

SCHOOL NEWS

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Dear Parents,

It has been a really positive start to the school year. Our little Acorns have settled in well and our older children are managing the new timetable in KS2 as if they were already at secondary school! As always, staff are making the most of the school grounds as a learning environment and children from across the school have been enjoying their Forest School afternoons, exploring all sorts of things and noticing all the changes in nature as Summer has turned to Autumn. There has been plenty of wildlife about too; the New School grounds currently have their own resident fox!

We are looking forward to the Year 5 & 6 residential trip to Condover Hall after the half-term break. While Years 5 & 6 are away, the children back at school will be taking part in a whole school cross-curricular project on the theme of Festivals of Light, including Diwali. These whole school themed projects are something that the children always enjoy and it is a wonderful opportunity for the different age groups to work together.

To go with our Gold School Games Award, we have also just received the certificate marking our Gold Award from the Anti-Bullying Alliance in recognition of all the work that staff and pupils do to ensure that our school is a happy place to be. Have a wonderful holiday.

Kind regards.

Jane O'Sullivan, Headteacher



Best Class Attendance this half term

ACORN CLASS

Very well done!

99%

**Children return to
school on Monday 29th
October**



Our **VALUES** this term have been **RESPECT** and **CARING**.
Next term they will be **COURAGE** and **FRIENDSHIP**
(important values for the Year 5/6 Condover trip)

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Many thanks to those of you who were able to join us for the Harvest Celebration at the church, and for your generous donations for the Banbury Foodbank. The children were wonderful and it was lovely to bring a global element to this event as the children shared some of the work they have been doing exploring harvest celebrations from different countries and cultures. The Harvest loaf that the children created with our very own Mrs Downes was the perfect centrepiece.



Acorn Class News

This term Acorn class have worked very hard getting to know each other and making new friends. The children have enjoyed learning inside and out, enjoying the lovely Autumn sunshine. They have also used their senses to investigate the case of the lost teddy!



Our little Acorns have been practising counting using a whole range of equipment!



The children have enjoyed sharing books with each other.

Acorn class has been a hive of Harvest activity from soup to bread to scarecrows!



Beech Class News

Beech class have had a fantastic start to the year with our class book *The Bluebird and the Robot*. We have really enjoyed finding out about robots and trying to move like them! We have written character descriptions, designed our own robots and even written a letter to give the robot in the story some advice. We have researched blue birds and created fact sheets to tell others what we have found out.



We have been learning how to throw and catch. We have practiced our banana split positions and begun to play team games. We are really enjoying learning new skills.



In maths we have been using lots of practical equipment to explore different numbers. We have learnt lots of new ways to represent them and found out all about place value.



We followed a set of instructions to learn how to make bird feeders and then wrote our own instructions to teach others. We have hung the bird feeders in our outdoor area and enjoyed watching the birds eat them!



We have absolutely loved our forest school sessions. We have been working hard on our noticing skills by spending the first few moments looking and listening to our environment. We have also been creating different habitats for animals thinking about how to meet their basic needs which links to our science.



In art we have been doing observational drawings of pumpkins, we worked hard to look closely and only draw what we could see.



Willow Class

What a fabulous term we have had in Willow Class. We have learnt lots of new and exciting things and have developed many '*learning muscles*' in the process.

We have thoroughly enjoyed learning about the Tudors this term.

We have learnt of new and exciting facts!



"I love the Tudors- I have really enjoyed learning about Henry v111 and his wives!"

Evie Fletcher



Literacy- Our book focus this term is Macbeth- we have really enjoyed this and can't wait to find out more!

We have been working extremely hard on our writing this term and have produced some amazing, creative work. One of our favourite pieces of writing was our witch descriptions. We became witches for the morning and loved putting ourselves in their shoes. We even created our very own outfits and caves!

