



ADDINGTON

NEWSLETTER

HELLO EVERYONE!!

May 2016

We have enjoyed our spring half term very much. Oliver was absolutely delightful and it was great to see so many pupils of different ages taking part. It was apparent to me just how much enjoyment the pupils got from performing and clearly there wasn't a dry eye in the house, A real celebration moment for everyone.

Earlier this half term we had the excitement of the chicks hatching. The whole school got involved along with all of our friends and relations. We had thousands of hits on our website, even in the middle of the night! Chick mania was made even better by the news that all of our chicks were given homes, where they are going to be pets. A brilliant result.

We had a very successful residential trip for some of our further education students. This year we tried a new venue in Kent. The students had a very full week with all sorts of different activities. It turned out to be a very successful new venture. I think they would like to return next year.

We have also had some sports success this half term, which I am sure you will read about on their pages.

Over the last two weeks our students in key stage 4 and 5 have been out on work experience placements. I was privileged to see three of our young people in their placements. They were working hard, giving a really good impression to their employers and really enjoying themselves along the way.

As we approach the end of this academic year, I would like to inform you about our Assistant Heads, Jeanette and Val. Jeanette will be retiring from Addington School after 29 years of service to the school. Jeanette's role as Assistant Head has been about the leadership of the Primary faculty and leadership of our whole staff professional development. Jeanette retires in July at the end of the school year and I am sure you will want to join me in thanking her for her outstanding contribution to Addington and wishing her well for her retirement.

Val is also retiring but not until the end of October. Val's role has been the leadership of the secondary/FE faculty and leadership of our work with the considerable number of external agencies who support our pupils. Val has been supporting Addington for 25 years and again has made an outstanding contribution. Val will be supporting the induction of our new Assistant headteachers until the end of October, so we can wish her well for the future then.

We have been aware of all of our key retirements for some time and I have been working with governors on succession planning over the previous months. We have successfully appointed 2 Assistant Heads who will start in September allowing for a good handover with support from Val.

I am pleased to congratulate Eirfron who has been appointed as Assistant Head, responsible for Primary, and David, an external candidate from Brookfields, who has been appointed as Assistant Head for secondary All will be well.

Finally we have decided that it is time that we went completely electronic with this newsletter! We, like all other schools are struggling with increased costs and decreasing budgets so need to save some money where possible. This will be the last paper copy of the newsletter. It will be available on our website, as it is now from the next edition onwards. We are looking at ways to alert you by email when it is available. Of-course we will always provide a paper copy should you want one. Just let us know.

I wish you all an enjoyable half term and hope to see many of you at Sports days and Proms.

Liz Meek
HEADTEACHER

SPORTS PAGES



Primary Polybat Competition- March 2016

On Monday 21st March, Addington hosted our first Primary Polybat competition.

Representing Addington were all nine students from one class and we competed against Willowbank, Beechwood and Highwood in a fantastic tournament. It was a chance for the other schools to experience a new sport and they all loved it!

Willowbank were the winners of the tournament but all the students were pleased to receive a medal and a certificate.

This was also a fantastic opportunity for our Young Leaders to help out with the running of the tournament. They did a brilliant job helping to set up, score the games and pack away.



FA Junior Leader's course at the Madejski Dome – February 2014

Five students were given the wonderful opportunity of attending a FA Junior Leader's course at the Madejski Stadium Training Centre. The FA tutor taught them how to coach a session and referee a Football match correctly. The Addington pupils got to use the skills they had learnt by coaching and refereeing pupils from Manor Green and Mary Hare.



Cricket Tournament – 26th April 2016

Well done to our all cricketers who participated in the Cricket tournament which was held at Reading Cricket Club in Sonning. Students from four schools took part in some skills games in the morning, using the excellent facilities on offer to work on their throwing, catching, bowling and batting.

The tournament took place after lunch and our students made it to the final by beating Kennel Lane in the semi-final before narrowly losing to Arbour Vale in the final.

The students were excellent in their games and worked well as a team in their fielding and batting.



Basketball Inter-house - Thursday 28th April

Another successful inter-house competition took place, with 74 students competing against each other in Basketball. The students displayed some great skills and excellent 'sportsmanship'.

