



Crowmarsh Gifford C.E. Primary School

"Let your light shine..." ~Matthew 5:16~ Faith ~ Service ~ Integrity ~ Responsibility ~ Truth ~ Excellence

Week 4

Term 1

September 27th, 2018

Our Curriculum...

Since last summer term, our staff has been collaborating on new planning for our geography and history curriculums. We are currently completely rewriting them to ensure every child is inspired and engaged by hands-on learning with more opportunity to learn from our local environment. At Crowmarsh, we are seeking to create historians, geographers, artists, musicians, authors, scientists, mathematicians, philosophers, etc. To do this, we need to inspire our children with our lessons – every day matters. With passionate teachers, we are able to create passionate and inspired children, who seek to question everything around them. This is what we want of our children. We want to give them the skills to be independent learners, setting them

Website

From this Friday, you will be able to see what your children have been learning every week in class. See your class timetable, curriculum overview, spellings, homework and other key information on your class pages. If you click on your class blog, you can find out about what children have been learning about, may see some pictures of learning from the week, and may have links for you to help your children at home. Each week, the headteacher's blog is updated with reflections on our week. Please do visit our website, and if there is anything you would like to see on there, please do let us know. Also, if you are not yet on Twitter, please sign up so you can see learning happening across the school.

up to become 'life-long learners'. This is what underpins our whole Purple Learning ethos. We hope that your children come home 'buzzing' from excitement from all that they have learnt during their days at school. Please ask them about what they have learnt – or ask them more specific questions if you know what they have been covering that day. Using the class blog to help guide these discussions will really help. When children come home and say they don't remember, keep questioning them to uncover what made learning come alive for them that day. We'd love to hear the responses you get!

Most days I do a learning walk across the school and I often have the iPad with me to take photos of all that I see happening across the school. Nothing better than to see what is happening as it is going on! Please can we remind you that if your Twitter name does not make you easily identifiable, please contact the office and let us know so we can add you as a follower. We only allow parents to follow our account. Thank you.

Welcome

As we mentioned last term, Mr Hannigan is retiring tomorrow! We can't believe the time has come, however, I'm sure you will still see him on a regular basis as we've already committed him to lots of different activities around

What have you reflected on in our prayer spaces this week?



Week Ahead

Monday:

Tuesday: Running Club

Wednesday: Netball Club

Thursday: Choir

KS2 Football Club

Basketball Club

Running Club

Friday:

FOR ONE MINUTE,
WALK OUTSIDE,
STAND THERE,
IN SILENCE.

school! We cannot thank Mr Hannigan for all that he has done over the years for the school. He truly is a part of our community and so much more. You may have already introduced yourself to Mr Anderson, our new caretaker. If you haven't yet, please say good morning to him as you come into school. Help us give Mr Anderson a very warm Crowmarsh welcome.

Visible Learning Book

Did you know that our school features in the new Shirley Clarke and John Hattie book, 'Visible Learning Feedback'? As you may remember, we were honored to welcome Shirley Clarke into our school to observe the way we approach verbal feedback. She was extremely impressed and could see the impact that verbal feedback had on children learning – especially the difference she could see in improvement between piece to piece. Therefore, there is a section in her book that discusses our feedback policy as well as our approach to verbal feedback. At the moment, during staff meetings we are using this book as our core staff reading for this term.

Thank You...

A massive thank you to Mrs Rance – as you know she has reduced her hours, but we have managed to keep her in the office! But, thank you to Mrs Rance as she has given an extremely generous donation towards our school sound system. Miss Zimmerman will be very happy as she has been choosing some new sound systems she would like!

Harvest

Thank you to those families who have already brought in items for our Harvest collection. There is still time to bring in canned items, etc, that we can add to parcels for specific families we know who

At Crowmarsh, music is very important. In our daily collective worship the children sing, year 3 learn how to play the violin for the whole year and year 5 learn the clarinet. The rest of the school learns how to read music through playing the recorder. Our vision is that by the end of year 6, all children will have learnt to read music. Also, did you know that during the week, children are offered piano, guitar, strings or brass instrument tuition?

would really appreciate having a Harvest parcel. Any items that are surplus to our needs for our local families all goes to the Wallingford Food Bank. If you bring any perishable items, please can you bring them in nearer the final date. Can all items please be in by Friday October 5th at the latest. Thank you for helping us support our local community. Thank you!

Prayer Spaces

A huge thank you to Paster Simon and all the volunteers who have helped run our prayer space this week. All of the children have really enjoyed the time of quiet and reflection – thinking about what prayer means. We always find this the perfect way to start our year – thinking of all that we are thankful for this year. Ask your children about what they learnt this week and what they reflected on.

