

Parents Newsletter

Headteacher: Mrs. Denise Nayna

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

Goodbyes

We have come to the end of another fantastic year. We were joined in September 2015 by Mrs Uhart and Mrs Brewer. Miss Cleaver joined us again for her training experience and for the last few weeks as a teaching assistant in KS1. We thank them for their hard work and commitment to the children at Speen CE School and wish them every success in their future careers.

Two new Teaching assistants have been appointed for September. We are pleased to welcome Mrs Zychowicz and Mrs Hanson who will join Mrs Rogers and Mrs Clark in our classroom support team.

We are also saying a sad farewell to a very successful Year two who move onto their next stage of education on Wednesday. The past few weeks have been very busy for them; SATs, a day making new friends at St. John's School, serving our helper's tea, violin concert for parents, country dancing at Speen Fete and two performances at the Risborough Gym and Dance Festival. But they have not finished yet. They will design the system of games for the It's a Knockout sports day and finally select or write the hymns, prayers and readings for our leaver's service. We will be sorry to say goodbye to some families too. Parents make such an amazing contribution to the rich variety of opportunities which are on offer to the children for which the staff and governors are very, very grateful.

News

The summer term is always very eventful and this year has been no exception.

The Golden Wellie competition was cancelled due to the weather. It was not possible to re-schedule this year.

On that day most of the children went to watch the **Watoto Choir** from Uganda concert at Elim Church in Princes Risborough. I found the lively joyous worship songs and dances uplifting. It was warming to see how these orphan children were so well cared for in their Christian community.

On Monday 4th July the Year Two children and staff served tea and cake to the army of volunteers who help in our little school. Lunchtime supervisors, librarians, those who hear children reading and after-school clubs organisers enjoyed entertainment from the children too.

Saturday/Sunday 2/3 July Year Two family camp. A night under the stars enabled parents to use our school grounds for crafts, cycling, games and a campfire with their children. Year One are already asking if they will have this opportunity next year. Jeni and all the other parents were so efficient with the organisation that I think the governors may well approve it.



On 7th July we were pleased to be invited to watch Speen Pre-school Sports Day on Speen Playing fields. The whole school joined parents and grandparents to watch the teams earn well deserved medals. It is always a joy to watch the younger siblings, and soon to be Speen reception class, being cheered on by their dedicated teachers and families. Thank you to Speen Pre-school for their invitation.

YR Multi-skills festival at Princes Risborough Upper School. Re-scheduled because of industrial action. This new event was the first time that YR had represented the school. Originally it was the turn of those who had not been selected for the Golden Wellie Competition but as that was cancelled and other schools could not attend on the new date, all children were allocated a place. They have been presented with their certificates in our Thursday Celebration assembly. Children can bring awards that they have received out of school to this assembly, but it is not show and tell. The teachers will let you know which day Show and Tell is for each year group in September.

Monday 11th July We received Moira who visited from South Gonder in Ethiopia again. She showed us pictures of the developments at the new Kindergarten and her involvement with the families. Speen children produced a scrapbook of their day which they presented to her. Read, Write Inc workbooks have been updated and re-issued, and, as the children in Ethiopia have all their lessons in English, we were able give her some of our old stock. We look forward to seeing her again at Christmas.

Saturday 9th July **Speen Fete**. The children performed their programme of dances to the wonderful live music provided by Rev Tony and his band members. The children danced really well and looked very smart. Thank you to Rev Tony and well done to the children.

Tuesday 12th July **Transition day** was the third induction day for our new reception class starting in September. All the new children were handed to Mrs Hayman at the cloakroom door and lined up beautifully to walk up the path to be collected by their parents/carers near the shelter. They were very independent and I am sure that Mrs Lidington's class will come down the drive on their own too.

Wednesday 13th July KS1 Worship trail.



Every two years KS1 visit places of worship in High Wycombe. This year we were made very welcome at the Jubilee Street Mosque and the Church of St. Mary and St. George in Sands. The children were a credit to us all as they showed interest in everything that they saw and asked really intelligent questions of the Imam and the Children and family's minister from the Wycombe team ministry.



At the Mosque they were able to see where both men and women worship. At the church they were able to dress in robes in the ecclesiastical colours and held a candle to remember the importance of knowing that Jesus is the Light

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of the World.

PTA Meeting

No doubt parents will receive the minutes of the PTA meeting when the school's finances and extra-curricular activities were discussed. As yet the only club which has been arranged for September is le Jolie Ronde on Tuesdays. The governors will soon let me know the results of the pupil survey when the children were asked about the after-school clubs that they would like. I will let parents know the full programme in September.

If you wish your child to attend the before-school club, starting at 8:00am please deliver your completed forms to Mrs Moore in the school office.

Year Two performed one gymnastic routine and reprised their Energize dance for two evening performances at the Risborough Gym and Dance festival. Unfortunately illness interfered with rehearsals but the children were very professional about making the routines work whoever was in each cast. Well done, Year Two.

Families and friends are warmly invited to the final 2 days of the Summer term.

Tuesday 19th July Sports day 1:30pm The children are either in Smith (green) or Bateman (red) house and will compete for the shield.

Wednesday 20th July last day of term.
Leavers Service St John's Church 9:15 am.

School closes 2:00pm for summer holidays.

Plans for next term.

Autumn term 2016 begins for children on Monday 5th September.

All children will have Karate lessons with Mr Wilson on Thursday mornings.

20th September –we will have a golden celebration on the 50th anniversary of the dedication by the Bishop of Oxford, of Speen School on its current site. Please pass an invitation to past pupils to join us for the festivities.

Thursday 22nd September Annual parent and governors meeting and PTA AGM 7:30 pm All parents are invited to hear from the governors and elect the Parent Teacher Association officers. All parents are automatically members of the PTA.

Friday 7th October Individual photographs

Wednesday 12th October Whole school trip to Music for Youth prom at the Royal Albert Hall and visit to the science museum.

I wish parents, children, staff and governors a good summer holiday and look forward to seeing you again in September.

Denise Nayna