



Crowmarsh Gifford C.E. Primary School

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

Week 7

Term 2

December 13

50 Things....

For fun this Christmas, why not complete some of the 50 things to do before you are 11 3/4 created by the National Trust. Get out there and explore the world around you! The checklist is attached to this newsletter.

Christmas Reading Morning –

Our Christmas Reading morning will take place at 8:00 a.m. on December 19th in the hall. Come and enjoy a story and a coffee with your child. We look forward to seeing you then!

Morning Drop Off

Please can we remind you that school starts at 8:40. We are noticing more and more that many families are running late in the morning and we want to remind you of how important being on time is.

Please can we also remind you not to stop in the middle of the road to let your children out. This has been causing lots of unrest in the mornings and there are too many arguments over parking and traffic. Please be mindful of the residents that live near our school. We ask all parents to please park in the pub carparks and walk your children into school each morning to help with the smooth running of morning drop-offs. Thank you.

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.

Christmas Biscuits

Thank you to the families who have already brought in Christmas biscuits for residents in Crowmarsh. We ask that all donations are brought in by next Monday December 17th, pre-wrapped so that we can get our children to hand deliver them to let the senior citizens in our village know that we are thinking of them this Christmas.

Christmas Reading Challenge

As we know, reading is one of the most influential factors in later achievement. Therefore, we expect children to be reading aloud, or to be read to, every night. Throughout the Christmas season, to encourage reading, any child who completes a book review for a book they have read over Christmas, will be able to come and choose a book from Mrs Barton's library in her office. Further, we would like to encourage as many children to participate in the Mensa for Kids' – Excellence in Reading Program. It is free to join, and you can download the correct year

What can you do this Christmas season to model our value of Service?

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Week Ahead

Monday: 6pm Y3, 4 & 5 Performance

Tuesday: 6pm Y3, 4 & 5 Performance

Wednesday: Christmas Lunch

**Thursday: 8am Reading Morning
6pm Music & Poetry Evening
Basketball Club**

Friday: 3:15 pm End of Term 2

Never get tired of doing little things for others. Those little things occupy the biggest part of their hearts.

www.likandlove.nl

group book list for your child to begin the challenge. The full details can be found at: <https://www.mensaforkids.org/achievements/excellence-in-reading/>
All children (From reception to year 6) who complete this challenge will receive a t-shirt from Mensa and also will receive a special certificate presented in assembly. Again, these children will also be able to come and choose a new book to read from Mrs Barton's library. Let's get reading!

School dinner menus will be emailed weekly separately out on a Wednesday. Please see flyers and adverts for community events at the end of this document.

The Salvation Army have now collected the first lot of donated toys and gifts and responded to the kindness you have all shown in a card that is decorating the school reception area.

"To all the children, parents and staff at Crowmarsh Gifford Primary School, may I say a huge thank you on behalf of the Salvation Army and all the children you have helped, with your kind donation of toys. You will have indeed brought the love and hope of this Christmas season to many families and eased the pain and hurt that so many of them feel. I do wish you all a truly happy and blessed Christmas filled with love and joy. Thank you all again and a special thanks for Amy Roberts for co-ordinating the appeal in your school. From Sandra Findlay."

We wish you and your families a wonderful, restful and peaceful Christmas. Wishing you happiness and prosperity for the New Year.

Can't wait to see you all again on Tuesday
January 8th, 2019!

Guitar Lessons - Spaces available for the next term!

Should your son/daughter be interested in learning to play guitar, please contact: Manu Weikert on 01491 833715 or manu@steamboatmusic.co.uk (Applicants should be at least 7 years old).

THANK YOU for supporting the **Poppy Appeal**, Crowmarsh School raised £196.20 to help support the Armed Forces Community past and present.

Choir News

Music & Poetry Evening

Thursday 20th December - If you would still like tickets for Music and Poetry at Christmas please get them as they are going fast.

Governors' Email

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

PTA News

Next PTA meeting 15th January at 7.30pm.

