



SLIMBRIDGE

primary school

Newsletter 10 — 11.02.15

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are officially half way through the school year and it is time to evaluate the progress we have made this year.

We have been putting a lot of thought into the children's emotional and social development.

How we support the children to develop as members of society?

One of our prime initiatives has been OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) which closely links to our work with the Forest Schools and WWT. The project is aimed at developing the children's independent imaginative play, ability to play together, negotiating over their games and build resilience (the ability to keep going despite problems). This work is obviously in it's early stages but we are pleased with the way the children work together on building their dens and request help to negotiate over problems. Whether we are developing children able to take measured risks and persevere with problems is yet to be seen.

The work on OPAL is matched by the classroom initiatives on developing 'Growth Mindsets', this is a fascinating area of study about making connections in the brain by repeating an action or skills. For example, you need to repeat the seven times table at least 15 times before you make a connection in your brain and then practise regularly so the connection is maintained. Basically, this means anyone can learn anything if you work hard enough—a growth mindset—we can grow our brains. In class we are encouraging children to be very positive..... I don't know this yet, but if I work hard I can learn anything. This is a change of philosophy but very exciting. Our praise all revolves around working hard—effort and perseverance. Please encourage your children at home too.

Regards
Alison Cooke

IMPORTANT DATES.

Friday 13th February—INSET DAY. School closed to children.

Monday 16th February - HOLIDAY CLUB

Monday 23rd February—Term 4 starts!

Friday 27th February—FoSS Film Night.

Friday 6th March—Cake Stall with proceeds going to Macmillan Nurses.

Thursday 12th March—Interstellar Science for Yr 4 & 5

Friday 13th March—Red Nose Day, MAKE YOUR FACE FUNNY FOR MONEY.

Slimbridge Sports Day—Saturday 13th June at 2.30

Thank you

To everyone who attended the Celebration Assembly on Friday 6th February. Well done to **ALL** the children for their efforts in their running this year. **Thank you** for all the cakes that we were able to sell to buy the children their well deserved medals. **Thank you** to the gentleman who said 'keep the change' and made a large contribution at the cake stall. **Thank you** to all the parents who helped out with KLB, and finally **thank you** for our lovely flowers. Allee, Margaret and Louise.

Time to Play.

This weekend make a treasure chest, hide it and then go exploring.

Who hid the treasure?
What imaginary world are you in?
What will you do with your treasure?

Cross Country Teams and Results

Slimbridge School - 2nd Overall for Small Schools

Junior Girls - Joint First Place with St Josephs

Tiegan Wildy
Phoebe Snow
Emma Philpot
Jessica Smith
Pippa Reynolds
Seren Wytchard
Liliah Norman
Isabella Storey



Junior Boys

Dan Maule
James Carter
William Fairall
Oliver Norris
Riley Purshouse
Guy McLeod

Senior Girls - Second Place

Clara Davies
Daisy Gothard
Scarlett Maule
Grace Reynolds
Azra Tuzun
Aoife Johnson
Lily Arkwell-Smyth

Senior Boys

Archie McCallum
Joel Carhart

Individual awards (includes big and small schools)

William Fairall - 2nd
Emma Philpott - 2nd
Aoife Johnson - 7th

Adult helpers throughout the season.

Allee Arkwell
Louise Biddal
Margaret Johnson
Carrie Norman

The BIG Question.

Should children go to school?

