

## HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

Dear Parent/Carer,

There is much to celebrate this week! Not least that all pupils across both Atworth and Monkton Farleigh bases have now had the opportunity to return to school for a period following the lockdown. The staff have been amazed at how adaptable the children have been by settling in to a new routine within no time. Children have been delighted to start reconnecting with their peers and school life so a huge thank you to pupils, parents and staff for their sterling efforts which made this a reality.

You will undoubtedly be aware that central government announced yesterday that all pupils are to return to school full-time from the start of the autumn term in September. We are delighted with this news and have been working through the guidance provided by the Department for Education since its release yesterday to plan how we can apply it to our individual settings at Atworth and Monkton Farleigh. The Local Authority will also be providing additional guidance next week for schools in Wiltshire to follow. We will need to wait for this before being able to plan fully.

Our planning will take into account the many unique characteristics of our school such as having two bases with mixed aged classes to name only two. I am determined our plan will work from the outset and in the long-term to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum to all our pupils whilst recognising the pressures parents/carers will be facing. Crucially, there is of course a continuing requirement to maintain the safety and wellbeing of the whole school community in light of COVID-19 which unfortunately has not gone away. I will be consulting with a number of stakeholder groups from the school community to ensure our plan is robustly fit for purpose. Please rest assured that I will communicate this clear plan to parents/carers as soon as possible and before the end of the summer term. In the meantime, I would like to thank you in advance for your patience.

I am delighted to be able to confirm Churchfields has been awarded the much coveted 'Primary Science Quality Mark'. You can find further details about this in this newsletter. This award is the culmination of the extensive work of the staff to develop high quality science teaching and learning across the school, led by Mrs. Liddiard and ably supported by Miss Connelly. A colossal well done and thank you to everyone involved in bringing this major achievement to fruition.

Finally, we do hope you will be able to join the virtual Churchfields' Quiz this evening. Our resident quiz master, Miss Ottner, is poised to put everyone through their paces and you won't even need to walk home afterwards!

Kind regards,

Simon Fitcher.



## Forever Home!

You are all, no doubt, aware that we have our hatched chicks at Atworth who are growing up fast. There are four Scots Dumpy and one Pekin who we can now offer out for adoption in a forever home

towards the end of term. Helen from Hatching for Schools is more than happy to have them back at her homestead, but also happy that they be homed within the Churchfields community. If you can offer all, or some, of the chicks a forever home then do drop an email or call the school to express an interest. Ideally, they will go to an experienced 'chicken family' with all the awareness of their husbandry needs and associated veterinary costs.

Andrea Liddiard



I am very proud that Churchfields The Village School has been awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark – Gilt Award. (2020-23). Just 160 schools gained the award this year and being awarded additional Gilt status on top makes us all feel extra proud of the achievement.

This is a prestigious national award for the teaching and learning of science. Schools that achieve the PSQM Gilt award have demonstrated an established and ongoing commitment and expertise in science subject leadership, teaching and learning. It shows that we have worked together both within school and with local experts and teachers to share good practices and improve the provision we offer the children of Churchfields.

Well done and thanks you to all the staff for their valuable contributions and commitment over the years. Also, a big thank you to the children for their enthusiasm and energy that they demonstrate for science. Finally, thank you to the parents and carers for your continued contribution and support in promoting all things scientific at home and in school and of course the PTA for the financial support offered during our annual Science weeks. Well done everyone - I feel very privileged to be part of a fantastic team!

Andrea Liddiard  
Science Lead





Churchfields School's guitar students have been having their lessons online since the start of lockdown, and their guitar teacher Anthony has found a fantastic and fun way to get the most out of learning and practicing from home.

If you'd like to try this out yourself, there is still time to join before the end of term, or take part in the summer course - including a virtual concert mash up of student's work! A great and fun activity to supplement home schooling.

