



# Crowmarsh Gifford C.E. Primary School

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

Week 13

Term 2

December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017

## **Brain Truths and Myths**

(Part 3 - Taken from Muncaster and Clarke, 2016 – Growth Mindset)  
People used to think that intelligence tests conferred a lifelong score, but we now know this is incorrect. The score is simply an indicator of the person's achievement at that time and not a predictor of future achievement. This is the same with any test, unless there are severe learning impairments. I urge teachers to use the terms 'lower achiever' and 'higher achievers' because these imply performance 'at this moment' as opposed to 'high ability' and 'low ability' or 'able' and 'less able' which imply permanence. The route to developing a 'smarter' brain is **input, practice** and **effort**. We all come to school at different stages in our development for certain subjects or skills based on how or whether our genes have been

expressed, together with the influence of our home environment. This is one reason why, at an early age, so many of us write off certain subjects when we compare ourselves to others who are seemingly more adept. It is important to know that, with varying amounts of **time, effort, practice** and **input**, we could all reach a required level of proficiency. A crucial component of the learning culture in the classroom is to continually talk with pupils about how the brain grows, how we can grow our abilities by practising and through input, and the gift of being able to learn from one another and so tapping all our different strengths.

## **Open Afternoon**

Thank you to those parents who were able to attend our open afternoon yesterday. We hope that you have been finding the regular open afternoons informative and a useful way to see how your child is progressing in class. In the letter regarding our recent changes to progress updates, you may remember that you will be receiving a more updated copy of your child's next steps in the final week of term. For some children, the next step may not have changed if they have not yet achieved them. If you have any questions regarding these, please do not hesitate to see the class teachers. Classes 1 and 3 will have open afternoon next Wednesday from 3.15 – 5.00pm.

## **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. Please let the school office know if you could help with this.

## **Friendship Day!**

Tomorrow we are fundraising for Kidscape, the anti-bullying charity. Please can all pupils wear something yellow (with or without school uniform) and bring in £1 for the charity.

**How have you demonstrated our value of Service this week?**

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**Monday: Run Club 8:00**

**Tuesday: Multi-skills to 4:15**

**Wednesday: Football to 4:15**

**Thursday: Choir to 4:00pm**

**Friday: No Clubs**



**Continuous Effort  
not strength  
or intelligence  
is the key to  
unlocking  
our potential.**

~ Winston Churchill

### ***Pupil Progress Updates***

Final, final reminder! We still only have a limited number of responses! 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>

### ***Tickets for School Productions***

Spare tickets are being given out today for the school plays. There are now no more additional tickets available for Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December and a very few are left for Tuesday.

### ***Whole School Theatre Trip Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December***

If you have not yet given permission for your child to participate in the theatre trip please do so as soon as possible. We are unable to take any pupils out of school without parental consent.

### ***Christmas Reading Morning***

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

### ***Guitar Tuition***

Manuela Weikert has some spaces for pupils to begin guitar lessons. Further details available from the school office.

### ***School Chickens***

Volunteers are needed to look after the school chickens during the Christmas holidays. We are hoping to draw up a rota. If you could help please see Miss Zimmerman or let the school office know. Many thanks.

### ***Sports News***

It was fabulous to see so many great performances from children across the school at the Chiltern Edge Cross Country on Saturday.

Well done to Joseph Hermsen, James Rowley, Olivia Hermsen, Samui Richardson, Isaac Morgan, Tilly Barton, Will Andrews, Chris O'Reilly, Charlotte Hermsen and Oscar Morgan. A special well done to Will who gained a medal for coming 3<sup>rd</sup> in his race. Well done to Charlotte who marshalled when she wasn't running.



If your child would like to join running club in the new year please let us know.

A date for your diary next year is the RAF Benson John Stacey Memorial Race on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March. We had over 40 children run from Crowmarsh School last year – let's see if we can beat that!

### ***Governors' Email***

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

### **Crowmarsh Gifford Scout Post 2017**

The scouts will be delivering Christmas cards again this year to the following areas:

Benson  
Berrick Salome  
Brightwell  
Cholsey  
Crowmarsh Gifford  
Ewelme  
Moulsford  
North Stoke  
Preston Crowmarsh  
Roke  
Rokemarsh  
Shillingford  
South Stoke  
Wallingford  
Winterbrook  
Warborough.

Please use full addresses and put 25p per card with your cards into a collection box. Scout post boxes will be at the following locations:

Crowmarsh Village Store  
Crowmarsh School  
Howbery Park  
CEH Wallingford  
KP Stationers  
House of Cards  
Feet First Shoe Repairs  
Londis on Sinodun Road.

First collection: Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December  
Last collection approx. 3.30pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> December (Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December for the school).

*Did you know that our classrooms have WAGOLLS? This is 'What a Good One Looks Like' – learning is displayed that models what may be expected in either maths or more regularly in writing. Often, pieces will be displayed so that children can be asked to think of 'next steps' or improvements for that particular piece. In maths, we display problems that are deliberately solved incorrectly – children are then asked to explain where the errors are and how they would teach someone to work it out correctly.*