



ADDINGTON

NEWSLETTER

Feb 2017

Hello Everyone

As I write my first newsletter I can't believe that half a term has gone already! I am beginning to get to know many of the pupils who continue to delight and astonish us each day with their many achievements. Learning the names of our 190 staff has been a little trickier but faces are becoming more familiar each day, as are the parents who drop off their children every morning.

Sport and music remain very much at the forefront of our curriculum, providing excellent opportunities for all to participate and there was some fierce competition at the Polybat Inter-House event when I dropped in!

I have also visited our interns at the National Grid where they are spending Year 14 working in different departments learning the necessary work skills needed for future employment. From manning reception to collating data, our students are a credit to the school and we are hopeful that some of them will go on to secure permanent jobs. This is so important for those that are able, to aspire to paid employment. Many of our students in FE also completed blocks of Work Experience in various businesses within the local community, as well as running the café at Shute End. It is during these placements that they learn all about the world of work - the need for punctuality, organisation, good communication skills, good hygiene skills and most importantly, good behaviour!

I have introduced a weekly Headteacher Award for each Key Stage where 1 pupil is congratulated on an aspect of their development, no matter how small, during an assembly. These awards have ranged from a pupil taking their first few steps or saying their first words, to listening and attending for a few minutes, to excellent work or progress in Maths, English and other subjects. Personal achievement is important to celebrate in all its forms!

A reminder to everyone to access our website, where your child's teacher places a blog or newsletter telling you about events of the week. You can also download the 'Addington App' on to your mobile phone which will alert you when any new notices are put up - very useful in case of snow, as winter is not over yet! You can also access the website through the App, providing you with a more convenient, efficient way of keeping up to date with all school matters.

Finally, I would like to thank all the staff, pupils, parents and governors for the wonderful welcome that you have given me and I look forward to leading this excellent school to achieve great things for all our pupils.

Have a good half term.

Sara Attra
HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/ Carers

Half term already! It was so nice to see so many of you at our Christmas coffee morning and events over the festive period, even if it does seem such a long time ago now.

Parent Support has been very busy this half term; we started another series of ASD and Anxiety workshops with Dr Fiona Knott which I know will provide information and support for the parents invited. We also have an Intensive Interaction workshop that is being run by our Speech and Language department, which I have received lots of interest for. It should be our biggest workshop to date, and we are really looking forward to it.



We also held a coffee morning this half term, to welcome our new Head Sara, and to talk about the wonderful work that the Addington Association do. As always, it was great to see so many of you, and great to be able to welcome our new Head in style!

If any of you are able to support the Addington Association, which helps raise vital funds for all the 'extras' that make our pupil's time here so special, then please contact me at lucy.sayer@addington.wokingham.sch.uk or barbi.takyan@addington.wokingham.sch.uk Even a few hours of support, or ideas about events, would be greatly appreciated.

As always, please contact me if you would like help, support, or even a chat. I hope you have a lovely half term break, and also hope to see many of you at events next half term!

Lucy - Parent Support Adviser

Our Leadership Management Team



Sara Attra
Headteacher



Lynda Wood
Deputy Head



Eirfron Watkinson
Assistant Headteacher



David Maycock
Assistant Headteacher



Sue Tod
School Business Manager

SPORTS PAGES



Polybat Inter-House Results – 9th & 10th of January

The Polybat and Table Tennis inter-house has been a sensation this week, with 73 secondary/FE and 46 primary students competing. The students were amazing in terms of skill, sportspersonship and enthusiasm. It was wonderful to also see so many students working independently in the games. They really enjoyed it.

It was a very hard fought contest and here are the final results:

Secondary/FE

- 1st place – **Yellow Tigers** (41 points)
- 2nd place – **Green Crocodiles** (40 points)
- 3rd place – **Red Eagles** (37 points)
- 4th place - **Blue Sharks** (26 points)

Primary

- 1st place – **Blue Sharks** (26 points)
- 2nd place – **Red Eagles** (25 points)
- 3rd place – **Green Crocodiles** (23 points)
- 4th place - **Yellow Tigers** (22 points)

Thank you to all the staff that made this event such a success. The managers and scorers were asked to choose their most improved players (MVP's), this is the list:

SECONDARY/FE

Green Crocodiles

- Ben Reynolds, Jack Healey, Ryan Skevington, Kathryn Beecham & Catherine Dowling

