

July 2018

# School News

Dear Parents & Carers,

What a packed final half-term it has been!

The KS2 production was excellent and showcased some real talent. Our bright, shiny, new outdoor circuit equipment has been installed and was in use in time for the Year 6 children to have a good play on it before they move on. Sports Day was a huge success, and our end of year learning outcomes and Year 6 SATs results are very pleasing indeed.

We say good-bye to our dear Mrs Court as she and her family move on to pastures new.

We are also saying 'au revoir' to Miss Murdoch and Miss Perkins for a little while they take maternity leave, and welcoming Mr Stotesbury and Emma Coventry to our staff team for the coming year.

It is always with some sadness that we wish our Year 6 children farewell but they are now very well-prepared for their next steps towards adulthood and ready to move on. They are the most amazing group of young people and it has been an absolute privilege to have been part of their lives during their time here. We all wish them very well for next year.

It has been an interesting year at school with many challenges and many reasons to celebrate. We are all looking forward to the 2018-19 year with a focus on really fine-tuning all those things that we already do so well and working hard to get even better at providing the best possible start for all the young people we welcome into our marvellous school.

Have a wonderful summer!

Kindest regards,  
Jane O'Sullivan  
(headteacher)



Whole School Science Week has been great fun, and a wonderful way to end the term. More information and photos further on in this newsletter.

**Children return to school  
on Wednesday  
5th September**



## EQUESTRIAN SUCCESS

Amelia M (Maple Class) and Olivia T (Willow Class) recently competed at Wolverhampton Race Course in the Pony Club Area Dressage Competition. Both girls were among the youngest contestants and were up against some skilful and talented competition. They performed with great determination and we are delighted to let you know that both girls have successfully qualified for the National Pony Club Championships in August. **WHAT AN ACHIEVEMENT! VERY WELL DONE!**

Best Class attendance this term:

MAPLE CLASS with **99%**



An amazing **46** children achieved **100%** attendance this term,  
And a very impressive **10** had **100%** attendance for the year.



Our friends from the library service gave a special assembly to launch the **SUMMER READING CHALLENGE!** (more info further on)



## SPORTS DAY

was a great success. The sun shone and great fun was had by all. After a day of involvement in a range of sporting events, Red house emerged as the overall winners. The Heather Cup was received on behalf of Red House by the oldest and youngest members.

# Acorn & Beech News



Acorn and Beech class had a fantastic trip to Cotswolds Wildlife park. It was so exciting to see so many different animals and birds. Each class had a very interesting talk from one of the keepers, Beech class learnt about classification and Acorns learnt about African animals.



We absolutely loved eating ice creams! The train ride was great fun too!

It was such a beautiful, sunny day we felt like we were on an African Safari!



Cont....



We have really enjoyed having forest school sessions together this term. One of our favourite activities was making our own natural crowns. We used different herbs to make them smell delicious and found flowers and leaves to make them look good.



We have also been practicing our photography skills and taking it in turns to use the ipad to take photos and videos of one another.



Cont....



Science week was so much fun for everyone in Acorn and Beech. We worked together to create our own rainbow from things we found out on the field.



We were so lucky to have Dr Ashton from the Warriner to visit us. She brought lots of exciting equipment with her and we carried out a range of experiments. We even managed to get a paper clip to fly!



We got our socks really muddy and then carried out our own experiments to see how we could get them clean.

We had a fantastic time experimenting with bubbles. We investigated how we could make different size, shape and colour bubbles. We used recycled materials as well as classroom toys and even turned the marble run into a giant bubble blower.



Cont....

Blowing bubbles can be SO much fun!



Ms O'Sullivan found some strange things in her vegetable patch. She brought them into school for all the scientists in Beech Class to investigate.



We thought about what might happen if we put them in water and tried to explain why we thought this .



