



Horspath Church of England Primary School  
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Headteacher: Mrs. Emma Coleman  
Chair of Governors: Mrs. Munaza Dogar

12<sup>th</sup> January 2018

Dear parents,

Happy New Year and welcome back! Christmas seems a long time ago now but I hope you all had a good holiday.

### Spring Term

This term, we have a wide range of topics across the school. Our youngest pupils in Acorn Class will be finding out all about dinosaurs through dinosaur story books and information texts, as well as a visit from the ever popular Dinosaur workshop. Beech Class and Lime Class will be finding out more about different species of mammals, reptiles, fish and birds in their topic. Oak, Pine and Willow children are off to Ancient Greece via Aesop's Fables, slavery and the Olympics, all kicked off with a Greek Workshop day yesterday.

Keep a look out for the class newsletters with more details about the topic in each class and daily timetables.

Our school values underpin all we do in school and our value until February half term is **Honesty**, followed by **Compassion** as we move through Lent up to Easter.

Our annual Easter Service will take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> of March in the morning and on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March we will be celebrating all things French during our French Day.

You will have already received or will be receiving the class newsletter over the next few days.

### Greek Day



*Greek day was a great day. Theo was very funny. He taught us lots and lots of things about Greeks. He told us all about the Spartans and the Athenians, how they lived, lots of ways they fought and how they grow up. He told us lots of Greek stories and we got to do some roll play.*

*Theo even brought in his armour and weapons, he taught us about them too. We did lots of activities, they were very fun. We did puzzles and a quiz. Overall, it was a great day!*

#### **Stefan – Willow Class**

*Greek day was great. We got to dress up and act in Theo's stories. Everyone learnt a lot about Athens, Sparter and lots more. Athenian girls had to do everything such as cooking, washing, cleaning and they were not allowed to vote. Athenian boys had normal jobs but when a war came along they were expected to fight and but their own weapons and armour. Spartan girls had lots of slaves, they were taught to fight with a knife and all the men respected them. Spartan boys were taken from their mothers at age 7 to learn how to fight. Theo showed us the armour and weapons they would have used. We finished the day with a story. Overall, it was a brilliant day.*

#### **Issy- WillowClass**

### **Pupil Progress Reports: Beech, Lime, Oak and Willow**

As a summary of the Autumn Term, there is a snapshot report about your child's progress since they started in the school, their attainment and attendance available for you on-line. This can be accessed through the username and password sent home yesterday in your child's bookbag along with a letter explaining the snapshot report. If you have any problems logging on, please let us know.

I hope the information is useful to you but if there is anything you would like to discuss further, please do speak to your child's teacher.

Pupil progress is measured in a very different way during the Foundation Stage in Acorn Class. Mrs Tyler Hunt is happy to speak to Acorn parents about how we do this and how well your child is doing, but we cannot provide a similar on-line snapshot report for Acorn pupils.

### **Stepping stones**

Would a kind (strong and fit!) parent be willing to move the animal stepping stones for us? They currently run in a line from the amphitheatre up to the playground but they would be more useful and safer to use if they were moved to connect the amphitheatre and the nursery path. If we have more than one volunteer I will coordinate a stepping stone moving date!

### **Sportshall Athletics Tournament**

The team was full of enthusiasm and very supportive throughout the tournament. They soared to victory, finishing first place in many events. As the winning team they have secured a place in the district final. This will be held at Icknield Community College on Friday 23rd February in the morning - further details to follow. I will send out details for training sessions in February when we have all the equipment from the Sports Partnership. Congratulations to all team members and I look forward to the upcoming final!

Mrs Tyler Hunt

Sports Subject Leader

## Spring Term dates for your diary:

Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> January	No Family Assembly
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> January	PTA meeting 3.15pm in Lime Class
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> January	Family Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> January	Family Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> February	Family Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 5&6 Shadow of the Minotaur trip
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	Family Assembly 2.45pm

Half Term 12<sup>th</sup> Feb – 16<sup>th</sup> Feb

Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 6 IMPS trip
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	Family Assembly 2.45pm
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> March	World Book day
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Dinosaur Workshop Acorn Class
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Family Assembly 2.45pm
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 4pm-7pm
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents' Evening 3.30pm-5.30pm
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Class Photos
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Family Assembly 2.45pm
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> March	Family Assembly 2.45pm
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Junior Citizens trip Year 6
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	<i>No Family Assembly</i>
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Topic Display 3.15pm School Hall
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Topic Display 9.00am School Hall
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Service 9.15am School Hall
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	School Closes at 1.30pm

Easter Holidays 30<sup>th</sup> March – 13<sup>th</sup> April

Summer Term:	Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> April
School Reopens	<b>14<sup>th</sup> May – 17<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>Key Stage 2 SATs Tests</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> May – 25<sup>th</sup> May</b>
<b>Key Stage 1 SATs Tests</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> May – 1st June
Half Term	Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> July
School Closes	

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Coleman  
Head Teacher