

## Churchfields' Weekly Newsletter

Friday 15 September 2023

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Dear Parent/Carer,

It was lovely to see the buzz around both bases on Tuesday as the Wow! Day commenced. Well done to the children who engaged fully with all activities staff had carefully planned and resourced for them. Hopefully you will have heard snippets about the day from your child(ren) when they returned home!

Thank you for your patience and understanding with our current unforeseen office situation – it is much appreciated. Mrs Harford continues to be supported by Mrs Artus who is working additional hours to ensure we have cover at key times in the morning. I am grateful for their commitment to the school. Mrs Harford and I, in conjunction with the senior leadership team and governors, will be carefully considering how our office structure may look in the future now this opportunity has arisen, keeping in mind the support that may become available from Palladian in the longer term. We are therefore currently advertising for a temporary part time administration officer to work alongside Mrs Harford from the start of term two (start of November) until the end of term five (end of May), pending possible office reorganisation. Depending on the outcome of this review, the role will either then cease or continue for longer/become permanent. Nonetheless, it is still suitable for someone looking for a temporary role. The advert is live with a closing date of 8am on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September. If you would like to know more, or wish to pass on these details to someone else, the advert and all associated information alongside the application form can be found by [following this link](#). Please feel free to contact me for an informal conversation if you would find this helpful.

Whilst we are recruiting a new member of staff, **the school office will be open from 8:30am – 11am daily**. This will greatly support Mrs Harford balance her administration and finance responsibilities across the week in this interim period. Regular telephone messages and emails will be dealt with during these hours. As always, please use the emergency contact email addresses for [Atworth](#) and [Monkton Farleigh](#) should you need to communicate with the school urgently outside of these times (e.g. to inform us of an end of day pick-up arrangement). These are monitored periodically across the day by each base's senior teacher. Thank you in advance for your support.

We are looking forward to meeting all parents at our upcoming parent/teacher meetings. These will be held at both bases on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> and Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October. Please sign up for your preferred ten minute slot using the sheets that will be provided centrally at each base from this coming Tuesday. These meetings provide an opportunity to hear how your child has settled into their new year group, and school in the case of Reception pupils, the progress they are making in all areas of school life and how you can support at home.

Have an enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,

Simon Fletcher.

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Contact details:

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## Atworth Outdoor Swimming Pool

We just wanted to express our thanks to everyone who helped us out at the pool over the summer and everyone who came along to swim.

We opened the pool 19 times. The weather wasn't really on our side for most of the summer; however, children came to swim every single day it was open.

We had a total of 17 volunteers, who kept the pool clean, ensured the chemical levels were correct and ran the shifts on the opening days.

We have successfully kept the pool running so it was available for all pupils on their return to school

We used two local lifeguards. After paying them we have made a profit of £50 which will go towards upgrading the heating system.

But most of all we had a lot of fun. The sunshine saw a huge turnout last weekend, it was fantastic to see so many families enjoying themselves in the water. We are so lucky to have this facility.

We will keep the pool open for as long as the sun is shining. It will then be shut down for winter. During this time, we will continue to make improvements and endeavour to replace the heating system so we can have warmer water next year when we reopen.

We always welcome new volunteers to help us run and maintain the pool, if you would like to volunteer, please contact Emma on [ebennett@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:ebennett@churchfields.wilts.sch.uk)

You can also help by visiting our crowdfunding page <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/churchfields-the-village-school>



## KS2 WOW Day

We went to Monkton Farleigh on Tuesday to learn more about our topic settlements. We walked around the village and we saw the gates to the manor and we also saw inside the

church and where the priests got ready. We learnt why Monkton Farleigh is called Monkton Farleigh - it's because monks used to live there and it was a ferny clearing. After our walk we made a 3D map of Monkton Farleigh showing lots of special features such as the well, the old post office, which Mrs Marsh remembers buying sweets from, and the King's Arms.

By Scarlett

We would like to say a huge thank you to our parent volunteers for helping make the day so successful.

## Mathletics

Welcome back to a new year of Mathletics, and a special welcome to our newest mathletes - we have a couple of very keen Puffins who have earned their first certificate already (well-done Henry and Esme). For those unfamiliar with Mathletics it is an online program for maths and you will find login details stuck in the front of your child's Home-School book. We encourage children to regularly participate in Mathletics at home, and find it is a great help in increasing maths confidence. If you earn 1000 points or more in a week, then you will earn a certificate.

For those familiar with Mathletics you will notice a change to the certificate system so that gold is no longer the ultimate accolade. I am awaiting clarification from the Mathletics team about how exactly you move between the levels, but in the meantime it's great to see so many people hitting the ground running and earning their first certificate in the first week of school. A special mention for Nightingales who are the class with the most certificates this week.

**BRONZE:** Daisy, Alice, Scarlett, William, Oliver H, Alexis G, Rufus, Leighton, Oliver CJ, Bodhi PH, Emily J, Eloise, Alex S, Sammy, Maddox, Isabella R, Morgan, Alexis M, Kit, Hattie D, Harry, Christina, Henry J, Esme

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### Birthday Books

Thanks to Hector for Shackleton's Journey by William Grill in celebration of his 7<sup>th</sup> birthday, we hope you had a great birthday



Wishing Otto a very happy 5<sup>th</sup> birthday and thank you for Humongous Fungus by Lynne Boddy with the amazing illustrations by Wenjia Tang.