Thanks to all the staff that helped to make it such a successful morning, the atmosphere was amazing. Here are the final results:

- 1st - Yellow Tigers
- 2nd - Blue Sharks
- 3rd - Green Crocodiles
- 4th - Red Eagles

Everyone played brilliantly, each manager was asked to nominate MVP's (Most Valuable Player's) from each house and they were:

- Green - Liam Wardle, Jack Healey, Jasmine Pritchard, Liam Fuller
- Yellow - Harry Shearer, Finley Jewell, William King, Zoe Maunder
- Blue - Chanique Gage, David Russell, Jamie Kirkwood, Malick Gai
- Red - Ayesha Bibi, Duncan Stonehouse, Adam Halliday, Tony Su

All these awards were for a combination of excellent play but also great teamwork and spirit.

Table Cricket Tournament – 5th of May 2016

One of our secondary classes represented Addington recently at a Table Cricket tournament at Treloar School, in Alton.

The pupils played excellently, winning 2 matches and only losing 1.

Addington finished in 2nd place.



Addington Triumph at Stoke Mandeville !

Addington sealed a dream trip to the London Olympics Aquatics Centre, by winning a nail-biting Panathlon Swimming competition in the central England final at Stoke Mandeville on the 4th of May.

Our win means that we have booked a place at the Panathlon Swimming Finals, which will be staged at the London 2012 Olympics Aquatic Centre on July 5th.

Up against two other Berkshire schools – Arbour Vale and Brookfields – as well as Kingfisher and Fitzwaryn, of Oxfordshire, and The Chiltern School from Bedfordshire, Addington clinched victory by the narrowest of margins.

The undoubted highlight of the event, which encapsulated the friendly spirit of the day, came during the ball shuttle race. An errant pass saw Arbour Vale's ball bounce over the rope into Addington's lane and Conor Lashbrook stopped mid-race to hand it back.

We look forward to the final and well done to our amazing Addington swimming team.

Mel, Danny and Jono



Kennet Games

On Saturday 7th of May, Addington competed in the Kennet Games at the Kennet School in Thatcham. All pupils competed in Boccia, Table Skittles, Wall Darts, Javelin, Shotput, Basketball Throw, Skittles and Obstacle Races.

Well done to all the students for representing Addington so brilliantly. Thanks to Nikki Allen for helping to come and support the students

Bikeability training - May 2016

13 key stage 3, 4 & 5 students participated in Bikeability recently. This course is run by Wokingham Borough Council and teaches the students how to cycle safely on the road.

The instructors were impressed with the student's hard work and good behaviour.

4 students achieved Level 2 and 9 achieved Level 1.

Well done to all our cyclists. Time to now to practise their skills over the summer.

Cycle!



SAINSBURYS ACTIVE KIDS 2016 VOUCHERS

It's time to get all voucher donations in, so the students can benefit from some exciting new equipment!



If you've collected vouchers then please drop them into the collection box, located on Reception asap!



Student PE Achievements



Survivor Bigfoot Challenge

We celebrate another wonderful achievement by one of our students. He participated in and completed, the 6km Bigfoot Challenge at St. Julian's Club in Sevenoaks, Kent on the 26th March. He also signed up with Virtual Running, mapped his route and emailed in the proof. He was awarded with a April Fools 5km medal. Well done, yet again, on your achievement.





The Music Page

This term many students have been exploring 'Old and New' in music lessons, looking at how many new pieces of music take ideas from old. Our younger classes have been going on an 'Animal Adventure' in lessons and our access classes have been taking part in music about Viking stories.

The first part of the term was taken over by our whole school production of 'Oliver'. The performances were amazing and the music team is very proud of all of the students that took part. They worked really hard to learn words and songs and it all paid off with such a brilliant show.

We are now working towards our 'Superstar' concert. The choir has begun to rehearse songs that have been chosen by students from Addington, Brookfields and Kennel Lane schools and we are looking forward to performing together in June.

We held a training afternoon for teachers across Wokingham working with Key Stage 1 children. At the session lots of songs were introduced for schools to work towards for the Key Stage 1 singing morning in July. It was great to share resources with other teachers and encourage them to do more music!



Team Tempo, our senior rhythm group, have been out on tour again. They have performed at St. Nicholas primary school and Evendons primary school. They performed to the whole school and then worked with children in a workshop, where they helped them learn and create rhythms and play together. They have become an impressive group to listen to and now play at a really high standard. The schools we visited thoroughly enjoyed the concerts and practical sessions and gave lots of positive feedback.

We have started a project working alongside Berkshire Maestros for some of our younger children called Pantomimus. Groups are learning songs and dances and exploring imagination in weekly sessions.



