



Crowmarsh Gifford C.E. Primary School

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

Week 1

Term 4

February 28th 2019

Lent Plastic Challenge –

This year, a few of our pupils have suggested doing the 'Lent Plastic Challenge'. It is being encouraged at St Mary's & St Leonard's in Wallingford, so we will be using their resources to do the same! Attached to this newsletter, please find the suggestions for each day of Lent of small steps to help your family go 'plastic free'.

World Book Day –

Please don't forget that every morning next week will be open at 8:00 for a reading morning. Come and enjoy a story every morning with your children and enjoy a cup of coffee and a cake. We ask parents to please stay with their children until they are expected in class at 8:40. Thank you.

Red Nose Day

We're gearing up for a great Red Nose Day on the 15th March at Crowmarsh! Our School Councillors have decided to hold our very own 'Crowmarsh Has Got Talent' on Friday afternoon in the School Hall, not only that but we have games planned for lunchtime such as Splat the Teacher! School Councillors will be coming around the classrooms everyday (until we run out) straight after lunch so Red Noses can be purchased, they're £1.25 each but we have put a limit on one nose per child. Games at lunchtime will be between 20p - 50p and if you'd like to wear something red that day we are just asking for a donation towards our fundraising efforts.

Adult Krav Maga

Join us for Krav Maga – a martial art based self-defence – on Monday evenings starting from 5 until 6:30. Each session is £10 and is in the school hall. We have limited space as many staff members are already doing it, so first come first served!

Spring Performance Evening

We will be having our Spring Performance Evening on Thursday April 4th 2019 at 6:30p.m. We will be taking a collection on the evening for a charity called Grief Encounter. This charity was recommended by a grandparent who explained to us the impact this charity has on the families it supports. More information can be found here: www.griefencounter.org.uk

Spring Reading Morning

We will be having our spring reading morning in the hall on Wednesday the 27th of March at 8:00. Come and enjoy a story and coffee with your child before school starts.

Easter Crafting Morning

We will have our annual crafting Easter morning on Wednesday the 3rd of April from 8:00 in the hall. Come and enjoy making some Easter crafts with your children. Hope to see many of you there.

Young Carers

Crowmarsh Young Carers takes place every fortnight and is a time to relax and play.

How can you let your light shine? What do you know about 'light'?

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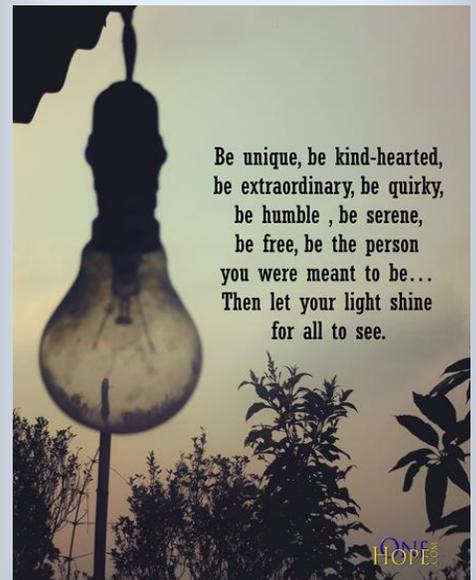
Week Ahead

**Monday: Reading Morning
Krav Maga**

Tuesday: Reading Morning

Wednesday: Reading Morning

**Thursday: Reading Morning
Choir
KS2 Football Club
Basketball Club**



If your child looks after someone in the family because they are ill or require emotional support, they may qualify to join our group of amazing young people. Even if the family circumstances are temporary your child may still join. Young carers 8-18 years old are entitled to a leisure card which gives up to 50% discount on leisure activities in Oxfordshire including Didcot Wave leisure. They just turn up and show their card and pay for the activity they wish to use. If you'd like a leisure card for your child, they will need to join Be Free Young Carers.

There are also days out and activities that your child can participate in, so it is well worth joining. For Be Free Young Carers, phone 01235838554 or contact Crowmarsh Young Carers, Jackie Napier-Jones on 07375457512.

