

# Newsletter

*Achieving Together*



**Speenhamland School**

11 November 2016

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

@speenhamlandsch



**I**t was great to see so many parents at Class 5's sharing assembly this Tuesday. I know the children really benefit from having the opportunity to share their learning with parents and also the rest of the school. Please see below a reminder of the dates of the other class assemblies.

With the change in weather, please can the children come into school appropriately dressed with a warm coat, as they will be going outside at break and lunchtime. PE will take place outside and children are also encouraged to bring a pair of named dark coloured jogging bottoms as extra protection against the weather.

Our Upper Juniors Quiz Team put in a great effort at the Newbury Weekly News Over 80's Parcel Fund Quiz on Tuesday night. Fun was had by all and the children were great ambassadors for the school.

Please can those children wishing to have a hot school meal order their dinners at home online as we are finding we are losing learning time due to the number of pupils who are ordering within school? This can be done using the website [www.feedinghungryminds.co.uk](http://www.feedinghungryminds.co.uk) (you will be required to register and set up an account). Any problems, please see Mrs Burgess via the school office.

The Dining Hall shelving is being fitted on Monday so packed lunches will be able to be stored in there as normal from Tuesday. I'm sure you will agree that it has been worth the wait.

Since we have increased the number of activities taking place in school, there have been extra permission slips that need to be returned. Please could this be done, either via the child through their class teacher or using the post box located externally under the school office window. This is a secure post box and is checked daily by the office staff. Hopefully this will prevent the queue at the office hatch. Also, there are times when duplicate letters are needed and these can be found in the letter racks located on the wall by the office hatch.

There are several trips being planned to support the children's learning. However, we will only be able to take those children who have returned forms and payment by the deadline. If there is a large number who do not return these, the trip will be cancelled.

On Friday 18 November we will be taking part in Children in Need. All children are welcome to wear a spotty top (school bottoms) for a £1 donation and we will be providing children with a jump journal to enjoy. We want to see how many jumps we can do together.

**Mrs E Parish, Associate Headteacher**

## **PTA Christmas Fair**

**03-12-16 4 pm to 5.30 pm**

**Father Christmas tickets will be sold by a PTA member, Vicki Murphy, in the Dining Hall before and after school from Monday 14 November. £2 a ticket, and they sell out fast!**

# Learning Zones



## Foundation

We have started a new Julia Donaldson story this week called The Gruffalo. In English we have learnt how to verbally describe how the Gruffalo looks. If you have this story at home, please practise describing the Gruffalo with your child. Next week, we will have a go at trying to copy words or phonetically spell words to describe how the Gruffalo looks and record on paper.

In Maths, we have used positional language to say where the Gruffalo is standing—he is in front of me, he is behind me. Please play a game with your child at home, that re-enforces over, under, next to, etc. Next week in Maths, the children will begin to use mathematical names for 'flat' 2D shapes, as well as learning the mathematical terms for describing shapes.

In Topic, we will be working on our Expressive Arts and Design objectives over the next three weeks. The children will be exploring materials and textures, learning how to manipulate materials for an effect, choosing colours for a purpose, then construct with a purpose in mind. The end result will be a new classroom display depicting a scene from The Gruffalo.

## KS1

Next week in English we will be continuing our author studies and specifically be focusing on punctuation as children are still struggling with some aspects.

For Mathematics Year 1 are moving on to addition and subtraction for 2 digit numbers while Year 2 are problems solving and reasoning with addition and subtraction.

In Topic we will concentrate on explaining and looking at why we have Remembrance Day and also make poppies for art. We will also start learning songs for the Nativity and begin to think about casting the play. More details about this to follow.

## Lower KS2

Next week, in English, we will be writing our own short stories. Classes 6 and 7 will be involving characters from the book The Firework Maker's Daughter and Class 8 will be including characters from Stig of the Dump.

In maths, Class 6 will be continuing to focus on multiplication and division, using mental and written methods and finding factors of numbers. Class 7 and Class 8 will be focusing on addition and subtraction through problem solving.

In topic, Class 6 will be continuing to build their volcanoes and hopefully they will be erupting by the end of the week! Class 7 will be focusing on Pompeii and in Class 8, the children will be using nets to help them design a building that would be suitable for people to live in in Arctic regions.

## Upper KS2

This week children have been learning methods of division in maths, ceating and describing a new character in English, and in topic we have been looking at areas of the world that are prone to flooding and what it means for the people who live there.

Next week in maths the children will be comparing and ordering fractions using factors, multiples, prime numbers and also looking at abundant numbers. In English children will be creating a setting and integrating a new character into an existing story. In topic we will look at the human impact of flooding and how aid agencies help.