We also enjoyed 2 days of workshops for our primary pupils with Alex from Kaya drumming. Alex led sessions in the tipi which was set up outside for all of our primary students. Unfortunately on the second day the rain was

too heavy to stay outside, but that didn't stop the fun of the sessions!

Key Stage 2 have also taken part in the third Arts Award week of the year. Along with exploring the arts through practical activities they enjoyed going to the Hexagon to watch 'Gangsta Granny.'

We are looking forward to a busy half term next half term – our Proms planning is well underway and as soon as the timetable is finalised we will let you know! During the week all children and young people perform with their class group, plus any instrumental lessons and clubs show the work they have been doing and we hope that parents will be able to come in and watch performances. **Proms weeks is 27th June – 1st July.**

Wishing you a relaxing half term break!

Rhona, Sean, Jules and Martin

The Music team

Dear Parents/ Carers

Yet again, this has been an incredibly busy and incredibly fast half term. It is around this time of year that I start looking at the workshops and events that I will be running next academic year. It is really important that I am able to provide the right events at the right time, so they can be accessed by the most people. I have devised an online survey which I will be contacting you all with details of after the half term break; it should only take a few minutes to complete and your input would be really appreciated in making sure we are heading in the right direction.

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our planned Behaviour Support workshops as many parents found themselves unable to attend. We are currently running workshops looking at the links between ASD and anxiety, which are going really well. Hopefully we can run these again next year, so if you did not receive an invite to this term's sessions but would be interested in any future ones, please let me know by calling me or emailing at- lucy.sayer@addington.wokingham.sch.uk.

Wishing you all a happy half term ☺

Regards,

Lucy - Parent Support Adviser

SCHOOL LUNCH PRICE LIST



Primary Pupils.....£1.95 per day
Secondary/FE Pupils.....£2.15 per day

All monies should be paid in advance.

ONLINE PAYMENT IS NOW AVAILABLE please ask for details

Please remember that lunch MUST be paid for every day.



Good Behaviour Award Winners



Congratulations to the following Students who achieved good behaviour awards for the 2ND half of the Spring Term:

Amelie Ledger. Aaron Sondhi. Umair Mahmood. George Matthews.
Eddie Clement. Simon McGinley. Jenny Reilly. Ryan Skevington.
Adam Halliday. Tom Scott. Johnny Delehanty. Catherine Dowling.
Daniel Lawrence. Adem Barhoumi. Corey Roberts. Shayne Kirby.
Harry Shearer. Charlotte Hunt. Jeremy Smith. Cameron Baxter.

Well done everyone...keep up the good behaviour!

Simone Pengraeve
Behaviour Support Teacher

Addington Association



It feels like only a few days ago we were writing our last contribution to the newsletter. What a short half term it seems to be.

Preparations are well under way for our Family Fun Day on the 18th June. I hope you have all received a letter with all the details on it (reminders will be going out after half term). We will be having lots of fun activities for all the family to enjoy as well as the chance to explore the fantastic outside areas that Addington offers. I hope the weather will be kind to us but we will be hosting the event indoors (as much as we can) if the rain turns up.

Entrance tickets are available now and include a free drink, you can of course still pay on the day.

After half term we will be looking for helpers to run the stalls on the day, we really do need as much support as possible and it is always great fun.



Addington Association has a Facebook page which we try to keep update with all the news about events. Just search for Addington Association and like our page..

Regards

Natalie Walker
Chair of Addington Association

WORK RELATED LEARNING

National Grid

The students are extremely busy at the moment consolidating their skills in their final placements. They are also working on the 'next step' of the project. They are currently working with the 'PerTemps' Recruitment agency as well as the Shaw Foundation to apply for jobs and update their cvs etc.

The prospective candidates for next year have now applied for places and the interviews will be held next month. It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of the first year of this partnership and it seems to have gone so quickly. However, it has been the most amazing time for all those involved.

Horticulture

The group has been very busy this term. They have all been working hard on finishing their tasks for their accreditation. They have potted on hundreds of bedding plants and herbs. We sowed our tomato seeds in January and already have lots of tomatoes.

We are now in the process of sowing seeds and preparing the plots at the allotment. Hopefully there will be no more frosts.

The Horticulture group entered the 'Newbury 5 Challenges' for special schools The areas entered were:

A country garden collage

A homemade bughouse

A country craft

A country diary - a year in the life of a tree

Students from FE worked hard making all the exhibits including a super collage that won first prize. A great achievement



Hospitality

The young entrepreneur group also took part in the Newbury challenge. They entered the category 'A cookery class- something savoury with an animal theme.' They produced amazing food such as a ladybird made from tomatoes, cream cheese and olives presented on a spider pastry bed. Amazing!