*"I think that it will sink to the bottom because it is very heavy."*  
*"I think it will float because ice-bergs float and they are very heavy."*

*"It will depend if the water is hot or cold – if it is hot, the ice egg will melt. If it is cold, the egg might make the all the water freeze."*

*"I think when you put it into the water, the water is going to go up because the egg is heavy and it will go to the bottom and move the water out the way."*



Which learning muscles did we stre-e-e-e-e-tch ?  
managing distractions, noticing, questioning, making links

# Science Week in Key Stage 2



Science week across the whole school was planned by Miss Roseblade and Miss Grantham. All of our children took part and feedback from both children and parents was really positive. Dr Ashton, from the Warriner School science department spent the day with us, leading science workshop carousels for every class. As a result of their participation in this special learning week, all the children who took part have been awarded a CREST Award from the British Science Association. To find out more about Crest Awards, please follow this link:

<http://www.crestawards.org/>



## KS2 production of 'MARY POPPINS'



The performance of Mary Poppins at the Village Hall was a triumph. The children performed brilliantly and the casting for each of the main characters felt perfect. From learning the songs, choreography, making stage sets and props, learning blocking and character studies, the children worked so hard to collaborate together across the whole key stage.

We are extremely proud of all of them. A huge thank you to the children and all the adults, staff and parents, who supported with this, with a very special mention for our wonderfully talented Miss Murdoch who played the leading role in making it all happen. It was so lovely to see the whole school community coming together as a team.



The audience turn-out for both nights was amazing, making both evening performances really successful. Thank you also for your donations. Because of your generosity, we are able to cover the costs of the Village Hall hire, with a little bit left over to put into the pot for future events for our children.

Many thanks for your support with this-it means a lot!



You can see more pictures on the photo gallery page on our school website



Creating the backdrop.



# GOVERNOR'S CORNER

Another year ends and with this comes an opportunity to reflect on what has happened in our wonderful school. The most notable event for staff and governors was the OFSTED inspection - only one day on which all of the hard work and dedication of the school, much of which goes on late into the evenings and is often unseen, will be judged. A long period of expectation and preparation finally reached its finale when the inspector arrived. After a gruelling day of questioning, observation, checking and rechecking we were all relieved to have been graded 'Good'. The inspector commended the strong leadership and the good progress that the school had made as well as the behaviour and happiness of the pupils - who were, as always, a credit to their parents, the school and the community.

As a Governing Body we would like to thank everyone, but especially the children, who have helped to get this official recognition of the high standard of education that our school offers. We hope that the school leavers will enjoy the excitement of the new challenges that await them in their new schools and look forward to welcoming new pupils in September.

## AFTER SCHOOL CARE



Carol and Paula have been doing a great job of running our After School Care Facility (ASC). They have been working hard to ensure that the children get the opportunity to enjoy a wide range of activities and have been running all sorts of competitions, linked to current affairs, religious festivals and cultural events. The children have loved it.



Highlights this term:

- \* Sending a birthday card to HRH Prince Phillip (and we got a reply!)
- \* Growing our own cress
- \* Planting sunflowers
- \* Fathers Day cards
- \* Making frizbees (which flew very well!)



There have been two competitions:

**Small frame picture design:**

	KS1	KS2
1st prize	Fred A	Tristan C
2nd prize	Daniel F	Harry W

**Summer colouring:**

	KS1	KS2
1st prize	Ava G	Josh O

There has been plenty of outdoor play as the weather has been fantastic, with the sugar-free ice pops on hot days appreciated by all.

**HAVE A LOVELY SUMMER!**

Carol & Paula x

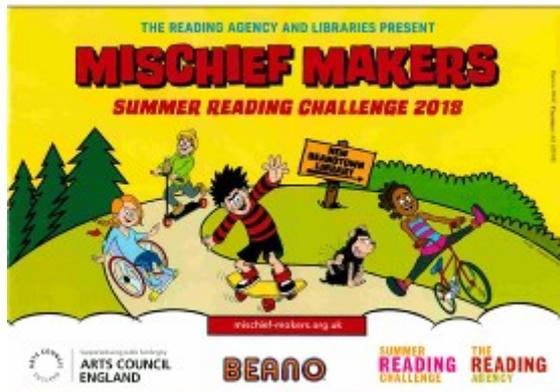


## Playtime Snacks



As part of our Gold Award for Sport, we have a focus on encouraging our children to be fit and healthy. This applies to their play time snacks too. We are asking that you send your children in with fresh fruit and vegetables. They should not be bringing in bars in wrappers, and crisps, sweets and chocolate bars are not allowed as playtime snacks. As well as all the hidden fats and sugars often concealed in snacks that claim to be healthy, we are having real issues with litter in the playground. Through our work with the Global Learning Partnership, we are actively encouraging the children to be environmentally aware about the impact of unnecessary packaging on the environment. They need you to support them in developing as healthy, environmentally aware citizens and we need your support in retaining our Gold Award and keeping our school environment beautiful, healthy and litter free. Thank you.

