

# Orchards News

October 2014

## Busy, Busy, Busy

The children have been busy again this half term. We have had a charity day for Jeans for Genes, Harvest Festival and some year groups have had a Theme day. Year 4 went to Stibbington for a WWII day, Y5 had Greek Day and Y3 had a Roald Dahl day. All of the children were also involved in Diwali week. Children learnt a dance or listened to stories.

## Time Credits Earning...

We continue to have fantastic opportunities to earn **Time Credits** at school... volunteer for an hour and earn a credit to spend on an hour's activity. See Mrs Johnson in the Well-being team for more information.

Mrs White's clerical jobs are piling up! We are looking for two people on 4th November 1-3pm. It will be labelling books, photocopying etc.

We are also in need of more **reading volunteers** to help children who need support to read everyday. If you are interested in becoming a reading volunteer please see Mrs Johnson or Mrs White.

There are new spend opportunities in Cambridgeshire and Kings Lynn and more are being added all the time. Spice are publishing a new spend book which should be ready in November. This booklet will be called 'East Of England spend opportunities'.

Mrs Johnson has calculated we have a total of 906 hours which have been volunteered at Orchards so far and she expects to celebrate the 1000 hour of earning this week!

## Christian Theme for this Half Term

Our current Christian Theme is **Compassion** and we have been thinking about this and how the story of The Good Samaritan supports the theme in assembly. We have encouraged children to think about each other and what to do when someone



needs help. They have been thoughtful and related this to being kind and supportive at playtime and in lessons.



## Church Inspection

We had a visitor from the Diocese a couple of weeks ago and she feels the children are working together as a community. I have attached her report to this newsletter for you to read. Though we were disappointed not to get an overall good grade, lots of the elements were rated as good as is shown in the report.



## Assemblies for Parents & Carers

We had our first class assembly this year and the initial feedback from the audience was very good. Families were able to see more of their child's performance as only 30 children were involved. Over the year each class will have an assembly and we hope that you are able to support these.

I am again pleased with how many families supported the Harvest Festivals this year. We were unable to go to St Augustines because of the heavy rain, but this didn't stop us having a lovely service in the hall. Apologies to any families who didn't see the message at the front of school or on Facebook. Unfortunately for this sort of event we are unable to make individual phone calls. We will always notify any changes on the school facebook page. Please find Orchards CofE School and like the page to make sure you get updates.

We are collecting harvest gifts for The Ferry Project, which is a project to help the homeless in Wisbech. We will be collecting donations until Friday (office open) and will deliver the produce next week. Thanks in advance.



**Christingle Service 17th Dec;**

**Easter Service —25th March**

## Class Assembly Dates

Willow	3rd Dec	Lime	26th Nov
Pine	15th April	Holly	11th March
Walnut	21st Jan	Cedar	8th April
Beech	15th Oct	Elm	13th May
Maple	1st July	Chestnut	4th Feb
Laburnum	10th June	Oak	10th Dec
Almond	22nd April		

## SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

The school photographs were taken on Tuesday and we had two pleasing pieces of news.... Parents can order from the Add Ons Section of the form without ordering from the other part so prints start at just £5 and the even better news is that all packages are a bit cheaper this year.



**CUBS/SCOUTS TASTER session— Years 4, 5 and 6**

**5-630pm on Thursday 16th ...**

**BEAVERS TASTER Session Friday 17th 4-5.15pm**

**New members welcome to both sessions.**

## WWI Week

After half term we will be having a week Topic focus on WWI as a whole school as part of the centenary remembrance. Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will also have a half day workshop at The Castle in Wisbech as part of this work. We will link this back to the artwork produced for St Augustine's Church.



## English Week

**AARRRRGH!**



We are having our English week earlier this year, and things will kick off with a YoHoHo on Monday 10th November with a theme of Pirates. This is early notice that the children will have a pirate dress up day one day during the week. We will also have an English Week Disco on 13th Nov. The Book Fair will be here for a week from 12th Nov.

## Parking

The local Police Officers are monitoring parking outside and around school more regularly and they will issue tickets to anyone parking on a yellow line or in front of a drop curb. Please note that the parents parking outside school has places for 4 cars only. Please don't park on the end. This is not a 5th bay and is in front of a drop curb to the parents waiting area.



**Not a Parking Space**

## Children in Need—7th November

We will again be raising money for Children In Need including our usual dress up in spots or yellow. We will again have a best home made t-shirt competition and this year we will also have a dance-a-thon. Please bring a donation of a £1 for dressing up and 50p for the dance-a-thon.



## Christmas Fayre—Tuesday 9th December

3pm-5pm Please ask at the office if you would like a stall. More information will be shared in the next news letter.



## Diwali Days

On 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of October the children participated in a range of workshops, such as story-telling and traditional Indian dancing, as part of our Diwali Days. The workshops were led by the enthusiastic teacher, Sunita, and culminated in with a showcase of dance at the end of the week. We were so pleased to see all the people who were able to join us to celebrate our learning during Diwali days! Jimmy said, "I really enjoyed dressing in the costumes." Karly said, "I liked when we practised all the dancing and we got to dress up in real Indian clothes. They were beautiful!"

## Roald Dahl Day

Year 3 celebrated Roald Dahl Day in style on 26<sup>th</sup> September. All of the children (and adults) dressed up as their favourite characters from Roald Dahl Day.

Evelina said, "I really like Roald Dahl Day. My favourite part was when we got to make cakes and then we got to decorate them! Miss Bridges dressed up like an Oompa Loompa and it was so funny."

Katherine said, "We had lots of fun learning about Roald Dahl. We made cookies and we decorated them and then we made some baskets to put our cakes in. I really enjoyed reading George's Marvellous Medicine because it was so funny when 'Grandma's' head grew!"

## Year 4 Stibbington trip

On Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> October, Year 4 travelled back in time to 1940. They took on the role of children living during World War II who were evacuated to Stibbington village. At the start of the day children arrived at Stibbington station and were met by the billeting officer, Miss Smith, who then took them on a tour of the village and showed them where our new guardians lived and where they would be living until it was safe to return to home to London. After that we all went to school and had lunch. For lunch we had food that children would have eaten during the war, spam and cheese sandwiches, apples and spice cake. Some of us really enjoyed the food, but some of us didn't like it very much! Then we went to practised putting on our gas masks and suddenly the air raid siren went off and we all had to go to the shelter to be safe until the air raid was over. We all had such a fun day!

Harvey wrote, "Yesterday I went on a trip to Stibbington with the rest of Holly Class and we had lots of fun! The billeting officer was Miss Smith and she led us from the train station to the school. We used inkwells and practised writing in cursive writing. For snack we all had a jam sandwich. When we went to the classroom, a siren when off and we went to an air raid shelter. It was loud. We also went to see a massive river in the village."



## Diary Dates

Staff Training Day: Friday 24th October

October Half term: 27th-31st inclusive

Christmas Holiday: 20th Dec 2014-4th January 2015 inclusive

Staff Training Day: Monday 5th January

February Half term: 16-20th 2015 inclusive

Easter : 30th March—12th April 2015 inclusive

Staff Training Day: Monday 13th April

Bank Holiday: Monday 4th May

Summer Half term: 25th-29th May inclusive

Staff Training Day: Friday 19th June

Summer holiday begins 23rd July 2015