

Kempsford Church of England Primary School

"Quality Education founded on Christian Values"

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February 2014 Newsletter

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Staff News: We are delighted to inform you that Mrs Claire McLaughlin has been appointed as a permanent member of staff. She will be teaching with Miss Heavisides in Ant Class on Thursdays and Fridays. Mrs McLaughlin will be starting on Thursday 27th February and she will be in to meet the children soon. We would like to thank Mrs Nelmes for all of her help and support since September in Ant Class.

Parent Consultation Evenings: Many thanks to you all for coming along and discussing your children with the class teachers last night. We look forward to seeing more parents tomorrow evening. If you have further questions then please arrange another meeting with the teachers individually.

Term Dates 14/15: Please see below the new term dates for the next academic year.

INSET day: Quick reminder that there is an INSET day on Monday 24th February therefore we look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday 25th February.

Beetle Class Collective Worship: The Yr3/4 children and staff would like to warmly welcome everyone to their assembly on Monday 31st March at 11.15am. They will be including a mini concert, showcasing their skills in playing the violin.

School Uniform: It is lovely to see so many children looking smart with their winter uniform on. We expect all children to be wearing the following clothes:

- **Girls:** White blouse, grey skirt or pinafore dress, grey tailored trousers (no jeans), green and gold tie and green, grey or black tights.
- **Boys:** White shirt, grey trousers or shorts (no jeans) and green and gold tie
- **Both:** Bottle green jumper/sweatshirt/cardigan, white or grey socks, dark coloured sturdy shoes or sandals and a grey or bottle green fleece.

Rejoice in Reading: We will be celebrating World Book Day 2014 during the month of March by having two author visits and a book fair in the school hall. We will be launching the book fair on Friday 14th March and Friends will be serving some delicious cakes with a refreshing cup of tea or coffee at the same time. More details will follow shortly.

World Book Day: World Book Day will be happening on Thursday 6th March and we would like the children to dress up as their favourite character from a book please.

Yr5/6 Residential Trip: Many thanks to the parents who came to the information evening last Tuesday evening. We hope you found it useful. If anyone has questions please contact Miss Harris or Mrs Smart for further information. The final payment date is fast approaching; all money is to be paid by Wednesday 19th March. In the meantime, could we please ask for another £50 contribution to be paid by this Friday please? Many thanks.

Friends of Kempford (FOS): Thank you to everyone who went to the first FOS Film Night. We raised £147 and we hope to hold another one in the future. This money will go towards the author visits in March, the buying of new reading books for the children and playground toys. We have also paid for the Life Education Bus which visited the school earlier this term which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Many thanks for your continual support.

Philippa Griffin (Chair of FOS)

Jumble Sale: FOS will be having a Jumble Sale on Saturday 8th March from 10am to noon. If you would like to donate any clothes then please drop the goods off from Monday 3rd March and leave them in the hall under the work top. The hall will be open from 2.30pm until 3.30pm every day.

Competition Time: As a school we are encouraging children to take pride in their work and raise standards in their presentational skills. Therefore we are holding another handwriting competition based around 'Rain'. The children have been asked to write out either their own rainy poem or one that they like by another poet. Once they have written it using beautiful, neat handwriting, we would also like the children to decorate it with appropriate patterns or drawings. All entrants will be displayed in the hall for everyone to see and they will be judged after school on Friday 28th February. A prize will be given out for each year group in 'Celebration Assembly' the following Friday afternoon.

"Zoo!" Book time, Story time and Craft: This fun and interactive session will be happening at Fairford Library on Thursday 20th February 2014 at 10 – 11 a.m. It is open to all primary and pre-school children. The activity is FREE but must be booked. Tel 0845 230 5420 for more details

Ant Class: The children in Ant Class would like to ask everyone for donations for their outside learning area please. They would like the following: old cutlery, an old microware, milk crates, garden forks, small buckets, a dustpan & brush, a small garden rake, bulbs, grass seeds, a pop up tent, some fabric for weaving, wind chimes, bird feeders, logs, carpet squares, plastic tubing, guttering, wooden bricks, farm yard and animals. If you would like to donate any of these items please see Mrs Smart or Miss Heavisides. Thank you.

Cirencester Foodbank: I am writing on behalf of the Foodbank in Cirencester to thank you for your generous donation. Your donation in January provided 29.6 kg of food that will help families in crisis in Cirencester and the surrounding area to put food on the table.

The Foodbank helps to prevent family breakdown, housing loss, crime and mental health problems. Volunteers at Ashcroft Church in Cirencester who exchange vouchers for 3 days of food also take time to listen and signpost people to further support. Last month donors in the Cirencester district gave 878 kg of food and we distributed 1559 kg.

As we are consistently giving out more food than we receive, your continued support is important to the long term success of the Foodbank. There is always a demand for sugar, UHT milk and for fruit juices and items with a short shelf life but which are very necessary for families with children. If you would like to donate any items, there is a box at the back of the church.

Mrs Rosemary Andrews (Foundation Governor)

Messy Space News: Messy Space is a time when people can be creative by making lots of different things and this month's theme is the 'Wheels. If you would like to pop along to Fairford Community Centre on Saturday 15th February at 2-4 pm, we would love to see you. There is a small charge of £2 per child (max. £5 per family), with further concessions available. If you are interested, please contact Maureen Partington on 01285 712480.