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Your child has learned all about the summer reading challenge at our special assembly. The reading challenge is for adults as well as children and we always have a good turnout for this. There will be another special assembly in the new academic year to award medals for those who complete the challenge and here is a prize draw for those adults who take part.

To find out more you can paste this link into your search engine:

<https://www2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/mischief-makers-summer-reading-challenge-2018>

## INTERNET SAFETY WORKSHOPS



On Wednesday the 4th of July Years 4 and 5 welcomed visitors from the Safety Centre who came in to do a workshop on internet safety. During the session the children learnt about how to keep personal information safe, recognising the risks when using the Internet and exploring how and why young people are cyberbullied.

The children were highly engaged and were enthusiastic in talking about their own experiences.

*'I now know not to talk to people we don't know on the internet even if they say they are our friends'*

*'The lady advised us to always code your password which is a really good idea and it keeps your information safe'*

*'It was really fun learning about how to stay safe on the internet'*

# PTA NEWS

As ever, our PTA have been actively involved in all sorts of things connected with school and their brilliant fundraising efforts and financial support have made all sorts of things possible for us. The PTA have put a significant amount of money towards the new outdoor circuit equipment and are hoping to organise an event early in the next academic year to celebrate this and showcase the equipment. Although our recent Sports Day wasn't a PTA event, we were able to make use of the smart new school gazebo, which was provided by PTA and many, though not all, of the lovely parents who turned up to help with Sports Day are also active members of our PTA. PTA were also there to support with refreshments at our delightful Reception Year Graduation Ceremony—many thanks for helping to make this special occasion, even better. And don't forget the lovely leavers' hoodies.....!

**Please remember that, as parents, you are all automatically members of the PTA. It would be lovely to welcome any more parents who would like to be actively involved at any level—there is always much to be done. Everyone is very welcoming and it can be great fun !**



## Summary of the Year's Highlights From WMAT CEO, Dr. Annabel Kay

This year we have had a number of highlights that I want to share with you.

Ofsted – the four original Academy schools all had Ofsted visits during this academic year. I am delighted that Bishop Carpenter, Sibford Gower and The Warriner all remained securely Good and Hornton moved from Requires Improvement to Good (having last received a Good judgement in 2006). These inspections all recognised the work that we have all done in making sure that all our children receive the very best education.

Anniversary – the 6th June saw the one year anniversary of Bishop Loveday joining the Academy. In just twelve months, all our new colleagues have made a significant contribution to our programme of school improvement and I am delighted that this was nationally recognised by their invitation to take part in the Parliamentary Review of Education for Outstanding Practice.

New School – when we return in September we will have grown as Farthinghoe Primary School join our family. This is an outstanding school and we are all looking forward to continuing to work with and learn from our new colleagues.

SATS data – all of our Year 6 students have done their very best in their recent SATS exams and I am more than proud of their achievements. I would like to thank you and your children for all your hard work and support. Years 11 and 13 at The Warriner School have also worked so hard in the months coming up to their exams and I know that they too will be celebrating in August.

Plans for next year – we will continue to work together to make our schools even better.

If you would like any further information then go to our newly launched website:

[www.warrinermultiacademytrust.co.uk](http://www.warrinermultiacademytrust.co.uk)

Have a lovely summer break

Annabel Kay  
CEO  
The Warriner MAT



# Sibford Gower Sport

## SPORTS LEADERS

A huge thank you to our sports leaders!

They have shown maturity, brilliant leadership and nurturing behaviour throughout this year.



SCHOOL GAMES



**Sibford Gower  
Endowed Primary School**

has achieved the Gold School Games Mark award for their commitment, engagement and delivery of competitive school sport in 2017/18



We did it...Sibford Gower got the GOLD!

SCHOOL GAMES

We are delighted to announce that we, Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School have achieved the School Games GOLD Mark Award for the 2017/18 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

With a total of young people competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport, including those young volunteers, leaders and officials who made our competitions possible.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

We look forward to applying once again in 2019!

## WE GOT THE GOLD!

This year we were awarded the 'GOLD' award by the *School Games committee*.

We have entered every event this year for both KS1 and KS2. We have made it to finals, country finals and winners for over 6 different sports!

A huge thank you to everyone who has helped us achieve this!

