



Crowmarsh Gifford C.E. Primary School

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

Week 1

Term 3

January 10th 2019

Morning Drop Off

Please can we remind you that school starts promptly 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. If you are five minutes late every morning that is the equivalent of missing 3.4 days of the year. We monitor the attendance of all children it is our duty to inform parents when a child's attendance falls near or below 90% - our expectation is that all children maintain a 95% attendance rate throughout the year.

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. I am collecting book reviews of any books children have read over the Christmas break – Friday 11th (tomorrow) is the last day to hand them in to receive a book from Mrs Barton's library in her office. Also don't forget that 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 group book list for your child to begin the challenge. The full details can be found at: <https://www.mensaforkids.org/achieve/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!

Valentine Reading Morning –

Our next Reading morning will take place at 8:00 a.m. on Wednesday February 13th. Come and enjoy a story and a coffee with your child. We look forward to seeing you then!

What will you do to make this year phenomenal?

What will you do differently?

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Week Ahead

Monday:

Tuesday: Judo Club
PTA 19:30

Wednesday:

Thursday: Choir
KS2 Football Club

Friday: Swimming

We will open the book. Its pages are blank. We are going to put words on them ourselves. The book is called Opportunity and its first chapter is New Year's Day.

2019

www.hug2love.com

Engineers Wanted!

Please see the attached letter about The Leaders Award – a competition that some of our children will be entering. We would love to hear from any parents or 'friends' who are engineers who would be ready to inspire our children. Please do get in touch within the next week to let us know if you'd be up for the challenge.

Visit from China!

We are really looking forward to welcoming teachers and pupils from a school in China to stay with us during the week of February 11th. As part of our Geography curriculum, different classes will be learning about China and sharing their learning during this visit. The children and their teachers will be with us for four days, wanting to learn all about the British culture and to be a part of British school life. More information will follow shortly.

Christingle

Our annual Christingle service will be on Thursday January 31st at St Mary Magdalene church. KS1 will begin at 1:30 and then KS2 will begin at 2:15. Parents are welcome to attend, but there is very limited space and usually there is only standing room available.

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.

*****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).

Choir News

Children will be treated to a Rocksteady collective worship on Thursday 17th January.

PE News

Watch this space for new clubs happening in February!

Half-Term Cricket Camps are being run at the following locations available within the Berkshire area: Eagle House Prep School (GU47 8PH): 18th-20th February; Forest School (RG41 5NE): 19th-21st February; St Johns Beaumont Prep School: 18th-20th February. All days are 10am - 3pm and can be booked via the link below:

<https://www.danhousegocricketcaching.com/cricket-booking-form/> Please note that a 10% early bird discount expires on the 08.02.19

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 – all welcome

Pre-School News

Are holding a Quiz Night on Saturday 9th February at the Village Hall (timings to follow). Please join them with a team for a great evening.

Church News

Crowmarsh Community Café is now an established a regular fixture in the village calendar on the second Saturday of each

month from 10am to noon at the Village Hall. Tea, coffee cakes and refreshments for children are all offered for free due to the kind donations who have waived their expenses. £250 will be donated to the village hall and the remaining being used to improve other communal facilities in the church. All will be most welcome.

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

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.

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

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

Wallingford Castle Archers have been working with Active Oxfordshire to develop a primary school archery program, which we're now able to start delivering thanks to a grant from South Oxfordshire District Council. Archery is a fantastic sport to offer at school, rewarding concentration, coordination and discipline over raw speed and strength.

The First Step Forward Learning Hub has a new program of courses for Parents and Carers of Crowmarsh School. There is also information on the Mindfulness Course coming up and a new 'Drop In' service from Cholsey Parish Council, which is aimed at adults with mental health conditions and/or learning difficulties. Please see the attached fliers for more information.

Mindfulness for Life: an 8 week mindfulness based cognitive therapy (MBCT) course for those interested in exploring how practising mindfulness can help us deal with difficulty and to flourish in our lives. Thursday mornings, 10-12pm. Cholsey Community Library OX10 9PT. To register interest in joining the course please email mindfulness4life@yahoo.com

A weekly community support drop-in session aimed at adults with mental health conditions and/or learning difficulties. Each session will be planned and run by a Cholsey Parish Council support worker supported by a group of community volunteers. Wednesday 10am – 1pm, starting January 9th. For more

information please call the parish office on 01491 652255

Update on Crowmarsh village playground project. The contractor for the play area and gym will be Eibe. Contracts and legal agreements are being signed with Eibe and the grant awarding bodies. Three quotes have been requested for soft landscaping, shrubs and grass. After discussion it was agreed that the fence around the playground will be a green-coated metal one, which requires less maintenance than a wooden one, especially in case of flooding.

Did you know that since July last year we have been rewriting and rethinking our curriculum? This means that we are looking for new ways to engage and inspire our children to want to 'think like...' Historians, Scientists, Geographers, Engineers, Artists, Musicians... We would love to hear any feedback on what lessons have been inspiring your children.