All profits raised for the following event are for the village hall and rec.

**ATWORTH VILLAGE HALL PRESENTS**

# **FAMILY FUN CHOCOLATE**

**B I N G O**

**FRIDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2023**  
6PM - 9PM

**ADVANCED TICKETS £3**  
**AT THE DOOR ON THE NIGHT £5**

**Contact: SUE.WINNIE@AOL.CO.UK**  
**07711 956591**

Price includes a strip of 6 bingo tickets -  
you can play as a family, group, in pairs or by yourself  
for the chance to win **PRIZES** in  
**CHOCOLATE**

**BRING YOUR LUCKY PEN!**

REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE  
TEA • COFFEE • SQUASH • BISCUITS



**Friends of Churchfields (FOCS)**  
(Formerly known as PTA)

**Has it's 1st meeting of the year**

**On Thursday 28th September**

**7:45 pm**

**@ The White Hart, Atworth**

**New members are very welcome**  
**Looking forward to seeing you all**



**Melksham Oak Community School**

## **VISIT OUR OPEN EVENING**

**Wednesday 20th September, 6PM - 8PM**  
**Melksham Oak Community School, SN12 6QZ**

An opportunity for parents and children to tour the school, get involved in subject-based activities and to hear a presentation by our Head Teacher.

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## Term dates for 2023/2024

<b>Term 1: Monday 4 September – Wed 18 October</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Friday 1 September – INSET DAY (school closed)</li> <li>Monday 25 September – INSET DAY (school closed)</li> </ul>	<b>Term 4: Monday 19 February – Thursday 28 March</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 11 March - INSET DAY (school closed)</li> <li>Friday 29 March - Bank Holiday (school closed)</li> </ul>
<b>Term 2: Monday 30 October – Wed 20 December</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 30 October - INSET DAY (school closed)</li> </ul>	<b>Term 5: Monday 15 April – Friday 24 May</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday 06 May Bank holiday</li> </ul>
<b>Term 3: Thursday 04 January – Friday 09 February</b>	<b>Term 6: Monday 03 June – Wednesday 24 July</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday 24 July - INSET DAY (school closed)</li> </ul>

## Term 1 & 2

TERM 1	
Tuesday 19 September	No afterschool Construction club Monkton Farleigh
Wednesday 20 September	Atworth Pottery and art clubs running today afterschool
Wednesday 20 September	Year 3 Swimming
<b>Monday 25 September</b>	<b>INSET DAY school closed to pupils</b>
Wednesday 27 September	Year 3 Swimming
Friday 29 September	KS2 Literacy trip
<b>Monday 02 October – Friday 06 October</b>	<b>No teacher led clubs</b>
Tuesday 03 October	Parents' evening until 7:30pm
Wednesday 04 October – Monday 09 October	Scholastic Book Fair both bases

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Term 1 continued	
Wednesday 04 October	Year 3 Swimming
Thursday 05 October	Parents' evening until 6:00pm
Thursday 05 October	KS1 Literacy trip
Thursday 05 October – Friday 06 October	Wiltshire Air Ambulance visits
Monday 09 October	Flu Immunisations
Wednesday 11 October	Atworth Open Day
Friday 13 October	Monkton Farleigh Open Day
Tuesday 17 October	Harvest Festival Atworth Church (1:15pm)
Wednesday 18 October	End of Term 1
Term 2	
<b>Monday 30 October</b>	<b>INSET DAY school closed to pupils</b>
Tuesday 01 November	Term 2 Begins
Monday 13 November – Friday 17 November	E- Safety Week (Anti-Bullying Week)
Monday 13 November – Friday 17 November	Maths Week
Thursday 16 November – Friday 17 November	Bikeability for year sixes
Friday 17 November	Children In Need
Tuesday 05 December	KS2 Production 1:30 dress rehearsal; 4pm & 6pm @church Hall

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Term 2 Cont'd	
Thursday 07 December	Fdn/KS1 Production 1:30 dress rehearsal; 4pm & 6pm @church Hall
Friday 15 December	Christmas Dinner
Tuesday 19 December	Carol Service Atworth Church 1:15pm
Wednesday 20 December	End of Term 2



**STAGE COACH**  
Creative Courage For Life

**Where children become everything they can be**

Singing, dancing and acting classes for 4-6 year-olds

stagecoach.co.uk/melksham  
07774 138455 melksham@stagecoach.co.uk

**ASK ABOUT OUR TWO WEEK TRIAL**

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**A PLACE TO BE YOU!**

**Unlock your child's potential**

Stagecoach Chippenham & Melksham

is delighted to be opening a **NEW SCHOOL** near you

With over 30 years' experience in the performing arts, we have helped more than 1 million children in 8 countries achieve their potential.

Singing, dancing and acting classes for 6 - 16 year-olds

**Date / Time:** 09:30 - 12:30  
**Venue:** Melksham Oak, SN12 6QZ

stagecoach.co.uk/melksham 07774 138455

**STAGE COACH**  
Creative Courage For Life

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