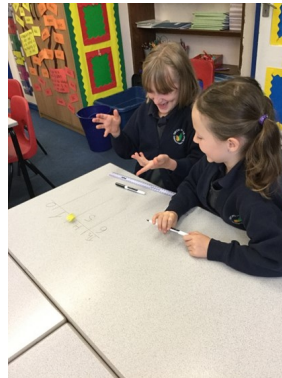
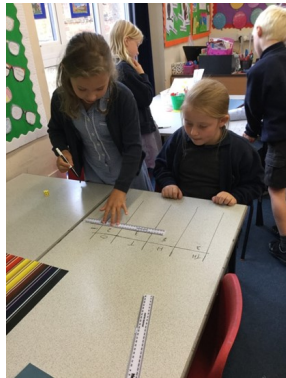
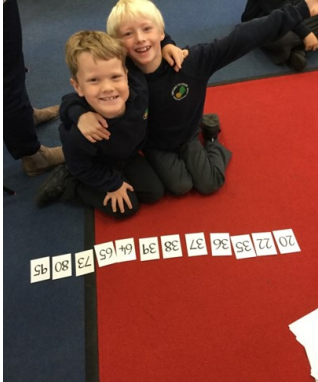


Our second favourite piece of writing was our 'witch poems'...

Please pop in and see them!

Marvellous Maths

We have had a great term with maths. We have been learning about place value, ordering numbers, greater and less than and column addition!

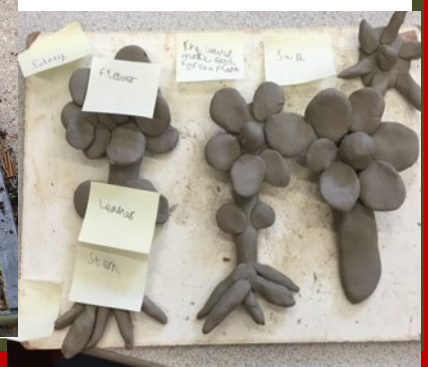


Super Science- Year 3!

This term we have been learning about plants and their life cycle. We have made our very own plants out of clay and labelled each important feature. Great Gardeners- we have also been identifying the difference between a plant and a weed. We have had great fun in our outside area.



*"I loved using the clay to create my flower. This helped me remember each part."
Riley Perkins*

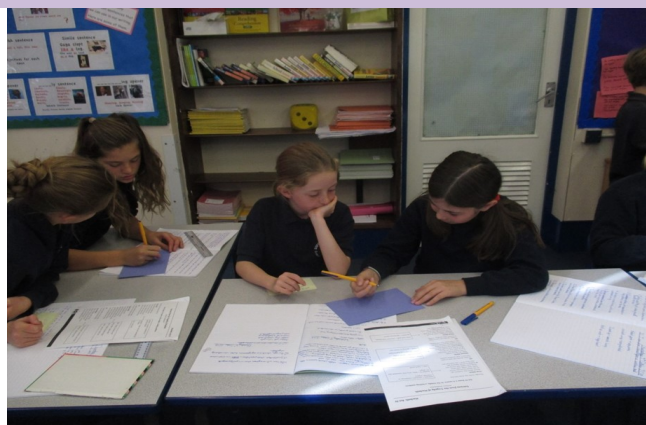


MAPLE & OAK

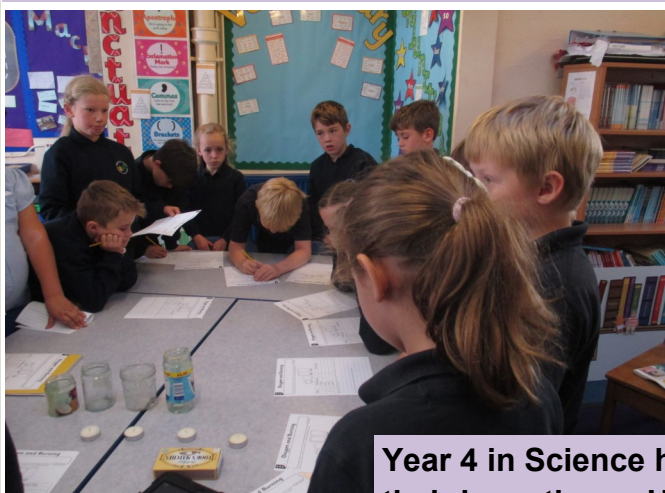
We have had another busy learning and fun term in KS2. Our English focus has been 'Macbeth' and the children have thrown themselves into discovering and enjoying this Shakespeare tragedy. They have taken part in some amazing drama which has resulted in some detailed and very in depth letter writing and poetry.