Dates for the Diary

We have already begun to fill up the diary. Please see our dates at the end of this newsletter. They will be updated regularly.

Attendance

Please can we remind you that the gates open at 8:30 in the morning. Children's lines go in at 8:40. If your child arrives after this time we ask that they register in the office. Children will be marked in late if they come later

than this and we will be monitoring this very closely over the year. Please see the attached sheet on attendance. If you are five minutes late every morning that is the equivalent of missing 3.4 days of the year.

Grandparents' Week

We would like to invite all grandparents back into school to join us for our Remembrance Week starting November 5th. We hope as many as possible are able to join us. Grandparents are welcome to come to school from 2:00 on the afternoon that is dedicated to the house group your grandchildren are in. The dates are as follows:

Victorians – Tuesday 6th
Edwardians – Wednesday 7th
Tudors – Thursday 8th
Georgians – Friday 9th

More information will follow.

Reading Morning

For those new to our school, we thought it would be useful to explain what our reading mornings were. It is just a chance for all parents, grandparents or anyone, to come and enjoy a story in our hall, with your children before school starts. It is one of our most well attended events and we really encourage you all to come along, especially if you've never been before. Our first reading morning

of the year will take place on Wednesday October 17th at 8:00 a.m. in the hall. Come and enjoy a story and a coffee with your child. If you are unable to attend with your child, we will now allow children to come on their own to join in the fun. We look forward to seeing you then!

Safeguarding

If you would like to begin volunteering in school, or need to refresh your training, please book yourself onto our safeguarding training. We love having parents come and support our children in school! The next date is:

Tuesday October 2nd at 8:45 a.m

More dates will be released for after half term.

Reading for Pleasure

We discussed why this is so important in our last newsletter, but please see below a poster for more facts and statistics into why reading every night is vital for your children. Put it up on your fridge and keep reading!

We are now sending Newsletters out fortnightly. School dinner menus will be emailed separately on a Wednesday.

Choir News

There will be no choir on Thursday 27th September as it clashes with PTA Film Club evening.

YEAR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSFERS

Oxfordshire County Council are now accepting applications from Year 6 pupils due to transfer to Secondary School next September 2019. Letters to parents of known Year 6 pupils

on our system have recently been posted reminding parents of the need to make an application for their child for Secondary School starting in September 2019. Parents are encouraged to apply on-line as this is the most secure method of making an application. Please note the letter is just a reminder and parents should not wait until they get a letter, as there is nothing in the letter that is needed to make an application.

PE News

Well done to our Crowmarsh School pupil MECE runners who attended the Cross Country at Greys Court on Sunday 16th Sept. We are extremely proud of you.

Yr 1: Rebecca & Alex

Yr 3: Olivia, Joseph & James

Yr 4: Samoi

Yr 5- William & Amber

Yr 6- Charlotte

Girls Football, last Friday 21st Sept, two teams from Year 3 & Year 4 went to Cholsey Bluebirds Football Tournament. Many of the girls hadn't played football before. It was a great opportunity for them to have fun and see if they liked playing. We are hoping to have some extra girls football sessions in school. Well done to the following children in Year 3: Olivia He., Olivia Ho., Tasha, Evie, Isla, Nina; and in Year 4: Maia, Neve, Phoebe K, Freya, Martha, Phoebe S, Ellen. A particular well done to the Year 3 girls who won the Fair Play Trophy!

Governors' Email

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

PTA News

Welcome to all new families to the school and welcome back to all who return after an enjoyable Summer break. We hope everyone is settling into their new classrooms and all parents and carers are settling back into the much enjoyed 'school run'!

Our PTA is run by volunteers who want to help raise funds so that all our children in school can enjoy an enriched educational experience while at Crowmarsh Primary. We have a meeting once every short term that all parents, carers and teaching staff are invited to attend so we can all share our views and ideas as well as vote on any proposals for events and spending of raised funds. Please feel free to contact us via email: 1pta6000@crowmarsh-gifford.oxon.sch.uk or via messenger.

The Committee:

Chair: Flick Hermsen (children in yr 1, 3 & 6)

Vice Chair: Becs Wilkes (Children in yr 1 & 4)

Secretary: Emma Thomas (Children in yr 1 & 4)

Treasurer: Mel Cornut (child in yr 6)

Vice Treasurer: Sarah Lowe (children in yr 3 & 6)

Teacher Rep: Mrs Barton

Class Reps: We are very grateful to the following people who have kindly volunteered as class reps this year. They will be a point of contact for the PTA and parents (in each particular class) to help everyone share information and questions/ answers where required.

