

Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Thursday 19 January 2017

HEADTEACHER COFFEE MORNINGS

Atworth: Monday 23rd January at 8:45am
Monkton Farleigh: Wednesday 25th January at 8:30am



The coffee mornings are held in the school hall and are an opportunity for parents to come along to enjoy a hot drink and have an informal chat.

We look forward to seeing you there if you can make it.



SCHOOL COUNCIL
TABLE TOP SALE
Raising funds for Barnardos

Friday 20 January, after school,
at pick up Atworth & MF

Books, DVDs & Toys
50p/item

LOST PROPERTY

Our lost property boxes are overflowing!

We have coats, jumpers, blouses, trousers, socks, shoes, water bottles...

These items must belong to somebody.

It would be very helpful if you could have a look through and retrieve any items that you are currently missing.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP



KS2's WOW! SPACE ACADEMY



In the morning Pete, The Astronaut Trainer, ran a boot camp for physical fitness.

Each child designed a mission patch for going into space and we created our own giant solar system using paint and giant circles. The

children also learnt about star constellations.

In the afternoon, the children were in mixed groups and worked on team building skills which are essential for astronauts working in confined spaces.



PHONICS WORKSHOP

Monkton Farleigh
Monday 23 January, 9:00am

All parents with a child in Reception or Year 1 are welcome to attend to find out more about daily phonics lessons and the screening check that will take place for all Year 1 children at the end of the year.

Please note that due to the small number of parents we would appreciate you emailing us to confirm if you plan on attending: mfreception@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

Kind regards
Miss Connelly and Mrs Barson

GIRL-GUIDE PROJECT IN KENYA CHILDREN'S CLOTHES NEEDED

Miss Ottner has a friend who is taking part in a Girl-guiding Project helping some of the world's poorest children and families. In July a team of 34 Guiders will spend 2 weeks in the city of Nakuru in Kenya, working with children from extremely underprivileged communities.

They have been asked to take with them:

- Prescription glasses
- Children's clothes all sizes including jumpers
- Children's shoes preferably with good quality soles due to the rough ground out in Kenya

If you are having a clear out of clothing and/or shoes your children no longer need, and you could donate them for children in Kenya, she would be most grateful.

Any donations can be brought into school and Miss Ottner will pass them on to her friend.

THANK YOU

HELP WITH CHILDCARE NEEDED

We have had enquiries from parents at Monkton Farleigh about childcare provision for before and after school.

If you know of any child-minders, or are able to help, please contact the school office and we can pass the information on to interested families.

THANK YOU



CHURCHFIELDS' SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

The attendance of pupils is measured using a percentage score.

LOW	AVERAGE	ABOVE AVERAGE	HIGH
Below 94.0%	94.0% - 95.0%	95.1% - 96.0%	Above 96.0%

95.0% or above is the benchmark for good school attendance and the school will begin to monitor your child's attendance if it falls below 94.0%.

Understanding your child's school attendance rate

Once your child has missed 10 school days (2 weeks) during a school year, they will not achieve a 95% school attendance rate for that year.

Below is a table that you can use as rough guide when considering your child's yearly school attendance rate.

School Attendance Rate	% of pupils achieving 5 or More A* - C grades (including English & maths)
Above 95%	73%
90% - 80%	35%
Below 50%	3%

As you can see from the table, a pupil with an 85% school attendance rate for the year will have missed nearly a whole school term. This level of school absence will definitely affect their ability to do well and achieve at school.

Recent research has demonstrated that there is a clear link between poor attendance at school and lower academic achievement.

ATTENDANCE RATE	95%	90%	85%
NUMBER OF SCHOOL WEEKS MISSED	2 WEEKS	4 WEEKS	6 WEEKS

[The greater the attendance, the greater the achievement!](#)

Registers are taken in the morning and afternoon every day. All absences are recorded with an electronic code, which is used to create your child's attendance record.

Remember, it is essential that parents inform the school as early as possible if their child/ren are not attending school.

Telephone the school office on **01225 703026** and leave a message on the Absence Line or email:

Atworth - awreception@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk
Monkton Farleigh - mfreception@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk

If the school does not receive a phone call or a note, we will contact you to request a reason for absence.

If we do not receive a reply to the reminder, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

AUTHORISED ABSENCE

The following absences are coded as authorised:

- Illness**
- Medical appointments**
If your child has a medical appointment, please notify us **in advance** in person, by phone, or by email giving the date of the appointment and the time they will return to school/need to be picked up.
- Other planned absence**
 - Please fill in an Absence Request Form (available on request from the school office) for:
 - External examination: e.g. music, ballet
 - Visit to new school
 - Funeral of close family member (at Headteacher's discretion)
 - Wedding of close family member (at Headteacher's discretion)
 - Family emergency (at Headteacher's discretion)
 - Holiday for children of parents in armed forces personnel on leave from active service (written confirmation required)

UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE

The Headteacher **may** authorise absences in special circumstances. If your reason for requesting leave falls outside of the above criteria but you believe there are exceptional circumstances for the absence, please complete an Absence Request Form giving as much detail as possible.

Please note: if requested leave, which has not been authorised is taken, it will be recorded as unauthorised absence. If unauthorised absence exceeds ten sessions (i.e. five days) in any six-month period within an academic year, the school is required to report this to the Local Authority. The Local Authority may then decide to levy a fine.

DIARY DATES TERMS 3 & 4

DATE	EVENT
Friday 20 January	<p>School Council Table Top Sale Raising funds for Barnardos 3:00 – 4:00pm, Atworth & MF</p>
	<p>Headteacher Coffee Morning 8:45am – Atworth</p>
Monday 23 January	<p>Phonics Workshop for Reception & Yr1 Parents/Carers 9:00am, Monkton Farleigh site</p>
Wednesday 25 January	<p>Headteacher Coffee Morning 8:30am – Monkton Farleigh</p>
Friday 10 February	<p>END OF TERM 3</p>
Monday 20 February	<p>Term 4 – back to school</p>
Thursday 2 March	<p>World Book Day</p>
Friday 3 March	<p>Nightingale Class Swimming 6 week block of lessons Fri 3 March – Fri 28 April</p>
Monday 13 – Friday 17 March	<p>SCIENCE WEEK</p>
Monday 13 March	<p>Parents' Evening, 3:00 – 6:00pm</p>
Thursday 23 March	<p>Parents' Evening 3:00 – 7:00pm</p>
Friday 24 March	<p>Comic Relief</p>
Mon 3 - Fri 7 April	<p>NO SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK</p>
Monday 3 April	<p>Easter Service St Michael's Church, Atworth, 1:15pm</p>
Wednesday 5 April	<p>WOW! Day KS2 children to Atworth R & KS1 children to Monkton Farleigh</p>
Friday 7 April	<p>END OF TERM 4 – Easter Holidays TERM 5 begins Monday 24 April</p>