Oak have been looking at Shakespeare's style of language and understanding the definition of particular words which enhances their understanding and context of the play.



We have also been doing focussed spelling, punctuation and grammar sessions which the children are applying into their writing across the curriculum. These sessions enable the children to have a deeper understanding of how the English language works and is genre specific so they understand the features needed depending on the genre we are focussing on.



Year 4 in Science have been looking at famous inventors and their inventions. Here we are carrying out an investigation which looked at identifying changes related to simple scientific

MAPLE & OAK

Year 6 have enjoyed finding out about light in their science lessons. They have used mirrors to reflect light and to make periscopes to look around corners. They have learned to “make a coin disappear” using the power of refraction. They have also carried out investigations into the length of shadows and into angles of incidence and reflection. They made spinners comprising of the seven colours of the light spectrum.



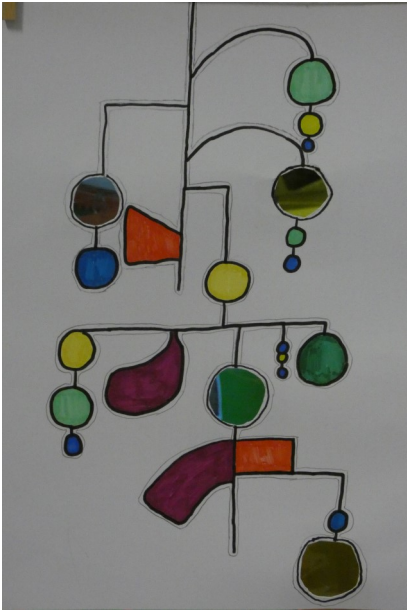
Maths

Oak have been practising their arithmetic skills and recently have been working out sums using long multiplication and long division. They have been applying their skills to problems in order to show mastery. They have also been using their maths skills in science lessons when drawing graphs to show results of investigations.



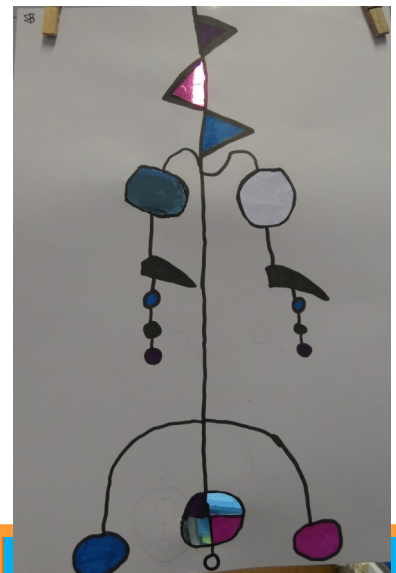
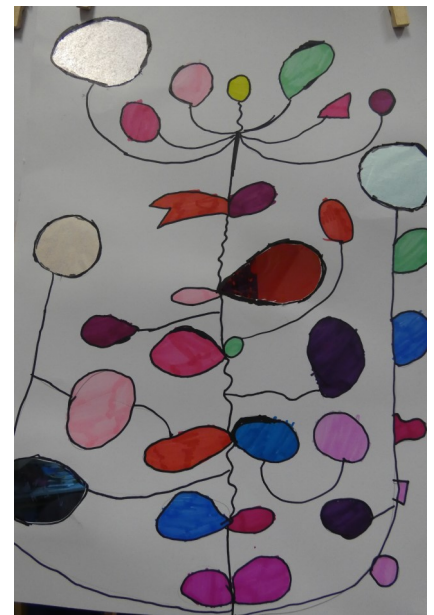
Maple have recently been looking at 2D and 3D shapes. They have learned about different lines found in 2D shapes and they have investigated edges, faces and vertices in 3D shapes. They have used straws and plasticine to make 3D shapes. This week they have been investigating consecutive numbers and found patterns when they are multiplied by the same one digit number.

OAK CLASS ART & DESIGN



In Oak Class, the children have been exploring the work of Alexander Calder.

He is famous for his 'mobiles' and his 'stables'. This half-term, we focused on mobiles, and the children have built their own, learning that it is essential to 'build from the bottom' and to ensure that you get the correct balance point before adding the next piece of the mobile.