Safeguarding and Pick Up Arrangements

Please can we urge all parents that if you regularly have someone else picking your children up from school, that you let us know in writing?

Further, if parents do not call in to confirm changes to pick-up, we cannot let children go home with someone else until we have confirmation from their own parents. Also, please expect the office to ask if they can call you back, just to ensure we are speaking to the correct parents. Where possible, if any changes to collection can be written down, it would help us out tremendously. Please understand that this is all to help safeguard your children. Also, a reminder that you must call the school office by 09:00 every day, if your children are not in school. After this time, the school office will contact you to find out where your child is. Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Have you seen some of the beautiful artwork that is being created across the school? Come in to your children's classrooms or have a look at the public display boards around school for a peek into the artists they have been studying and the amazing art that is being created.

Scamps Breakfast/After School Club

As you will know from the letter I sent out at the end of the last half term, Scamps will be taking over our wrap around care from April 23rd. We are very excited about this partnership. As part of introducing you to Scamps, the staff, their vision and what they will provide our school, we will be having an evening session in the school hall on Thursday March 14th at 6:30 p.m. Also, to tailor the sessions to our parents we are asking you to complete a short survey. The survey only takes a few minutes and will help us as we get things organised. You can find the survey here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/WM2GSF7>

Parking

We have had many complaints from parents regarding cars that are parking without any awareness of pedestrians. Can we please remind you that cars must not be parked on the zig zag lines outside of school – these are kept clear for emergency vehicles only. Also, photos have been brought to the office of repeat offenders who are always parking across pavements or roads, which block children and parents from walking along the pavement safely. We have been in touch with the Community Support Officers who will be patrolling the area during morning drop off and school collection times. A reminder that parents can park safely in the pub car parks and

walk into school – this is the preferred and safest option.

Spring Walk with Mrs Barton

Come and join me for a spring walk starting in Dorchester-on-Thames up to the Wittenham Clumps and back again. We will meet at 10:30 in the free car park at Bridge End Dorchester on Saturday March 23rd. This is roughly a four mile walk but you can decide to leave at any point. If it is a nice day we can picnic on the Clumps, or walk back into Dorchester for a cup of tea – or both!

Again, this walk will be to help raise money to support Sue Ryder. Any donations welcome. All donations please to: www.justgiving.com/Flora-Barton1

Hope to see some of you there!

Threadworm

Threadworm is a common childhood infection that will need over the counter treatment. The aim of treatment is to get rid of the threadworms and prevent reinfection. This will usually involve a combination of medication to kill the worms and strict hygiene measures to stop the spread of the eggs. The main medication used to treat threadworms is available from your local pharmacy without a prescription. Treat everyone in your household, even if they don't have symptoms.

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.

WANTED: Year R and foundation Stage are looking for **loose parts:** materials that can be moved, carried, combined, redesigned, limed up and taken apart and put back together in multiple ways. Full list on accompanying newsletter inserts towards the back of this document.

Donations of Shirts Do you have any old shirts that you would be willing to donate? We are stocking up on getting the Crowmarsh Garden ready for planting in this new season and with the incremental British weather, the children would benefit from an overall to protect their school uniform. Any surplus will be put to good use for art work. Many thanks!

Bikeability 12-15th March.

Avanti Cycling will be delivering Bikeability in our school on 12-15th March for *year 5 pupils*. Since the Department for Transport has now allocated funding this is a free service and Avanti have the tender for Oxfordshire. A **special thank you to Mrs Baroni** for her fabulous support in ensuring funding from our PTA to cover the cost of Bikeability in previous years, it is very much appreciated. Children will need a mechanically sound bike with two working brakes and good pumped up tyres along with a helmet that fits their head. Consent forms and further information will be sent out soon. If any children do not have a bike, Avanti can provide one for the duration of the course, please contact Jackie Napier-Jones on 07375457512. E. jnap5834@crowmarsh-gifford.oxon.sch.uk

Guitar Lessons - Spaces available!

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).