R: Sarah Holgate (Hermione's mum)

- 1: Catherine Richmond (Ingrid's mum)
- 2: Kairan Knight (Connor's mum)
- 3: Giovanna Mazzapioda (Daniele's mum)
- 4: Louise Bridges (Alfie's mum) & Michelle Reynolds mum (Callam's mum)
- 5: Rebecca Wilson (Ben's mum) & Charlotte Sampson (Oliver's mum)
- 6: Laura Cox (Erin's mum) & Ruth Watson (Jess' mum)

Upcoming events in September:

Thursday 27th September 3.15-5pm, School Hall. Film Club. An opportunity for children to stay and enjoy a film & snacks with their friends after school. Booking forms will be emailed out next week.

Thank you in advance for your ongoing support. *The PTA committee.*

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

“**Play-in-a-Day**” Come and experience a fun-packed morning of drama at Queen Anne's School, Caversham. Whether you love to act or you are a complete beginner, this workshop is for you! Open to girls of all abilities in Years 5 – 6. Saturday 10 November 2018, 10.00AM TO 12.30PM. If you would like more information, please email: marketing@qas.org.uk

Wallingford Neighbourhood Plan – Public Consultation by Wallingford Town Council As a resident of the town you can influence where and how future

developments will take place. You are invited to come along to the consultation to comment upon the Plan. Ridgeway Community Church, St Mary's Street, Saturday 29th September 10am – 3pm

Matrix Music School Open Day

Visit us at Matrix in Sutton Courtenay on Sunday 7 October to learn more about our Yamaha music courses for children! For families with children aged 2-7 years old. Please book: <http://matrixmusicschool.co.uk/>

THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SINGING SCHOOL - 3rd & 4th

January 2019. WORCESTER COLLEGE, OXFORD. All our courses are for children aged 7 - 13 who love singing! Our courses are devised to include whole group singing, singing lessons in small groups to improve singing technique, music appreciation, music history and much more! Families are most welcome to come and listen to an informal concert at the end of each day. To join our mailing list and for more information on our courses, please look at www.oxbridgesingingschool.com or email oxbridgess@gmail.com

Crowmarsh Playground and outdoor Gym Update

Crowmarsh Parish Council has successfully secured sufficient funding, thanks to the providers, SODC, WREN's FCC Community Action Fund and ACTIVE SPACES (The London Marathon Charitable Trust and Fields Trust) for the New Playground and Outdoor Gym project to go ahead. Subject to legal requirements the project is planned to be carried out after Christmas with an Easter grand opening.

Many thanks to everyone who contributed to this brilliant result. All those comments and letters of support made all the difference.

As part of the WREN funding secured, there is a requirement to be proactive in PR and provide a publicity plan in the near future. If there is anyone who has PR experience who would be willing to help the Parish Council Playground Action Team we would be most grateful to hear from you.

We look forward to sharing more with you in the near future once we have gone through due diligence and appointed a contractor.

Michelle Reynolds (on behalf of Crowmarsh Parish Council)

Left to their own devices? Do you feel out of touch with your child's online habits? The internet has completely changed the way that we live our lives. From smartphones to social media, our children have so many positive opportunities to develop skills and build connections that were never previously possible. Despite this, many can find parenting in the online world a challenge and are concerned about how to safeguard their family. This event was a great success in the summer and we're now looking forward to coming to Reading on 16 October. Katharine Hill and Philip Jinadu will explore the highs and lows of the digital world and how to nurture online resilience. Book now and help your family thrive in the digital age. LifeSpring Church, RG1 7UY Time: 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm. cff.org.uk/owndevices 029 2081 0800. Tickets: 1-3 tickets - £6 each; 4 or more tickets - £5

each; On the door - £7 each;
Special Partner rate - £4 each

Anti Bullying Workshops Free workshops for children, their parents and carers on 9th October and 6th November. These workshops aim to teach practical assertiveness skills so that participants are able deal with bullying situations effectively. Other objectives include bullying awareness and building confidence and self-esteem.

The workshops are held during school time, so you would need to gain permission for children to attend. The sessions will take place at Exeter Hall, Kidlington with the session for 9-11's and their parents and carers taking place on 9 October. The session for 11-16's is taking place on 6 November. Please e-mail anti-bullying@oxfordshire.gov.uk if you are interested in attending.

Sarah Webb 07875733167. I am a local **1-to-1 tutor** for English and Maths, specially trained in teaching children who may be dyslexic or dyscalculic (maths), those who are struggling to keep up in class, or those who maybe lack confidence in these subjects.

