

Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Thursday 29 September 2016

FISH 'N' CHIP THURSDAY Thursday 6 October

Throughout the school year we have census days. These are very important dates in the school calendar as they determine our future government funding, and the number of children having school dinners is one of the key factors taken into account.



Thursday 6 October is the first census for this school year and we would like to encourage as many children as possible to join us for school dinners.

We did very well last year – attendance on our Census days was 99.3% and we had record-breaking numbers for school dinners! – it will be fantastic if we can achieve the same results this year.

School dinners are £2.30 but don't forget, children in Reception and KS1 are free!

We look forward to seeing as many children as possible for school dinners on Thursday and, as always, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

PARENTS' EVENINGS REMINDER

**Thursday 6 October
3:00 – 7:00pm (MF) & 3:15 – 7:00pm (Atworth)**

**Tuesday 11 October
3:00 – 6:00pm (MF)
3:15 – 6:00pm (Atworth)**

This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's class teacher, find out how they are settling in to the new academic year and, for new pupils, the school, and to ask questions.

How do I book an appointment?

Sign-up sheets are available in school – simply book a time.

As always, any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

BIKEABILITY

Thursday 10th & Thursday 17th
November

This course is designed to ensure that children are safe riding their bikes out on the road and replaces cycling proficiency training.



It is open to all children who are 10 or over.

Children must have their own roadworthy bicycle in order to participate.

We have to have 12 participants in order for the course to go ahead, so if you would like your child to take part please let the office know by Monday 3 October.

NEXT WEEK IS BOOK WEEK!

There are many exciting activities in store for the children so watch this space.

Parents are invited in on Friday afternoon so children can share their week's learning.



This will be before Gem Learner so please arrive at 2pm at Atworth and 2.15pm at Monkton Farleigh.

Parents are welcome to visit each class and spend time with the children finding out about their exciting week.

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

We had our annual visit from Tempest Photographers on Monday.

Please return orders to school by Monday 3 October.

CHURCHFIELDS OPEN DAYS

We will be holding open days for prospective parents on the following dates:

Atworth – Wednesday 5 October, 10am – 2pm

Monkton Farleigh – Friday 7 October, 10am – 2pm

PUPIL RECORDS

We are currently auditing our pupil records and want to take this opportunity to ensure that the information we hold on your child/ren is up to date and correct.

What do I need to do?

- You will receive a summary of the data we hold for your child/ren.
- Please check that the information is correct and make any changes.
- Sign and date the sheet and return it to school.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

A POLITE REQUEST

Please may we request that parents are mindful of little ears when holding conversations in the playground. There have been several occasions when inappropriate comments have been repeated by pupils.

Should you have any school-related issues you would like to discuss, please do see your child's class teacher or Mr Fletcher.

Thank you for your support.



Churchfields Governor Newsletter

September 2016

Governors at Churchfields

Last school year we saw some changes in the Governing Body at Churchfields, with Andrew, Shauna, Alison and James stepping down. We would like to thank them all for their dedication, hard work and valued contributions over their time in office.

We welcome new governors Clare Snook Lumb as parent governor and Chris Harvey from Woodlands Adventurers as a co-opted governor.

The Governing Body (GB) at Churchfields is recruiting and we are looking for up to three people. Please contact Helen Forsyth (helen@findacreativepro.com) to find out a little more (no commitment, but please get in touch!).

Current governors are: Althea Lee, Tom Wall, Helen Forsyth, Marsha Mars, Lynne Spencer, Richard Frost, Andrea Liddiard, Carys Ottner, Simon Futcher, Clare Snook-Lumb and Chris Harvey.

Academies

As whether to be an academy or not has been in the news recently, it is only natural that with children in school we are all interested in the debate.

As governors we need to be as fully informed as possible about this area before we make any decisions regarding the future for Churchfields. We must act to remain in control, be very open with all the parties involved, do our homework and get it right first time.

The next couple of years will see much work being done in this area, it is our responsibility to the children to get it right for our school. In September we will begin

a process of consultation with the other schools in our area to explore what any changes may mean for us. If you would like to be involved - please let us know.

Pupil Attainment - the picture without Curriculum Levels

The Department of Education announced recently that there would no longer be National Curriculum levels, and that schools would have to set up their own way of assessing pupils. We have heard from Mr Futcher and the other teachers how they spent a long time researching various different methods of assessing pupils, and that even though the national framework is in a time of uncertainty our children's progress has been followed closely through the year. We hope the reports you received at the end of last term regarding your children are testament to this.