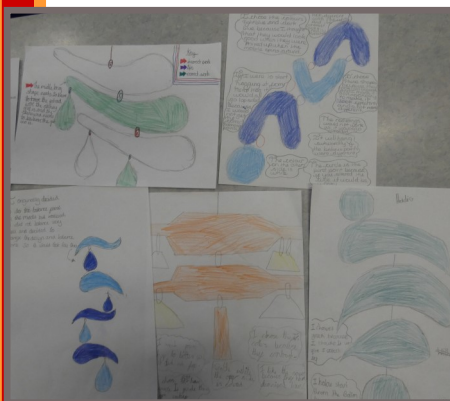
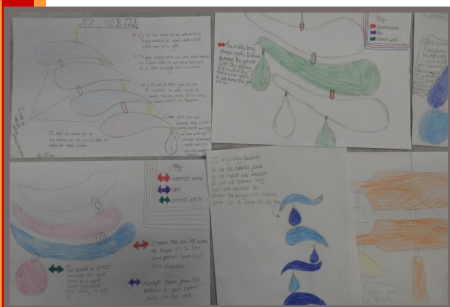
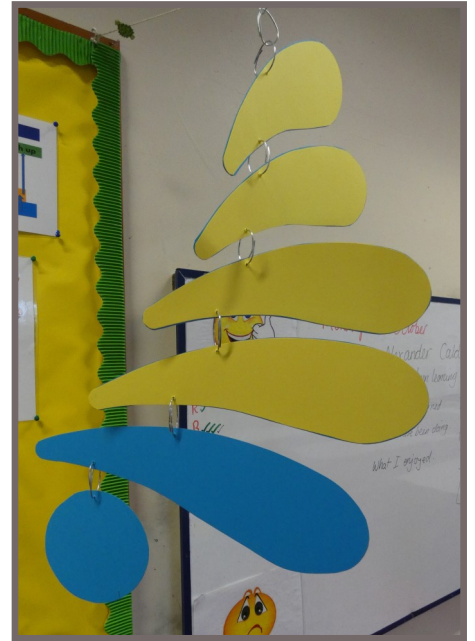


Alexander Calder

This term, we have been learning about Alexander Calder. We looked at some of his work; then we started making our own mobiles.

I have learned that when I am making mobiles. You have to find the balancing point and you can't guess where it is.

I enjoyed using paperclips to join the card together. It was really fun and I wish I could do it all again, I particularly loved doing the first ones because I learned that it was not a good idea to guess when making a mobile. It can lead to disaster! I loved it so much.



We have been learning about Alexander Calder, otherwise known as Sandy. He created the mobile!! I thought that making a mobile was easy. Turns out there's a lot more to it! First of all we made a balancing tool out of card and pins. You fold the card when it has been cut into a triangle shape and then you get two pins and stab them through the card. Be careful! Then you sellotape it securely and there is your balancing tool. After that we did a few practices with the tool. You simply cut out a shape and put the card in between the pins. It's quite hard to get it just right but it should be balanced in the middle when you press them together. A couple of days later, we had fully functioning mobiles. We have learned a lot from Alexander Calder such as, if you are doing a mobile, start from the bottom and one wrong move and your mobile will go all wonky! We can't wait to learn more things from Alexander Calder.

By Heidi Greenhalgh

Sport at Sibford



A huge well done to our year 4 football team
They all played extremely well with great sportsmanship and motivation.
They came 4th overall and played 7 matches
We WON 4, LOST 2 and DREW 1.
Fantastic!

Our Year 5 & 6 TAG RUGBY TEAM did an amazing job as well, making it through to the North Oxfordshire Sports Partnership semi-finals. They too were recognised for their outstanding sportsmanship and we are very proud of them.

HARVEST CELEBRATION



The Harvest Celebrations were really delightful. After a walk down to the church in glorious Autumn sunshine, the children shared artwork, sang songs and gave thanks, readings and prayers. As well as learning about the history of Harvest traditions here, we learned about some from other countries, including, the USA, Argentina and Vietnam. The church was full and this was a really lovely way to end the term.



A Letter from our P.T.A.

Dear Parents

Hopefully you have all had a good first term! I felt like it was a good time to give all parents an update on the PTA.