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.

Cornerstone in association with Goblin present **THE PIED PIPER** Friday 7th Dec – Sun 30th Dec. Can you hear that strange music in the wind? The Piper's calling... An enchanting new musical about playing to your own tune. It is 100 years after the infamous visit of the Pied Piper to the village of Hamelin. It's the perfect village, but is it too perfect? Peta, the Mayor's daughter, starts noticing strange things happening and decides to investigate. Just who is the magical stranger who has turned up in the village? As Christmas approaches, can Peta uncover the mystery of the Pied Piper before it's too late? Join us for an enchanting new musical about playing to your own tune. The world of The Pied Piper is vividly brought to life with new songs and music, performed live by actor musicians supported by a talented young ensemble from the local community. Tickets: £15, Concs £13.50, Family £50 <https://www.cornerstone-arts.org/whats/pied-piper> Box Office: 01235 515144

Crowmarsh Playground Update & Notice of Closure Period

(this report was mistakenly omitted from the last newsletter)

With thanks to £185,000 worth of grants from funding bodies SODC, WREN's FCC Community Action Fund and ACTIVE SPACES (The London Marathon Charitable Trust and Fields Trust), as well as local contributions from businesses Agrivert, Howbery Park and Waitrose, and donations from local people in memory of former parish council chairman John Bellamy the New Playground and Outdoor Gym project is now underway.

Crowmarsh Parish Council is pleased to inform you that Eibe has been appointed contractor for the New Playground and Outdoor Gym Installation.

Plans are currently in place to commence work on the 8th January with an estimated handover mid to late March – therefore the playground and surrounding area will be off limits for this time.

We will be putting further images and information onto the Parish Council web site.

www.crowmarshgifford.org.uk in the Facilities/Crowmarsh Playground section.

We look forward to being able to welcome you all back to the New Playground and New Outdoor Gym with a Grand Opening around Easter 2019. *Crowmarsh Parish Council.*

Step In Time – School of Performing Arts. Offers classes in tap, Ballet, modern and jazz for boys and girls from the age of 4 years. In addition, we have Musical Theatre classes, limbering, Commercial and adult dance classes. Our classes are held in and around Didcot. Whether you want to dance for fun, fitness or pursue a career in the Performing Arts, come and see what we have to offer. The first class in any genre is a free taster class. Contact us today to

book your free taster classes. Email: stepintimepa@gmail.com; www.stepintimedance.co.uk; Instagram: *timestepin*; Tricia: 07565 349 523

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

Vacancy - Crowmarsh Pre-School are looking for a very special person to join our team. We currently have a vacancy for a one to one assistant to support a child with special educational needs. The hours will be Mondays to Fridays from 9.00am – 2.00pm, term time only. The post will initially last until the end of this academic year. There may be an option to continue this role from September 2019 for the right candidate. For further details, please see the website or contact the administrator on admin@crowmarshpre-school.org.uk

SCIENCE TECHNICIAN – vacancy

Start date: January 2019 or as soon as possible.
Salary Grade 4.11 - 6.18 £8.82-£9.78 / hour
Hours 25 - 30 hours per week over 5 days term time only.
A Job Share would be considered for this role, please indicate on your application form the days and hours you would be available. Langtree is a heavily oversubscribed 11-16 school with

academy status. Academic results at KS3 and KS4 are consistently high and Langtree has a supportive and friendly atmosphere, across the school community. We are looking for a Science Technician to join the team. You will work alongside the school's science teachers to support the delivery of an outstanding Science curriculum.

OWNS – Oxford Winter Night Shelters, providing sanctuary to the rough sleepers of Oxford. OWNS runs from January to March each year for men and women who are tough sleeping. It is run by several churches in Central Oxford operating at different locations. At the shelters, the guests are provided with a warm welcome. Hot drinks and a snack on arrival, a bed, and breakfast the following morning. You can support OWNS in several different ways for more information: ownsoxford.org.uk