Parish News: February Entry

The History of Kempsford

Kempsford used to be called Kynemereforde (meaning, The Great Marsh) back in the 13th Century. Kempsford first found historical fame in 1297, when a man named Henry Plantaganet, Duke of Lancaster, married Maud de Chaworth. Maud inherited Kempsford Manor from her wealthy father. With this, many links to royalty began to spread. Maud's sister Blanche de Chaworth was in a marriage to John of Gaunt, together they had a son, who grew up to become Henry IV, in 1399! John of Gaunt was the fourth son of Edward III and Queen Phillipa. Gaunt meaning Ghent, is a place in Belgium.

Royalty links are long gone, but St Mary's (Kempsford Church) still stands in all its glory. On the tower's ceiling, the most dazzling feature is The Lancastrian Roses, representing the birth of the first Duke of Lancaster. Henry died, in 1361, at Leister Castle, without a male heir because his son, Henry drowned in the river, which runs through Kempsford. After the Duke's death, John of Gaunt, took Henry's place, and became the Duke of Lancaster in 1362. In the same year Maud de Chaworth mysteriously died, leaving her portion of inheritance to her sister Blanche. Many people believe that John of Gaunt killed Maud, just to get her money. John of Gaunt's son was crowned Henry IV on 13th October 1399.



On the left is our creation of Henry IV. On the right is the real Henry IV.



by Anna and Caitlin (Year 6)

Dates for your Diary - 2013/14

New dates and changes are in **red** in the table below.

TERM 3		
Tuesday 11 th February	Parent Consultation Evenings	4.30pm – 7pm
Thursday 13 th February		3.30pm – 6pm
Friday 14 th February	End of term	
HALF TERM BREAK		
TERM 4		
Monday 24 th February	Inset Day – children are not required to attend school	
Tuesday 25 th February	Beginning of term	
Tuesday 4 th March	Shrove Tuesday/Lent Service at school (everyone welcome)	2.30pm
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day (children to dress up) FOS Disco	6 – 7.30pm
Friday 7th March	KS2 Author Visit	am
Saturday 8th March	FOS Jumble Sale at school (donations from 3rd March onwards)	10 – noon
Friday 14th March	The launch of the Scholastic Book Fair at school FOS Coffee and Cakes	2.30 – 4pm
Tuesday 18th March	Last Day of the Scholastic Book Fair	3 – 4pm
Friday 21 st March	Sport Relief – details to follow	
Monday 24th March	EYFS/KS1 Author Visit	am
Wednesday 26th March	FOS meeting, The George	8pm
Monday 31 st March	Easter Service at St. Mary's Church, Kempford Beetle Class Collective Worship & Violin Concert	9.15am 11.15am
Thursday 3 rd April	Easter Egg Hunt around the school grounds Pop Mime for families and KS2 children	1pm 6pm onwards
Friday 4 th April	School finishes early at 1.30pm FOS Easter Bingo	1.30pm 7pm
EASTER HOLIDAY BREAK		
TERM 5		
Monday 21 st April	Bank Holiday – School closed	
Tuesday 22 nd April	Beginning of term Swimming starts – details to follow	
Friday 25 th April	Kempford Village Literary Festival starts – details to follow	
Monday 5 th May	Bank Holiday – School closed	
Monday 12 th May – Friday 16 th May	Assessment Week, including KS2 SATs.	
Monday 19 th May - Friday 23 rd May	Yr5/6 Residential Trip to In2action, Whitemead, Forest of Dean	
Friday 23 rd May	End of term	
HALF TERM BREAK		

TERM 6		
Monday 2 nd June	Inset Day – children are not required to attend school	
Tuesday 3 rd June	Beginning of term Ascension Service at school (everyone welcome)	9am
Friday 6 th June	Spider Class Collective Worship (everyone welcome)	2.15pm
Thursday 19 th June	Yr6 Leavers Service at Gloucester Cathedral – details to follow	1.30pm
Wednesday 25 th June	Yr6 at Farmor's Secondary School Taster Day	
Saturday 28 th June	School Fun Run and Summer Fete – details to follow	
Wednesday 16 th July	KS2 End of Year Performance (Dress Rehearsal) KS2 End of Year Evening Performance	1.30pm 7pm
Tuesday 22 nd July	Leaver's Service at school (everyone welcome) School finishes early at 1.30pm	9.30am

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2014/2015



TERM	DATES	LENGTH
Term 1	Mon 1st Sept - Fri 24th Oct 2014 <i>INSET DAY: Monday 1st September 2014</i> <i>INSET DAY: Friday 24th October 2014</i>	40 days
Term 2	Mon 3rd Nov - Fri 19th Dec 2014	35 days
Term 3	Mon 5th Jan - Fri 13th Feb 2015	30 days
Term 4	Mon 23rd Feb – Fri 27th March 2015 <i>INSET DAY: Monday 23rd February 2015</i>	25 days
Term 5	Mon 13th April - Fri 22nd May 2015	29 days
Term 6	Mon 1st June – Mon 20th July 2015 <i>INSET DAY: Monday 1st June 2015</i> <i>INSET DAY: Monday 20th July 2015</i>	36 days
		195 days in total