



St John's Primary School

St John's Road, Wallingford, Oxon, OX10 9AG Tel: 01491 837305 Email: office.2567@st-johns.oxon.sch.uk
Headteacher: Miss Nicky Hughes

Monday 18th December 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow – what a busy term! The children have all worked really hard and have produced some stunning outcomes. They all thoroughly enjoyed reading 'Wonder' by R.J. Palacio in our reading sessions and it was such a treat to go to watch the film together. Thank you for not taking the children to see the film before we watched it as class. (I would really recommend going to see the film – it is amazing!) The messages in the film were so powerful so we have discussed these at length within class. One of them was "If you have a choice between being right and being kind, choose kind." Another really important project the children have done is making the Christmas boxes for the organisation 'Camerados' (more information about the charity can be found in the recent school newsletters). Huge thanks to the children for their hard work and to you for supporting the project by buying/ making items for the boxes. Ms Beckett delivered the boxes to the Camerados centre in Oxford where they were very gratefully received and will have really helped brighten someone's Christmas who may have otherwise felt isolated. Thank you to Maff Potts for telling us about the work of the Camerados and for supporting the children's projects.

New Topic:

Our topic after Christmas will be 'Peace in our time?' where we will be learning about World War 2. Some of the highlights we hope to do with the children are a mock evacuation so they can try to imagine what it would have been like for children during the war, a VE tea party with dancing, music and cooking etc... as well as other experiences. Please see the attached topic plan for information about the different subjects. Towards the end of the Spring term, we will be having a World War 2 day where we would like the children to dress up as WW2 evacuated children (see photos). Please keep an eye out in charity shops etc for anything which you think the children could wear for the dress up day. We will be making the gas mask boxes at school.



P.E:

For PE, the children should have, in a named PE bag, the following items: a plain white t-shirt, a pair of blue or black shorts, a pair of blue, grey or black joggers, a blue, black or grey sweatshirt, and a pair of sports trainers (not Converse type shoes please!) Children with earrings will need to remove them independently for all PE sessions – a little container to keep them in would be useful on PE days. **It is best if the children bring their P.E. kit in on a Monday and take it home on a Friday as we may have to change P.E. days due to other events some weeks.**

Clarinets

Please encourage your child to practise the clarinet each week as they will then make greater progress within the sessions. They are doing well with their lessons, and should also complete the homework which Mrs Robertson (the clarinet teacher) sets most weeks. If your child is unable to get on a computer to complete the tasks, they can do it one lunchtime before the lesson.

Helping Out in Year 5

We really welcome any offers of help to support our learning in Year 5; specifically, we would really like any parent helpers who could come in and listen to the children read. Please do not feel you have to come in every week if you volunteer, just turn up as and when you can and we will allocate you children to listen to. We also need occasional help when we go out on local trips. Please come and speak to us if you can help – we really do appreciate it!

Term 3 Y5 dates:Thursday 4th January

Term begins

Tuesday 16th January

'Growing up' talks

Thursday 22nd March

Class photos

Please do not hesitate to come and talk to us if you have any questions or concerns or send us an email via the 'office' email account – office.2567@st-johns.oxon.sch.uk . Thank you.

Finally, thank you to everyone for your support this term whether you have helped on school trips, reading with the children, sporting fixtures, coming in to do talks about topics or simply commenting on and liking the Class Dojo points. We are so lucky at St John's to have such a supportive parenting community – it really is appreciated!

Have a lovely, restful(!) Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Colbourne and Mrs Brotherton

(Year 5 Team)