Red Eagles

- James Whitehead, Tony Su, Jazz Le Doo & Ayesha Bibi

Yellow Tigers

- Jade Lawrence, Francis Allen, Scott Denton & Hamza Athar

Blue Sharks

- Jonathan Gillman, Dalia Omer, Alex Green & Christopher Smith

PRIMARY

Green Crocodiles

- Benji Winter, Joshua Heys & Joseph Kenneh

Red Eagles

- Grace Gessey & James Benjamin-Phillip

Yellow Tigers

- Daniel Jackson, Angelo Fappiano & Chloe Wilkins

Blue Sharks

- Levi Barnes, Rowan Nyamardzo and Josey Thomas



Primary Boccia tournament at Bulmershe Leisure Centre - January 2017

Some of our students competed against students from four other local primary schools at Bulmershe Leisure Centre. Addington A-team won their group whilst Addington B-team came 2nd in theirs. This meant that the two Addington teams played each other in the final. Addington A-team won.

They will now play Beechwood Primary and Winnersh Primary schools, in matches in a few weeks' time. The overall winner will get to compete in the Berkshire School games.

Well done to both teams!



Swimming Gala at Kennel Lane – February 2017

This was our first visit to Kennel Lane and they were really welcoming. 8 of our students participated in various games and races and great fun was had by all.



Kurling Tournament at Bulmershe Leisure Centre

Four of our students competed against students from Bulmershe and Waingels in a Kurling tournament at the Bulmershe Leisure Centre. Addington played really well and won the tournament, they will now play in the final at the Berkshire School Games. They behaved exceptionally well and were a credit to the school.





The Music Page



It has been another fantastic and enthusiastic start to the term and with it brings a new theme. This term's theme is 'Winter Blues' and students have been exploring how effect is created in music, using chords and songs. They have been performing excerpts from 'Winter' by Vivaldi and 'Hazy Shade of Winter'. Access classes have been exploring music and sounds about winter in their sensory music sessions and our younger students have been going on a musical journey where they meet lots of mythical creatures.

Trip to the Theatre

Our FE students enjoyed a trip to the West End to see Wicked at the start of the term. The trip was funded by a charity called Happy Days. Students who are completing their Arts Award joined them. They really enjoyed experiencing such an amazing show!





We have started rehearsals with our Junior Choir to take part in this year's WASMA concert. This will take place in the Hexagon in March and will feature around 400 children from local primary schools. We are really excited to be taking part this year.

Addington Concert Series



Every term we hold a concert for some of our students having lessons with peripatetic teachers to share their playing with friends. This term we enjoyed a show case from our DJ students, who along with their tutor DJ G showed how they are learning to mix music. We also enjoyed a performance from our Key Stage 2 classes who having weekly singing sessions with their visiting teacher Fliss as part of the First Access music programme.



Listen to our Radio Show!

The Addington Radio Show is released every half term and features student reports and songs from various work around the school. It is available to listen to through the school website so please check out the latest show!

*Have a restful half term!
Rhona, Sean, Jules and Martin*



Headteacher's Award Winners



Congratulations to the following students who achieved awards for the 1st half of the Spring Term:

Primary

Mishika Kachhwaha
Chloe Wilkins
Riley Farmbrough
Rowan Nyamardzo
Lourdes Mirza

Access

Ria Lakhanpal

Key Stage 4

Rhea Gill
Jasmine Pritchard
Luke Fuller
Lucas Pigeon

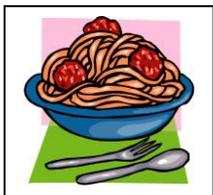
Key Stage 3

Tylier Lynn
James Hardman
Ellie Cave-Humphrey

Key Stage 5

Scott Denton
Oliver Smith
Kathryn Beecham

Well done everyone...keep up the great work!



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.



Parent Contact Information

We want to cut down on the amount of paper we send to parents and to get in touch more electronically via emails, texts and our school website (www.addington.wokingham.sch.uk).

Apart from the money saved on printing costs, electronic communication is instant. In order to do this we need to be kept up to date with your latest email address and mobile numbers – **if you need to update us please email: office@addington.wokingham.sch.uk.**

We also now have a school app which you can download (see links on our website), enabling you to receive news updates and alerts on your phone or other mobile device. You can also view our newsletters and see photos of the students.

