



Crowmarsh Gifford C.E. Primary School

Old Reading Road, Crowmarsh-Gifford, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 8EN | Tel/Fax: 01491 836785 | E-mail: office.3200@crowmarsh-gifford.oxon.sch.uk

"Working in Partnership for Success" Faith ~ Service ~ Integrity ~ Responsibility ~ Truth ~ Excellence

Week 12

Term 2

November 30th, 2017

Brain Truths and Myths

(Part 2 - Taken from Muncaster and Clarke, 2016 – Growth Mindset) Research into the brains of London taxi drivers (Woollett and Maguire, 2012) discovered that the huge amount of memory they had to use to learn 'The Knowledge' – that is, every street in inner and outer London – resulted in a slightly enlarged area of the hippocampus. These drivers could also memorise other things easily as a result of this effect. Similarly, people who have, for many years, learnt a musical instrument which uses fingering, find it easy to learn to type, because the connections made in the brain for the instrument are the same as those needed for typing. Once the neural connections have been made repeatedly, the pathways become more fixed. Making children aware of these facts and, for example, showing them YouTube clips of neurons connecting, leads to children being able to identify when they can feel their brain 'growing'. 'This is really making me think! I can feel my neurons connecting!' is a commonly heard cry in such a learning culture.

Advent Calendars!

Final call for your Christmas Advent Calendars! Come and grab the last few remaining in the school office!

Open Afternoon

Our next long afternoon will be on Wednesday December 6th from 3:15 until 5:00.. Please come and see your children's

progress in their books and what they have been learning. This is also a chance to ask any further questions to the class teacher. There will be question prompts available for you to discuss with your child(ren).

Christmas Biscuits

We still need more donations of wrapped Christmas biscuits or chocolates for the senior citizens in our village. Thank you so much to all who have already brought them in. We are also looking for some kind volunteers to deliver the biscuits to local people towards the end of term.

Christmas Jumpers!

Don't forget to wear your Christmas jumpers tomorrow. Please bring in £1 or an item for the raffle or tombola.

Pupil Progress Updates

Final reminder! If you haven't already, please can you fill in the survey regarding our recent changes to pupil progress. Thank you.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/7BK8NF2>

Christmas Reading Morning

Don't forget to join us for our Christmas Reading Morning at 8:00a.m on Wednesday the 13th for a cosy Christmas start to the school day!

Challenge: Write down one small act of Service that you could do for each day that you open your Advent calendar.

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Monday: Run Club 8:00

**Tuesday: Multi-skills to 4:15
Family Learning 9:30**

Wednesday: Football to 4:15

**Thursday:
Basketball to 4:15
Choir to 4:00**

Friday: No Clubs

People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel.

Maya Angelou



Family Learning Crowmarsh

Keeping up with your Children Maths

The final session is next week and we would like to congratulate all those completing the course for their commitment to supporting their children's learning. Please see the attached invitation to The First Step Forward Learning Hub's Christmas Party who are inviting all those who attended the Keeping up with Children English and Maths at Crowmarsh. There will be drinks and nibbles and information on courses being run in 2018. I hope you will be able to join us in this celebration.

Jackie Napier-Jones

Home School Community Link Worker (HSCLW)
Crowmarsh-Gifford CE Primary School

E-mail: jnap5834@crowmarsh-gifford.oxon.sch.uk
M. 07375 457 512

Safeguarding

We have had a few recent incidents where children in KS1 are being left in the playground in the mornings without an adult and dropped at the gate when their classes have already begun walking in. We therefore have children who have to come knock on the outside doors to be let in after their class have entered the building. This causes us serious concern as this means that children are left unattended on the playground without our knowledge. Please can you ensure that KS1 children are supervised and brought into the playground. If your child's class has already gone in, or is going in, it is your responsibility that

Did you know that at Crowmarsh in our maths lessons you will see more writing as children are asked to explain their reasoning or asked to 'prove' how they know their answer is correct? You will often hear teachers say, "The answer is only the beginning!" This is because deeper learning of concepts takes place when children are asked to explain 'how' they would solve a question, or to explore other ways they could solve a problem.

they get into the classroom safely. If your child is late, the protocol is that you bring them through the front entrance to Mrs Rance. Thank you for your understanding.

Music and Poetry at Christmas

On 15th December 2017 the choir will be performing at a music and poetry evening. We would like to invite other children to perform a piece of poetry or play an instrument. If you would like to take part in the music and poetry event, please fill in the attached form and return it to school.

Raffle Tickets for Christmas Fair

Raffle tickets are being sent home today for the draw at the Christmas Fair on Thursday 7th December. Please return money, ticket stubs and any unsold tickets by Tuesday 5th December.

British Legion Poppy Appeal

Thanks to all who contributed to our poppy appeal. £117.75 was raised for the British Legion.

Children in Need

Our fundraising for Children in Need brought in £257.20. Many thanks for all your support.

Governors' Email

Parents wishing to contact the school governors may email them at 1gov5937@crowmarsh-gifford.oxon.sch.uk

Christmas at St Mary Magdalene Church

Advent Family Service – Sunday 3rd December at 11am

Theme: "Preparing for Christmas" - following the service, there will be craft activities for the children, making Christmas tree decorations, etc.

Village Carols - Sunday 10th December 2017 at 6pm

Carols, interspersed with readings & poems from village groups and individuals, with mince pies and mulled wine: a joyous lead up to Christmas!

Crib Service - Christmas Eve 3:00pm

A child-centred service of carols and nativity: it will be standing room only so do arrive early!

Christmas Day Family Communion – Christmas Day at 11:00am

All Age Festival Eucharist to celebrate the birth of Christ.

Community News

We are happy to include community items when space permits but readers should be aware that events and activities advertised have not been researched by the school.

New Crowmarsh Playground & Outdoor Gym Proposal Update

An updated proposal is currently going through the planning approval process. Comments can be made on the planning web site up to 8th December 2017.

For a Design statement, results of the community survey and the main drawings and images of the proposal, please refer to the Crowmarsh Parish Council web site Facilities/Playground section <http://crowmarshgifford.org.uk/2017/07/09/crowmarsh-playground-proposals/> This also includes a link to the planning application.

Youth Community Hall

Would you like to help start a fundraising committee for a Youth Community Hall in Crowmarsh Gifford? We are making 2018 our big fundraising year to raise money and awareness for a much needed hall for our community. Be a part of a very rewarding and worthwhile project. Contact Siobhan Wilson or Ross Edmonds (ross@rossedmonds.com)

Town Carols

Wednesday 13th December

There will be a festive evening of carols around the Christmas tree in Wallingford Market Place on Wednesday 13th December, starting at 6.30pm. You are welcome to bring lanterns to the event which will take place whatever the weather.

If your child would like to audition to participate in our 'Music and Poetry at Christmas' on 15th December, please fill in and return the slip below by Wednesday 6th December. Thank you.

My child _____ would like to perform a piece on an instrument/
perform a piece of poetry.

Year Group _____

Instrument _____

Title of piece _____

Poet/Composer _____

Signed _____ Date _____