physical, online or in-person, bullying has a significant impact on a child's life well into adulthood. The message is if we work together and make small changes, we can make a big difference and break this cycle to create safe environments for everyone. As part of the week, we are asking children and staff to come into school on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November wearing 'odd socks' to demonstrate it's good to be different and everyone is unique. Odd Socks Day is an opportunity to have fun, be yourself, and spread awareness of the core values Anti Bullying Week promotes. Mr Laurie, Deputy Head

**BRITISH CYCLING GO RIDE SESSIONS:** On Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November 2019, British Cycling will be coming in to school to offer 'Go Ride' sessions to all children in Years 5 and 6. Please remember to send your children to school with their bikes and helmets for the event where possible.

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH:** This year's Christmas Lunch is due to be held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2019, please find a copy of the menu attached. If you would like to book this meal for your child, this can be done via ParentPay in the usual way. The meal will cost £2.35 for children that are not entitled to a free meal. Children in Reception year and KS1 will receive the meal free of charge as part of the Universal Free School Meal scheme, however please ensure that you do still book lunch for this day. The deadline for booking this meal is Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019. In addition to this, the menu for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December has been changed from the advertised menu and the catering team will be serving fish & chips on this date.

**IN SCHOOL THIS WEEK:**

- Mr Laurie attended the Designated Safeguarding Lead forum in Oxford on Wednesday
- Mr Cox met with Governors to discuss Maths
- I attended the Bicester Headteachers' meeting yesterday
- Mr Roberts attended the Bicester PE cluster meeting yesterday
- The Y6 Cycling Proficiency test took place today

**ATTENDANCE:** The attendance for the school this week was 96.72%

Bluebird: 91.80%	Yellow Wagtail: 97.00%
Red Kite: 94.76%	Puffin: 98.13%
Kingfisher: 94.17%	Swan: 93.33%
Flamingo: 97.41%	Giraffe: 98.89%
Lion: 97.04%	Eagle: 97.00%
Penguin: 98.00%	Leopard: 93.73%
Snowy Owl: 100.00%	Dolphin: 99.23%
Elephant: 97.78%	

The class with the best attendance this week was Snowy Owl Class with 100.00%, Well done!

**GIRAFFE CLASS ASSEMBLY:** Next Friday Miss Roche's class will be putting on their class assembly. Please make every effort to attend if your child is in this class. Refreshments will be served at the end.

Have a good weekend



Mrs L Daulton

Headteacher