



BENSON C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Providing a rich,
stimulating & enjoyable
environment, where
children can begin their
learning journey &
prepare for adult life*



Message from Mrs Crolla



Mrs Crolla
Head Teacher

Value for Term 1: Co-operation

Dear Parents,

Harvest Festival

The children have responded brilliantly to the visit from Eileen and Jean, representatives from Wallingford Food Bank. A huge thank you to everyone who has contributed to this worthy cause. Our harvest service will be taking place in St. Helen's Church, on Monday 10th October at 2pm. Parents are welcome to join us.

Growth Mindset and Rewards

This year we are striving to achieve excellence using a growth mindset approach, promoted by Professor Carol S. Dweck. This recognises that: effort, resilience, independence and a positive approach contributes to successful learning. The school has introduced a new learning behaviour strategy called Class Dojo. You may have heard your child talk about dojo points, which can be earned when demonstrating the behaviours listed above. All children require that extra boost and we hope that this will encourage individuals. The House Points will continue as before, linked to the termly value. The staff team are continually evaluating new strategies but until Christmas, the points will be rewarded as follows:

Elm 10 points and 20 = Something from Teacher's Tin

Key Stage One 15 and 25 points= Something from Teacher's Tin

Key Stage Two 20 and 40 points= Something from Teacher's Tin

When children are awarded the following numbers of dojo points, further recognition from the Headteacher is given.

Elm 25 points= visit to Headteacher's office for sticker

Key Stage One 30 points = visit to Headteacher's office for sticker

Key Stage Two 50 points= visit to Headteacher's office for sticker

These do not feed into House points

For more information about carol S. Dweck's approach, please consult: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J-swZaKN2Ic> or search for Carol Dweck, The Power of Yet. Do ask any member of staff for more information.

Mrs Helen Crolla, Headteacher





Key Dates

- **10/10/16** - Harvest Festival @ 2pm
- **12/10/16** - Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue talk to Year 5/6
- **13/10/16** - FoBS Film Afternoon
- **17/10/16** - Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 7pm
- **19/10/16** - Parents Evening – 3.30pm – 6pm
- **21/10/16** - FoBS non-school uniform day
- **21/10/16** - Maple Class Care & Share Assembly @ 2.45pm
- **21/10/16** - End of Term 1
- **31/10/16** - **STAFF INSET DAY**
- **01/11/16** - Beginning of Term 2
- **09/11/16** - Ash Class Trip to Oxfordshire Museum
- **11/11/16** - Chestnut Class Care & Share Assembly @ 2.45pm
- **16/11/16** - Flu Immunisation programme for Years 1, 2 & 3
- **17/11/16** - Sycamore & Hawthorn Class Trip to Didcot Railway Station for WW2



Important News

Flashing School Signs

The Benson Parish Council Transport sub-committee working closely with the school, school governors, SODC and OCC secured over £1,000 from the Benson Parish Council to replace and upgrade the pedestrian and school signs around the village. New high visibility signs were put in place around the school to alert drivers to the school's location and updated signage on the three school flashing signs allow us to have them turned on again at school drop off and pick up times.

1ST & 4TH BENSON BROWNIES

Benson Brownies meet every Thursday between 18:00 and 19:30, in the school hall. We are a small, friendly unit and our Brownies are happy and enthusiastic. With new leadership, we have lots of ideas and plans for the coming months, including visitors to the meetings and trips out. While having fun, we are following the Girl-Guiding ethos to help the girls develop and gain confidence. More information is available at www.girlguiding.org.uk. We currently have several spaces for new Brownies aged between 7 – 10 yrs. If your daughter might be interested in joining us, you are very welcome to bring her along to one of our meetings to 'try' us out. We'd love to see you. Just email us at bensonbrownies@hotmail.com or call Kim Harris (Tawny Owl) on 07813 051779.

