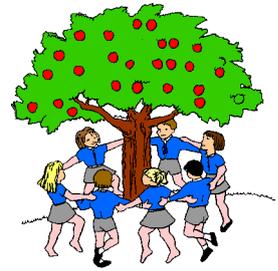


SPEEN CHURCH OF ENGLAND SCHOOL
Celebrating 150 years: 15 October 1862 – 15 October 2012

Parents Newsletter

Headteacher: Mrs. Denise Nayna May 2014



Flowers Bottom Lane, Speen, Princes Risborough Bucks HP27 0SX Phone: 01494 488321
E-mail: office@speen-cofe.bucks.sch.uk Sochi Paralympic Torch in Speen CE School

Welcome

We are pleased to welcome new families to YN in our Foundation Stage class. Mrs Hayman has visited the new children at home and at Speen Pre-school and was pleased to take her class to their super Easter Service at Speen Baptist Church.

Mrs Moore can be found in the office from 8:30am. If you have any administrative queries you can telephone (**mornings only**), email or call in to see her when you bring your children. Please make sure that your contact details, including email addresses and mobile telephone numbers are current. Should there be an emergency or your child is taken ill at school, we need to be able to contact you or your nominated representative. If you have arranged for someone else to collect your child from school YOU (the parent) must write on the 'Going Home' sheet, which is on the notice-board in each classroom. We legally cannot hand over a child without the permission of someone with parental responsibility. Any late changes can be telephoned during the morning when Mrs Moore is in the office.

Please would parents check that their children's belongings are named as we are already finding unnamed articles around the school? As I write the lovely weather we had in the school holiday seems a distant memory but should the sun reappear please send a hat/cap and in the meantime a raincoat is essential.

Sainsbury Vouchers. The collection box is in Mrs Hayman's cloakroom so please ask friends, neighbours and family to save them for us as we always purchase something special with our vouchers.

Some years ago Bucks Housing Trust held a competition to name a new shop in Speen, The Really Useful Shop. The shop charity donates to local causes and they are holding a competition to design a poster to encourage people to apply for grants. The children will be drafting their poster at home and then working on it in school later in the term. There is a small prize for the winner.

NEWS

March 24th Chris Rattenbury, an elite athlete and WheelPower Ambassador, brought the 2014 Paralympic Torch from Sochi. The children heard about his drive to become an international power lifter through training and dedication. This torch was the only one in this country and had not been lit because those that were, had melted!



If you visited the school on 27th March you would have heard counting, instructions and very loud responses in Japanese, as all the children performed their Karate routines for parents. It was the last lesson of the year but we hope to continue in September, when the children will learn more skills, self-control and self-discipline.

Mother's Assembly



Friday March 28th Prior to Mothering Sunday we welcomed parents to our annual Mother's assembly. The children had messages, a card and a gift for their mums. The children sang and Y2 gave a performance of their special 'Jack and the Beanstalk' song and dance from Energize.



Friday/Saturday March 28/29th Year Two joined hundreds of other local children at the Swan Theatre for Energize where they played woodland animals which the Giant would like to eat. There were lots of songs and actions to learn and the children worked hard to contribute to an amazing performance. Energize is organised by the Wycombe Alliance and takes place every 2 years.

Thursday April 3rd For the culmination of KS1's study of houses and materials, the children visited the Chiltern Open Air museum. In the morning they did a brickmaking workshop and built a wall. For many children this was their favourite activity of the day, perhaps because it was the messiest. Afterwards they explored the buildings on the estate. The children travelled through time from the Iron Age to the early twentieth century. There were buildings made from wood, bricks and corrugated iron and spontaneous singing from the children when they went inside the metal chapel. Another popular exhibit was the WW2 RAF hut where they could try on a gas mask. The journey home was much quieter than the trip there!

Last Day of Spring Term

We were grateful to the Rev Dr David Williams, team Rector, for officiating at our end of term service at St. John's Church, Lacey Green. The children wrote their own prayers as usual and talked about spring, new life, Easter and the all-important Easter eggs.

Our final Celebration assembly included the presentation of Certificates for Participation, Effort and Attendance and apples to go on the Celebrating Achievement tree in the entrance. The targets which we

have been working on so far this year are on that board. Assemblies and classwork teaches children to understand the social and emotional aspects of learning. We are beginning this term with 'Setting Goals and achieving them'. This is the latest of 4 targets about how children can motivate themselves and is part of the unit-Going for Goals. The other 3 are; Taking responsibility, Persistence and Resilience. We start each term with an empty tree and children's efforts are rewarded with apples/flowers and recorded in the 'Special Book'. There were 7 Bronze and 3 Silver attendance awards presented for the spring term.

Speen School Library

Now that KS1 no longer need the library area for teaching, it has been reorganised as a quiet space for reading and research. Although some of the old stock has been removed, we plan to replace more books in the near future, thanks to the PTA.

Summer term

We are hitting the ground running as we prepare for the introduction of the New National Curriculum in September. Where it is appropriate we will be using a more thematic approach and this term we 'take One Picture' of a Railway Station in Victorian times; hence our visit to Buckinghamshire Railway Centre in Quainton this week. There will be a meeting for parents about the new curriculum later in the term.

Dates for the diary

- Governors meetings and training: 29th, 30th April, 7th, 14th May, 3rd, 12th June.
- MAY/JUNE – Year Two end of Key Stage Statutory assessments.
- PTA meeting 1st May – all parents are members of the PTA so if you are new to the school come along, 8pm, school hall.
- 5th May Bank Holiday- no school.
- 9th May Pippa Hart Photos *
- 15th May –Whole school Photo.
- Y2 Tennis Festival *
- 23rd May Last day before half-term holiday, finish 3pm.
- 2nd June School reopens; lessons begin 8:45am.
- 6th June Speenschoolfest begins at St. John's School, Lacey Green with Mad Science Day.*
- 13th June Dad's Day After the great success of making and flying kites last year, what have we got planned for this practical afternoon? Wait and see*
- W/C 23rd June Speenschoolfest*
- 26th June PTA Children's party in marquee*
- 27th June Golden Wellie competition at Bledlow Ridge School*
- 28th June PTA Stargazing Ball * – book the babysitter now
- 30th June School closed for In-service training
- 1st July Bucks Schools Transfer Day, Y2 will visit their new school.
- 12th July Speen Fete – KS1 have already started practising country dancing.*
- Friday 18th July Sports Day*
- 22nd July Last day of Term school finished at 2pm
- 23rd July School closed for In-service training.

* More information coming later
Denise Nayna