Learn Brass with **BRASS IN CLASS! – Spaces available!** Lessons at school, play with friends. Tuba, Euphonium, Baritone, Trombone, Horn, Trumpet or Cornet. For more detail: ian@brassinclass.com or 07766616162. Application form and flyer in attachments at the end of this Newsletter.

I just wanted to say a BIG THANK YOU on behalf of School Council to the children and parents that helped us raise a lovely £17 from the sale of our homemade **Valentines cards**. The proceeds have been donated to our PTA to put towards future events. *Mrs Roberts*.

Thank you to all those children who participated in the **Big Schools' Birdwatch** 2019, our contributions have been included in the countrywide campaign.

Choir News

This term Year 5 & 6 are participating with various other schools in the 'Primary Pop Concert' on Friday 15th March 2019 at Oxfordshire County Music Service. The children will learn, from memory, nine pop songs to perform and will be accompanied by a live rock band, additional instruments and backing singers.

PE News

RAF Benson Community Primary School Annual Cross-Country Event. Saturday 23rd March 2019. The event is held on the field adjacent to the School and the races are open to all

pupils in Years 1 to 6. The first race will start at 10am and registration will take place on the field and will open from 9.30am. All pupils are warmly invited to this event and are eligible to run in one race appropriate to their age and year group. There is NO entry fee and the children just need to wear their PE kit and trainers. Please register your interest by Friday 15th March with Mrs Hallam in the school office if you intend to compete, as we need to give prior notice to RAF Benson school before the event.

Oxfordshire Primary Schools Cross Country Championships.

There will be a great atmosphere for parents to enjoy with a friendly cafe with lovely bacon sandwiches/hot chocs to warm the kids up after their run. Saturday 2nd March, Reades Lane Sonning Common RG4 9LN. For more information email knutt@kidmore-end.co.uk

Governors' Email

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

PTA News

Crowmarsh Gifford Primary school are organising another clothes & shoe collection with **Bag2School** in order to raise funds for the PTA on Thursday 14th March 2019. Bags should be sent home with your child this week. They don't want uniforms (of any kind), duvets or pillows. Please check on their website <http://uk.bag2school.com/what-we-collect>, if you are unsure. On the day, collection is outside the front of the school on the grassy area (it should be obvious) and everything needs to be there by 9am. I will be there from 8am. Any questions please contact Sarah Lowe (Child in Yr. 3 & 6) email: s.lowe@cabi.org

Next Meeting: Tuesday 5th March 7.30-8.30 school Hall. Focus. Summer Fête & Thames Run. This is our biggest fund raiser (Last year we raised a combined total of over £6,000) so we need all hands on deck to enable it to be a success once again. Please come along to the meeting to help get things started. Bags for Schools. Thurs 14th March (info attached). Let's truly & beat September £168 for 420kgs.

Film Club. Friday 29th March. Form attached. Choices are Lego Move or Hotel Transylvania 3.

Village Spring Hunt. Thank you to everyone who completed the Spring hunt over half term. We have raised £94 for the school, which is great 😊.

Pre-School News

The quiz has been moved to the Saturday 27th April. Tickets are available already and can be requested through crowmarshpreschoolquiznight@gmail.com £10 per ticket which includes food. We are also looking for prizes for the raffle and silent auction which we will hold on the same evening.

Any **unwanted new Christmas gifts** (but not Christmas themed) can be brought into the main school office and will be donated to the Pre-School's Quiz Night's Raffle – thank you.

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

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.

The **Big Knit Campaign** in aid of the local independent charity, Age UK Oxfordshire is now in its 15th year nationally. They are working alongside brand partner Age UK national, Innocent Smoothies and other Age UKs across the UK to knit little hats to adorn smoothie bottles – they need your help! For more information www.ageuk.org.uk/oxfordshire/knit which features Big Knit patterns to choose from and how to donate your hats.

Quiz & Chilli Night! at Crowmarsh School on the 23rd March 7-10pm. Tickets are only £10 and include chilli (veggie option available), the quiz and additional fun games. We are looking for teams between 4-8 people. This quiz night is to raise funds for a volunteering opportunity to teach young children English and other subjects in Myanmar (Burma). I am Eleanor an ex-student of Crowmarsh Gifford Primary school now studying A levels in my final year at Wallingford school. To enable me to be part of this great project I need to fundraise £6000. Please buy tickets in advance by emailing me eleanore.johns.ej@gmail.com or donate via <https://uk.virginmoneygiving.com/EleanorJohns2> Thank you. More information on attachments.