Last year we raised nearly £6500 and made a large contribution towards our fabulous new wooden circuit equipment that all the children seem to love! Amongst other items we were also able to buy two mud kitchens for KS1, walkie-talkies for Forest School, football goals, various outside play equipment, a large selection of reading books, pay for the transport for school trips as well as other little treats for the children!

Over the past few years there have been changes to the structure of the PTA and many events have been run by different individuals who have then created their own team of helpers. This seems to have worked well as it has given people a chance to be as little or as much involved as they wish. You may want to serve drinks at an event, help on the door at the disco or help produce posters/adverts if you have those skills. You don't need to help at every event. The more people on the team the better it is for everyone.

The PTA really does make a difference to the school. Without the continuing commitment and enthusiasm of the parents and staff none of these wonderful purchases would have been possible. We have a superb network of parents who organise and help to run events the PTA put on but we are looking to increase our numbers and grow the team!

Our next meeting is on Tuesday 20th November at 7.30pm in the staff room (opposite Acorn classroom) on KS1 side of the road. Please do come along, everyone is very welcome. We are a friendly bunch who would love to see some new faces!

If you would like any further information or would like to be put on the list as a possible helper for a future event please contact me on shelleywisner@yahoo.com. Please also email me if you can't make the meeting but would like to be put on the contacts for the minutes.

Many thanks for your support

Shelley Dawson (Parent of Sidney Yr3 & Ronnie Yr1)
Sarah Garstin (Parent of Ruby Yr4 & Ivy FS)
Chairs of PTA

Important Dates from our P.T.A

Christmas Fair

December 6th 3pm-5pm

This year the Christmas Fair is focussing on the children's stalls and will be held in our own school hall and it promises to be a fabulous fun-filled afternoon full of games, crafts & Christmas cheer! There will be all the usual stalls that the children love (Chocolate Tombola!) plus some new ones. The Christmas Fair committee are busy planning for what will be a super afternoon!

Christmas Fair Raffle Prizes

We are on the hunt for any raffle prizes that parents would like to donate! Do you have your own business and would be generous enough to donate a prize? In return we would advertise your business at the event and through our facebook page.

Any prize donations would be gratefully received!

Chocolate Tombola

Non-uniform day Friday 2nd November - Please bring in a chocolate donation (no nuts please) for the Christmas Fair Chocolate Tombola. Thank you!

Jam Jars

Please hang on to any empty jar jars for the Christmas Fair! More details to follow.

Rags2Riches

We are having a collection on November 23rd. If you are having a sort out over half term please bag it up and save it for this date. They can take adults & children clothes, paired shoes, bath & hand towels, belts & handbags, jewellery, bedding & household linen. Please refer to rags2riches4schools.co.uk for further guidance.

Bonfire Night

Can you help set up/serve/clear away? Please email cpas.evans@gmail.com

Don't forget to buy your advance tickets! Please email veemulley@hotmail.co.uk

Cuddly Toys

Please donate any unwanted cuddly toys to the Christmas Fair Tombola. Collection bags on both sides of the school.

Christmas Cards

Thank you to everyone who has ordered cards & tags. We will look forward to seeing the finished cards!

THANK YOU!



After School Care

This half-term has been a busy one at A.S.C.



Competition Time

Best decorated 'Jeans for Genes'

Winners are:-

KS1—Ben Whitehouse 1st

KS2—Olivia Taylor 1st

In our version of the Ryder Cup, the girls proved to be the best golfers!

KS1—Amber Steenkamp 1st

KS2—Rosie Parish 1st

Other activities:-

Decorating pebbles from the beach.

Decorating cup cakes for MacMillan Cancer Research

Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year: dipping apples into honey is a tradition at this festival. The children really enjoyed this.

Reading activities

As well as all the usual fun



WOMBAT SCHOOL COUNCIL

The children have elected their new School Council.

This is always a good opportunity to explore 'democracy' as part of our wider work linked to **BRITISH VALUES**. The first meeting will be held when we return after the break but the children have already begun thinking about our Hot Spot & Grot Spot priorities for the coming year.