Vacancies - The Wigod Way Wallingford Family Centre

Charity provides community-led, open access, inclusive activities and support for all local children and their families. The Centre wish to employ:

Administrator - 8.5 hours per week A self-motivated, confident Administrator who will support the smooth running of the Centre.

The post holder will be competent in all aspects of administration to provide financial, clerical and administrative duties

that support the day to day operation of the Centre. Familiarity with updating simple web sites and social media pages would be an advantage. Wigod Way Wallingford Family Centre has charitable status and this post is initially up to one-year appointment subject to review and comprises of 3.5 hours administration maternity cover and 5 hours of currently identified additional administration centre needs. The remuneration rate is £9 per hour subject to review.

To find out more about these roles and to request a candidate information pack, please contact maureen_norton@yahoo.com or call the Wigod Way Wallingford Family Centre Town on 01491 832940

A Cleaner/Caretaker – 3 hours per week

An enthusiastic and diligent cleaner/caretaker is wanted as soon as possible to support the smooth running of the Centre. The post holder will be competent in all aspects of cleaning and basic caretaking. The role is offered on a self-employed basis with all material provided by the centre. The post holder will need to hold their own insurance to enable them to carry out the necessary duties. The post offers flexibility to carry out tasks around other employment or family commitments. To apply please contact please contact maureen_norton@yahoo.com or call the Wigod Way Wallingford Family Centre Town on 01491 832940

Church News

BLAST – Building Lives Around Sound Truth. Games, Crafts, Music, Nights out, Tuck shop - £1 entry. Wallingford Baptist Church.

Open to school years 6 – 7 every Friday evening during term time 7pm – 8pm.
blast@wallingfordbaptist.co.uk

Festival of Flowers, Berks Bucks and Oxon Area of NAFAS presents Footsteps – Journeys of the Soul. Dorchester Abbey 28-30 September 2018 Entry by programme £8.

Raising Faith – Helping our children find a faith that lasts. Care for the family charity. As Christian mums and dads, there are so many ways you can bring God into your family life. Come and explore how you can help your child find a genuine faith of their own - help them discover God in the everyday.
Wednesday 14 November The King's Centre, OX2 0ES. Tickets: 1-3 tickets - £6 each; 4 or more tickets - £5 each; On the door - £7 each; Special Partner rate - £4 each; Time: 7.30 pm – 10.00 pm. To book : cff.org.uk/raisingfaith 029 2081 0800



Reading for pleasure is important both for educational purposes as well as personal development.

The National Literacy Trust cites overwhelming evidence that literacy has a significant relationship with a person's happiness and success.



A deep engagement with storytelling and great literature link directly to emotional development in primary children, according to The Rose Review, 2008 Independent Review of the Primary School Curriculum.



Other benefits to reading for pleasure include: text comprehension and grammar, positive reading attitudes, pleasure in reading in later life, increased general knowledge



Reading enjoyment has been reported as more important for children's educational success than their family's socio-economic status



The academic benefits of a strong leisure reading habit are not confined to improved reading ability. Leisure reading makes students more articulate, develops higher order reasoning, and promotes critical thinking, says the National Endowment for the Arts in "To read or not to read", 2007.

There's more!

Reading can help children improve their vocabulary. The more words they read, the more they will know. By improving their vocabulary, they will also improve their writing!



Reading can help children to explore new worlds! They can be transported to other countries, to fictional worlds, to the past, the future and more!



Reading can help them to improve their confidence when speaking! By expanding their vocabulary and seeing how different people express themselves, they will also become more articulate!

Reading will help improve their understanding as they often take on the role of the main protagonist - it can also expose them to a range of view points, reactions and feelings.



As reading will expose them to new things it will help develop their interests! They might suddenly find themselves interested in Japanese culture from reading Naruto, or into science from reading Frankenstein!



Being a reader helps children to improve their imagination! Something which will help them to avoid boredom, to be a creative person and to have life full of fun and adventure!

What Can You Do To Support Reading For Pleasure??



Build a home library! Children who have books of their own enjoy reading more and read more frequently.



Literacy-targeted rewards, such as books or book vouchers have been found to be more effective in developing reading motivation than rewards that are unrelated to the activity.



Give children choice! Allow them to choose what they read and how they read!



Role model! Students relationships with reading can be influenced by the relationship teachers and parents have with books. Be seen reading!

Supporting a child's love for reading is one of the best things you can do for them. By giving them this gift you support both their educational and emotional needs. To find out more visit your local library or follow the links below.