WORK RELATED LEARNING

The Interns

Our students at National Grid have completed a successful half-term in their supported internships. Two of the students have acquired new tasks in the job placements that carried over from the previous term. Having settled well, and established themselves within their teams they are striving to become even more independent with their roles and responsibilities. The other three students have embraced new challenges in their moves to different placements within National Grid. Moving out of their comfort zones, the interns have adapted extremely well to the new job roles and new team colleagues, as well as adding to their skills set in their career progression.

Inspirations Week

This term, the current National Grid interns from Addington have also become role-models for the future interns from Addington School. Led by their job coaches, the interns provided presentations on the Inspirations Day attended by a group of FE students. The Addington students took part in a day of team building, fact-finding and communication development planned by staff from the National Grid graduates programme.

During Inspirations Week FE students have explored how emergency situations are communicated between services, acted upon and investigated. At Iver Environmental Centre students had the opportunity to explore environmental concerns attached to industry. Students visited Didcot to explore a live site involved with the transportation and management of energy. Discovering a world of work that is very different from the school environment, our FE students have had the most wonderful experiences that will broaden their skills and qualities as they approach adulthood.



Work Experience

Extended Work Placements

Congratulations to the students who took part in work experience job interviews with a range of companies around Berkshire. Having had successful interviews, students were offered positions and had an opportunity to meet with their employers and line managers before taking up their placements.



Applying skills taught in the classroom, Addington students are enjoying work experience in a range of businesses, including Marks & Spencer in Reading, Emma's Kitchen in Twyford, Pudding Lane Garden Centre in Arborfield, the Cow Shed in Henley, Central Business Partnership in Winnersh Triangle, Café Piazza and the town council in Woodley. Several students are travelling independently to work, or engaging in travel training to become independent.



Hospitality

The FE Hospitality students have had an intensive term of assessments. Having spent the winter term perfecting their basic skills in Hospitality, the students successfully completed a range of modules towards their Level 1 qualification. The proof of their improving culinary skills continues to be reflected in the success of the young entrepreneur's café at Wokingham Borough Council. Despite New Year diets, the sandwiches and baked goods at Shutters have continued to sell-out. Students are learning to manage their time, improve their money skills, work as a team, and to remain calm in busy situations as their business venture continues to attract a large number of customers.



Horticulture

The Horticulture groups have been working hard mulching, raking up leaves and weeding around the school grounds. We haven't been able to work outside as much as last year, due to the hard frost. The students have been using their time indoors to work on their entries for the Newbury Challenge, which takes place on 27th April. We are entering two teams this year.

Our chosen categories are: A country craft, students have made a felted acorn garland; a garden themed board game, still in progress- lots of boards designed & now working on packaging; a collage of the seaside, 2 very different pictures in progress; a calendar with photographs from the school garden; a birdfeeder made from recycled materials, one from string covered tins and the other from a recycled umbrella and lots of painted bottles; a home-grown herb planter and something cooked which has chocolate in the ingredients.

Meanwhile, our potatoes are chitting, the garlic and onions are planted and our early broad-bean crop is looking healthy. We are all looking forward to next term so that we can start outdoor sowings and begin our hanging basket production!



Work Ready Days

FE students have had an industrious start to this half-term with a range of Work Ready Days with local companies. At Baxter Storey students had the chance to explore jobs that link to the skills and qualities they have developed in Hospitality and Food Technology. They discovered the ways in which the food service industry has grown and developed in recent years, as well as aspects of food hygiene that impact on day-to-day business.

Students have also visited 'Dog Trouble' in Wokingham to learn about the skills and qualities needed to work with animals. It was a wonderful opportunity for students to explore different aspects of the pet industry, including grooming, animal behaviour, pet training, kennelling and general animal care.



Having completed a Health and Safety module in their Employability qualification, a group of students experienced first-hand the ways in which Health and Safety is used to minimise risk on a building site. Following a safety briefing at Balfour Beatty's Wokingham office, students were provided with Personal Protective Equipment before visiting the Carnival Pool building project. It was a really interesting day, and provided great insight for the students of the different job opportunities that are available in the construction industry.





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



ADDINGTON SCHOOL TERM DATES
2017 - 2018

Autumn Term 2017

Wednesday 6th September – Tuesday 20th December

Half Term: Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October

Training Days for Staff – Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th September
– school closed

Spring Term 2018

Thursday 4th January – Thursday 29th March

Half Term: Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February

Training Day for Staff – Wednesday 3rd January – school closed

Summer Term 2018

Wednesday 18th April – Tuesday 24th July

May Day Holiday – Monday 7th May

Half Term: Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June

Training Days for Staff – Monday 16th & Tuesday 17th April – school closed