The cafe continues to run very successfully. The students have worked hard to keep their '5 stars' and the group is working very well as a team. The first year students have been supported so well by the 2nd year group and it has been interesting to monitor how this mentoring programme has worked.



Work Experience

Some Key stage 4 students are currently participating in a block week, work experience.

This is the first time they have taken part in an off-site placement and it has mostly worked out extremely well.

It can be quite difficult to make the transition from working in school to working in an actual business.

Some students have had 1-1 support and some have worked independently. We have had some really lovely feedback from both employers and students.

They have been working in areas such as hospitality, sports retail and childcare. The placements provide a great experience for these students and enable them to start thinking about what they might like to do in the future.



Transitions

The Big lottery funding for the pre 16 Transition programme has now come to an end after 5 years. We have been very fortunate that the Education and Business Partnership have included us in their Transitions work. This has consisted of work experience, visits to and from local businesses and 'work ready' days helping to build social and work skills for the future. Our students have greatly benefitted from this work and the support and enthusiasm of the EBP staff. We are currently working with the EBP to work out an alternative programme for next year. We had an award evening in May to celebrate the progress of the students involved and to mark the end of the program.



ASD Family Help have produced a newsletter which outlines the support that they can provide for families, and specific activities available throughout autumn.

*This can be found on their website
www.asdfamilyhelp.org*

Addington Youth Club

Managed and staffed by
Wokingham Bracknell & Districts Mencap

Wednesday evening 7pm to 9pm
Fun for all youngsters from Year 9 up

Look out for the activities planned for the winter term,
come along and try a session.

Contact Wokingham Mencap on 0300 777 8539 for more information.

FE Residential Week at Grosvenor Hall. Kent 9th May-13th May



This year the F.E. residential trip was held at Kingswood's Grosvenor Hall centre in Kent and not at Atlantic college in Wales as has been the norm for some years.

On arrival at Grosvenor Hall on Monday afternoon, we had our packed lunch, after which we were shown around the site before being taken to our accommodation. Dinner was at 5:00 p.m. followed by an activity around a campfire. The excitement of the first day gave our young people the energy to stay up late on the first night, but this soon changed.

The following four days were packed with activities from 9:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. The activities were both challenging and exhilarating.

During the course of the week we were well above sea level a lot of the time, as many of the activities involved climbing. High Equilibrium, Sky Climb, Abseiling, Jacob's Ladder, Power Fan, Outdoor Climb, 3G Swing and High All Aboard were some activities which involved heights of 10 metres or more.

At ground level, away from dizzying heights, we enjoyed Bush-craft, Nightline, Bottle-rocket making, Archery, Indoor Laser and a Pool session.

Everyone was supportive and encouraging, and celebrated each other's achievements. Every member of the group exhibited team work, enthusiasm and motivation, and was an exemplary ambassador for Addington.

The week taught us self-help and independence skills, and to look out for each other.

Friday saw a happy but rather tired group return with bags of washing for mums and dads to contend with.

The success of residential trips is due to the team effort and support of those who are left behind in school and the adults who go with our young people, to encourage and support them. A big thank you, to Jo Oldreive for having organised and made this trip possible, and to Ness, Amy, Rochelle and Luke for their support, during the week, in making the trip the success it was.



ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES
2015 - 2016

Autumn Term 2015

Wednesday 2nd September – Friday 18th December

Half Term: Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October

Training Days for Staff – Tuesday 1st September

Spring Term 2016

Tuesday 5th January – Thursday 24th March

Half Term: Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Training Day for Staff – Monday 4th January

Summer Term 2016

Monday 11th April – Friday 15th July

May Day Holiday – Monday 2nd May – school closed

Half Term: Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June

Training Days for staff – Monday 18th - Wednesday 20th July – school closed

190 days for pupils



ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES
2016 - 2017

Autumn Term 2016

Tuesday 6th September – Tuesday 20th December

Half Term: Monday 24th October – Friday 28th October

Training Day for Staff – Monday 5th September

Spring Term 2017

Thursday 5th January – Friday 31st March

Half Term: Monday 13th February – Friday 17th February

Training Day for Staff – Wednesday 4th January

Summer Term 2017

Tuesday 18th April – Friday 21st July

May Day Holiday – Monday 1st May – school closed

Half Term: Monday 29th May – Friday 2nd June

Training Days for Staff – Tuesday 2nd May
Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July – school closed

190 days for pupils