## New Outdoor Circuit Equipment

**The replacement of our old equipment was a dream that took a while to become reality but, thanks to the determination of Miss Grantham, the contribution of our pupils who played a big role in creating the final design, and our wonderful PTA who contributed a significant amount of money in addition to our allocated Sports Premium funds, the equipment is now fully installed and in use, every day.**





Determination



# SPORTS DAY 2018



Self-belief



Sports Day couldn't have been better. The sun shone but it was not too hot. There was an excellent parent turnout and our children were their usual wonderful selves—all willing to take part, some fiercely competitive, but all showing great sportsmanship. Our pupil Sports Leaders did a brilliant job of organising things. Many thanks for all the support offered and given.



Team work



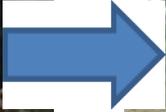
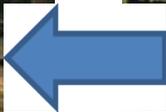
This is probably the bestest school in the whole world! Milo K.

Comment made by a child during Sports Day.



The children's design....

**Our new circuit equipment**



.....becomes a reality.



**OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM**

We are going to have a focus on the wearing of correct school uniform next year. The uniform has recently been redesigned so that children can wear it with pride and look smart, both when they are in school and when they are out and about representing the school. As well as the correct clothing and P.E kit, it is essential that your child also wears the correct footwear. Socks should be grey or white. Shoes should be black and suitable for running at playtimes i.e., able to be securely fastened and with no, or low, heels.

<http://www.sibford-gower.oxon.sch.uk/our-school-uniform.html>

# BONNE FÊTE!

We have had a busy term across the school in our French lessons. In May, Mrs Perkins was incredibly lucky to spend some time teaching in a French school in Clermont-Ferrand. When she was there she took part in a special music project about the dragons of Mount Pilatus with the children of CM1 (French equivalent of Year 5). When she returned, it was Sibford's turn to play our part in the project - we listened to the same music and judged the model making competition - we enjoyed sending our results back to France and hope to take part in more joint projects in the future!



Voting underway as we judge the dragon models



We rounded off our language learning this year with our Bastille Day celebrations. The children in Acorn and Beech enjoyed making bunting and 'sentence' paper chains to decorate their classrooms and learned how to ask for a croissant in their very own French café, run by Madame Higley. Madame Heather taught the children how to play boules and with Madame Perkins they learned a new song and dance to the French song 'Savez-vous planter les choux?'

In Willow, Maple and Oak the children enjoyed a range of activities from French games, crafts and an Eiffel Tower construction challenge and, of course, the now traditional French café run by our Year 6 students under the watchful eye of Mr Cameron. The children had a great afternoon - it was a lovely way to round off a wonderful year of language learning!





# EYFS GRADUATION CEREMONY



This was a lovely occasion, and so exciting for our youngest children! It was wonderful to welcome parents and grandparents to see the Reception graduate wearing mortar boards and receiving their Graduation Certificates, all ready to move onto Year One.

Delightful!

**We have introduced two new and very special awards for individual children this year. These will be awarded towards the end of each academic year and can only be awarded to children in Year 5 or below.**

*Heidi H. has become the first recipient of 'The Cameron Cullen Award for Endeavour.' This has been contributed by Mr & Mrs Cullen on behalf of their eldest son Cameron who moved on from our school last year. The theme of 'Endeavour' has been chosen in recognition of Cameron's determination not to let any worries or barriers get in the way of taking on new challenges and taking a really active part in all areas of school life. It is awarded to pupils who have exhibited similar qualities—developing their natural strengths but also having the determination to persevere and succeed with the things they don't always find so easy.*



Picture to follow! We got caught up in the moment!

The '**Sue Rowley Award**' for Sportsmanship' has been set up by school in recognition of the huge impact of parent Sue Rowley on the participation, achievement and positive attitude of our children in sporting activities. Through her very active involvement in supporting sport at our school and her insistence on children holding themselves to the highest standards of sportsmanship in their behaviour and attitudes, she has helped to instil a spirit which has become a key part of our school ethos. This cup is awarded in recognition of outstanding sportsmanship over a school year and the first recipient of the award is Ollie L-T. Heartfelt thanks to you Sue, Us xxx

## And so we say Goodbye.....



## ....to our wonderful, talented Year 6 children.

You have all worked so hard and achieved so much, and we are all so very proud of you. We hope that you get everything out of life that you could wish for.