Hithercroft Squash Rackets Club, at the Sports Park on Hithercroft Road, Wallingford, has an introductory offer on Saturday mornings for group squash coaching for young people aged 10 to 12. The cost is just £15 for five weeks, starting on 6th March 2019. Sessions will run from 9.00 to 10.00 am. We will provide racquets and eye-protectors. To find out more and to get an application form, email the junior coach, Richard

Kellagher at r.squashcoach@gmail.com or contact Yvonne Peet via the school office. To find out more about the club, visit www.hithercroftsquash.com

2019 Thames Run. The Thames Run is a multi-terrain route along local footpaths and the banks of the River Thames, and back through the historic market town of Wallingford. This year's Thames Run will take place on Sunday 19th May at 09:30. Last year's event was a huge success, raising money for Crowmarsh Gifford School PTA and Style Acre. Online entry to both the 5k and 10k runs is now open at www.thamesrun.co.uk with early bird reduced rates for anyone entering before 31st March. Enter now and set yourself a goal for 2019. Why not aim for a personal best! **Can You Help?** If you are able to marshal this year, please email stevenson.rob@gmail.com as soon as possible. If you know anyone else that can help out please ask them too! Marshalls are there to ensure that everyone safely gets round the course and to provide encouragement for the runners. It's a fun morning and the school fete will be the same day so there will be plenty going on afterwards, with stalls, food and refreshments available. Thanks again to all that helped out last year. We couldn't do it without you! Online entry to both the 5k and 10k runs is now open at www.thamesrun.co.uk with early bird reduced rates for anyone entering before 31st March. Enter now and set yourself a goal for 2019. Why not aim for a personal best!

St Mary's Church Newnham Murren has a short history booklet available for copying at the school office, for those of you who are interested in our village's history.

Our lovely caretaker **Jay Anderson** is a professional

photographer! He has a brand-new photography studio in Benson offering wedding, family, portraits, headshots, passport and commercial photography. www.jayandersonphotography.co.uk or 07464945466 Great present ideas!

Wall to Wall productions and BBC 2 are looking for a family with connections to the countryside and village life to take part in the news series of **BACK IN TIME**. For more information and to apply please visit www.walltowall.co.uk and click on take part.

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

South Oxfordshire Music Centre at Wallingford School. Saturdays 9:30am-12:00pm. To apply contact jemma.evans@oxfordshire.gov.uk or visit www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/southmusiccentre

City of Oxford College, are offering a 5 week, **Creative Junior Saturday Art** course for 8-12-year olds. The art studios and facilities are second to none and will provide an inspiring and creative environment for each young person to explore all sorts of creative disciplines, including photography (darkroom and digital), graphic design,

animation, printmaking, textiles, fashion, ceramics, 3D, painting and drawing. The course takes place on Saturday mornings from 10am-12pm and parents are very welcome to attend with their child at no extra cost. Full course information and how to enrol can be found using the below link. <https://www.activatelearning.ac.uk/courses/art-design/junior-saturday-art-club-for-9-12-year-olds>

Easter Singing Course at Worcester College, Oxford on the 8th - 10th April 2019. Our courses are for children (aged 7-13) who love to sing! All our courses are devised to include whole group singing, singing lessons in small groups to improve technique, music appreciation, music history, music theory in the form of games and exercises. Should you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact us Samantha Wickham: The Oxford & Cambridge Singing School: www.oxbridgesingingschool.com

New purpose-built Dance studios opening in Wallingford during April catering for children 18 months to adults. There will also be the facility to other local groups who will be providing a variety of classes such as Yoga / Pilates / Zumba / Baby Music etc. 7 Bushells Business Park, Lester Way, OX10 9DD For more details and to enrol: Sam Benson enquiries@dance-connection.co.uk / 07870 501831