Below is a link to a YouTube video demonstrating online lessons in action:

<https://youtu.be/c47T1e445iM>

If you would like to join in the fun, please email Anthony at [anthonyrockguitar@gmail.com](mailto:anthonyrockguitar@gmail.com) or on 07804 129348

We can still make music - #DontDropMusic

---

## Class News Roundup

### Kingfisher Class

Well what can I say? It has been another really delightful week with this awesome group. They are working their socks off and have all really impressed me with their doubling and halving skills and measuring lengths. We have started to explore and compare life in the oceans and rivers. Who knew such bizarre and wonderful creatures existed?



Kingfishers have also enjoyed observing, researching and playing with the chicks. This first-hand experience has enabled the children to discuss how we look after other living creatures as well as gain a super understanding of the life cycle of a chick. Yet again I am chuffed to bits with my class.

Well done sweethearts x x x

### Woodpecker Class

Well it's been another busy week! We've been learning all about rivers and the water cycle and have begun to write poems about a river's journey to the sea. We have been researching weird and wonderful watery animals and creating PowerPoint presentations all about them. Mr. Keily and PH Sport have kept us very active. It was so lovely to see more of our Woodpecker friends in school this week. We are still keeping up with our spellings, Big Maths Beat That! and reading too!

### Starling Class

Starlings have been making rafts and testing them to see if they float, checking on the chicks and if the children are fortunate sometimes the chicks let the children hold them for a couple of minutes! We've done some jellyfish and octopus art and had a mini PE lesson lead by our 2 Year 4 boys. We've had brilliant stories written about Krakens and Mermaids. The children are getting too quick thinking with answering their big maths sums so we've reduced the time by 30 seconds! We'll find out next week if they can keep up their high scores with less time!

### Nightingales

It was a very exciting week for those that were able to come to our morning sessions. It was wonderful to hear all the fun and interesting things that had happened at home over the last few months and be together again. Both Year 3 and 4 learnt about an amazing and one of the mysterious underwater creatures - the giant squid! We loved learning facts about this creature and our fantastic new book inspired us to begin making a giant squid craft which we can finish next week. It really was wonderful for us to be back together again!

Miss Connelly

### Robins

Another busy week of learning in Robin class this week! We've been really enjoying learning about rivers. We started with the Mississippi and drew its course on a map of North America, and moved onto the River Ganges and how some people believe it has special qualities. In science we have been making boats and estimating what load they could take - we were all surprised by how many cubes our little boats could carry before they began to sink! Our classroom is looking more and more marine as the weeks go on as our fantastic mermaids, fish, underwater creatures adorn the walls. It's like we are learning and working underwater!

Miss Connelly



## Falcon Class



Falcons learnt about why the Fish symbol is so important in Christianity. The children looked at images of different representations and created their own versions, including key words that they believe are important to the Christian faith.



Our art inspired by Emily Williams 'Little Red Boat'

### Carrier bag request

As term 6 draws to an end we want to make sure all children are able to take their work home. Please can you send a carrier bag in next week so we can send their workbooks back with them.

Thank you

## Kestrel Class



Mrs. Dowding, the Y6s and I are very excited to welcome the Y5s back to school this morning and are looking forward to catching up with them. In school we've been thinking about 100 famous people you ought to know about by the time you leave primary school and have had

fun arguing about who deserves to be on the list. In maths we've been finding about oceans of the world and working out their relative sizes. We've also been improving our European geography, learning the kings and queens of England and memorising the 50 states of America.... in fact we're all ready for a quiz this evening!

*Kestrels have enjoyed writing limericks about famous people*

Usain Bolt is faster than lightning  
His speed is really quite frightening  
He is the best  
There is no contest  
His sportsmanship is really inspiring

*Luca*

A girl called Amelia Earhart  
A brilliant pilot of aircraft  
First woman to fly  
Across the sky  
Above the Atlantic unhurt

*Willow and Aino*

Oliver Cromwell's nose  
Was as fat and as long as a hose  
He fought in wars tow  
Then to Charlie adieu  
Because into power he rose

*Madelyn*

King Henry he loved his dear dinner  
He would only get fat, never thinner  
He had six wives  
And took two of their lives  
And when younger he was so much slimmer

*Morgan and Madelyn*

A talented man called Walt Disney  
American, artistic and busy  
Creator of Mickey  
All over the Wiki  
Donald and Daisy and Minnie

*Aino and Willow*