2016 was the first year that our previous year two and six pupils undertook the new end of Key Stage assessments. We are immensely proud of their achievements. At a whole school level, we are unable to make comparison with previous years under the new system although a notable strength of the school was our performance in reading. Mr Futcher and the staff are already planning improvements in teaching and learning for this academic year using all assessment information available.

Building at Atworth

The construction of the building being built with the legacy money at Atworth has been slightly delayed, but we are starting in the autumn term.

Amphitheatre at MF

Plans for the amphitheatre are now finalised and the procurement process for the construction is now taking place. We hope that the construction will be completed in the coming weeks. The head and governors are making links with the local creative community and with the Theatre Royal Bath to ensure we can make the most of this amazing resource.

Huge thanks to the hard working Churchfields PTA

At the beginning of last year, the PTA approached the Senior Leadership team at the school and asked for a 'wish list' of days out, equipment and resource which would support an enriched approach to learning at Churchfields. The ideas were suggested to support 'whole school' engagement, so that all pupils could be excited by the launch of each new topic, experiencing them in a way over and above standard classroom teaching. A target was set at £4700, but in fact over £5600 was achieved and it is this funding which helps the school to subsidise events like the recent trip to Longleat, earlier in the year with @Bristol and so very much more.

At Churchfields, we are extremely proud to have an excellent PTA who always fundraise with unprecedented level of energy, enthusiasm and commitment. Our PTA are exceptional and we thank them for giving the children at Churchfields so much fun!

Have a great first term at Churchfields.

Warm regards
Helen

Helen Forsyth - Chair of Governors

DIARY DATES TERMS 1 & 2

DATE	EVENT
Monday 3 – Friday 7 October BOOK WEEK	
Monday 3 October	MF pupils transferring to Atworth for the day on Mon 3 Oct
Friday 7 October	Parents are welcome to come and join in the Book Week fun 2pm – Atworth 2:15pm Monkton Farleigh
Wednesday 5 October	OPEN DAY – ATWORTH 10:00am – 2:00pm
	KS1 Swimming – Melksham Blue Pool
Thursday 6 October	FISH 'N' CHIP THURSDAY School Census
	PARENTS' EVENING 3:00 – 7:00pm (MF) 3:15 – 7:00pm (Atworth)
Friday 7 October	OPEN DAY – MF 10:00am – 2:00pm
Tuesday 11 October	PARENTS' EVENING 3:00 – 6:00pm (MF) 3:15 – 7:00pm (Atworth)
Wednesday 12 October	KS1 Swimming – Melksham Blue Pool
	Experience Church Event at Winsley Primary School for MF pupils 1:00 – 2:30pm
Thursday 13 October	Hayesfield School Open Afternoon, 1:30 – 4:15pm
Monday 17 October	Harvest Festival Service St Michael's Church, Atworth at 1:15pm
Wednesday 19 October	KS1 Swimming – Melksham Blue Pool
Friday 21 October	END OF TERM 1
TERM 2	
Monday 31 October	SCHOOL CLUBS BEGIN
	Deadline for Yr 6 applications for secondary school places
Wednesday 9 November	PTA AGM & meeting (venue t.b.c.)
Thursday 10 November	BIKEABILITY 10+
Thursday 17 November	BIKEABILITY 10+
Friday 18 November	Children in Need (details t.b.c.)
Wednesday 23 November	WOW! DAY (children will transfer between sites)
Saturday 26 November	

DATE	EVENT
	PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR Monkton Farleigh (morning) Atworth (afternoon)
Sunday 27 November	Christingle Church Service St Peter's Church, Monkton Farleigh 5:0 – 6:00pm
Monday 5 – Friday 9 December – NO AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK	
Monday 5 December	KS1 CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION St Michael's Church Hall, Atworth 1:30pm – Dress Rehearsal Performances at 4:00pm & 6:00pm
T.B.C.	KS2 CHRISTMAS PRODUCTION Venue t.b.c. 1:30pm Dress Rehearsal Performances at 4:30pm and 6:30pm
LAST WEEK OF TERM – NO SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK	
Monday 12 December	Christmas Service St Michael's Church, Atworth at 1:15pm
Wednesday 14 December	Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 16 December	END OF TERM 2