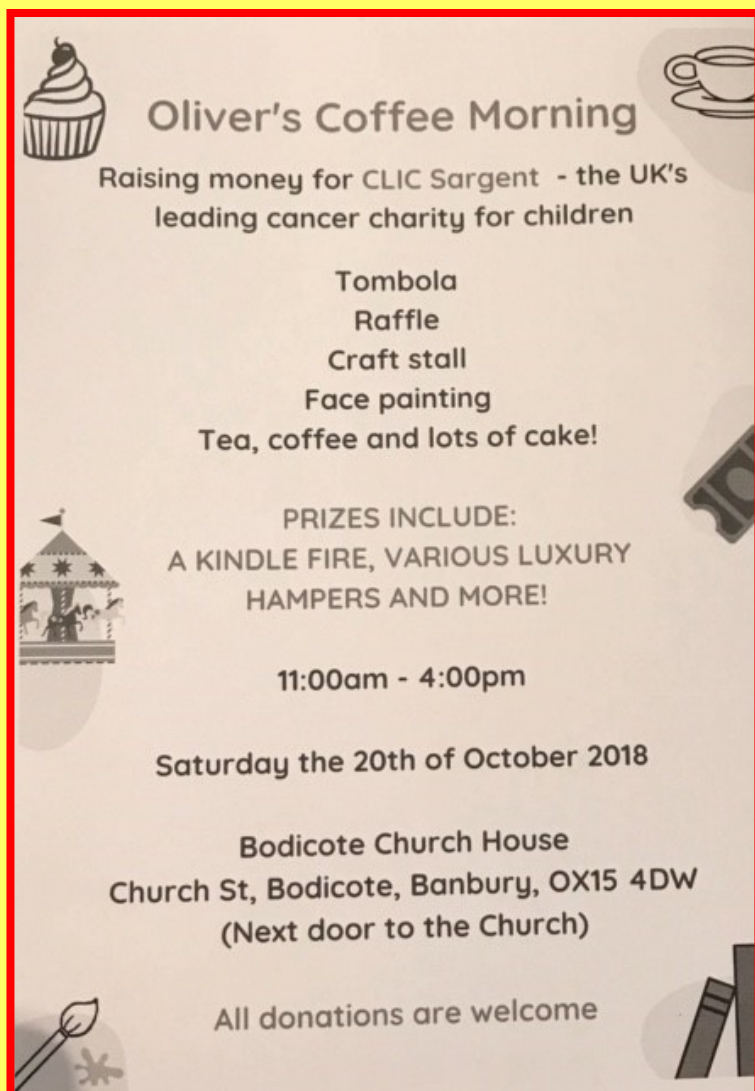
Success at the Regional Dressage Championships

Last week, our very own Olivia won the under 21 British Dressage My Quest Intro championship, and then came 3rd in the Preliminary championship. This has qualified her and her pony Wrenthall Golden Crest (Mr Biscuit), for the National Championships, for both classes, on Friday 26th October. She was by far the youngest competitor and we are all very proud of her. I am sure you will all join in wishing her well on the 26th.



CHARITY FUNDRAISING UPDATES

Ex-pupil Oliver Boyles & friends have organised a coffee morning to raise money for CLIC Sargent this coming Saturday. All are welcome to come along.



Oliver's Coffee Morning

Raising money for CLIC Sargent - the UK's leading cancer charity for children

Tombola
Raffle
Craft stall
Face painting
Tea, coffee and lots of cake!

PRIZES INCLUDE:
A KINDLE FIRE, VARIOUS LUXURY HAMPERS AND MORE!

11:00am - 4:00pm

Saturday the 20th of October 2018

Bodicote Church House
Church St, Bodicote, Banbury, OX15 4DW
(Next door to the Church)

All donations are welcome

Our Fruit Sale for Rojo raised a grand total of £35.65 which we are sending to our friends at the ROJO ROJO Aids Orphanage in Kenya.



Our Macmillan Cake Sale and Coffee Morning raised an amazing £241.



The final figure raised on Jeans for Genes Day was a fabulous £97.



CUP CAKE COMPETITION



The quality of the entries for our cup cake decorating competition was really impressive.

The winning entrants were:
Emily Herbert, Ronnie Dawson,
Hollie Parish, Lauren Sabin and Hattie Hautau.
VERY WELL DONE!

Have a very
**HAPPY
HOLIDAY!**