BENSON PARISH COUNCIL – VACANCY - PARISH CLERK

Benson Parish Council is looking for a highly motivated individual with an interest in the local community to become its next Clerk to the Council upon the retirement of the existing Clerk. The job will be based at Benson Parish Hall, Sunnyside, Benson, Wallingford, Oxfordshire OX10 6LZ and will require some evening and very occasional weekend working. An application pack and supporting information are available from the Parish Office, or contact bensonparish.rfo@virgin.net or phone 01491 825038. The closing date for applications is 21st October 2016. Interviews will be held week commencing 31st October 2016.





Sports News



This Sunday 9th October, 25 of our children, accompanied by 5 sporting adults, will complete the final mile of their half marathon on the course of the actual event on the streets of Oxford City Centre! Over the summer, the children have completed 12.1 miles, leading up to the completion of the event on Sunday, alongside over 300 other children from Oxfordshire.

Also taking part in the actual half marathon is Miss Berry, who has to run all 13.1 miles on Sunday! (was this because she forgot to run 12.1 miles over the summer)!?

We wish all the children, adults and Miss Berry lots of luck in their challenge. Thank you to parents for supporting their children with this achievement, and thank you especially to Mrs Tanner, Mrs Huntly, Mrs Jarman, Mrs Wilson and Mrs Mead for their enthusiasm, sportsmanship and time!

If you would like to recognise the achievement of our children in this challenge, donations for Macmillan Cancer charity can be sent to the school office.

Coming up this term.....

Girls Football Tournament and Year 5/6 Netball Tournament.
Good luck to all those taking part!

Tania Hadfield





FoBS News

We are already having such a busy time getting organised for the year ahead and, post our AGM a few weeks ago, we are pleased to announce that Catherine Winter has signed back in as our wonderful Secretary, Sarah Stuart has taken on the role as Treasurer and has already provided some amazing financial reports and Helen Lowe has stepped up as Vice Chair. Jo Whittaker is also continuing as our Chair. We also now have our new FoBS Class representatives who can be your point of contact in the playground as follows:-

Nursery - Jennie Batt, Reception - Alice Jones-Evans, Year 1 - Hannah Hill, Year 2 - Lisa Mellis, Year 3 - Jo Whittaker, Year 4 - Helen Lowe, Year 5 - Ali Kitchener, Year 6 - Dee Harris

So, what's coming up? We have a newly revamped bright yellow FoBS noticeboard which you will find located on the side of the school just before the Early Years Garden - do keep an eye on it for all FoBS related events such as:

Film Afternoon: Thursday 13th October, straight after school. For our first screening we will be showing Zootopia but hope to alternate between PG and U rated films to ensure all children's likes are considered. For any further information regarding the Film Afternoon, please contact Marie Finch via the school office or via the Friends of Benson School Facebook page.

FoBS non-uniform day for the Christmas shop: Friday 21st October. Children are welcome to come to school in home clothes on this day and bring a donation for our Christmas shop. The shop relies on these donations to ensure every child is able to pick a present for their parents at Christmas. You should have received a letter with further details in your child's book bag.

Christmas cards and mugs: would you believe it, the children have already created their masterpieces at school and order forms should be out to parents in the next few weeks. Thank you to Mrs Skeels who has been leading this activity.

Rags to Riches - Have a clear out and help raise money for FOBS

FOBS will collect the following items on **Wednesday 23rd November**. This is then passed to a company who will pay us based on the weight of items. Further details (and storage bags) nearer the time via book bags.

Christmas Fayre: Saturday 26th November. Following the success of last year's event, we are teaming up with the Youth Club to put on another afternoon of magic and sparkle. We are currently looking for helpers to help run stalls on the day and sign-up sheets are being circulated in the playground via the FoBS class reps.

On top of all this activity, we are organising the recording and copying of the **Nativity DVD**, will be providing teas for the Nativity performances, as well as organising the School Disco, uniform sales and two raffles! It is a busy time.

