

**‘At the heart of learning in the community’**

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Farmers’ Market

Our Farmers’ Market was a huge success. We raised £524.60! A huge thank you to everybody who helped to make this possible. Well done to the children who made produce at home to sell and to all of those that donated items. A big thank you to everybody that came to support the school.

Victorian Occold

Fox class have been involved in a very exciting project this term at the records office. They had a visit to the records office to learn about Occold in the Victorian era. They followed the lives of a few local people and found out what it would been like to attend Occold school. Following this, they presented their work in an exhibition in the village hall this week. It was interesting to learn about life in the village and how different aspects have changed over time. Thank you to Miss Rowe for organising the experience for the children and also a big thank you to Ipswich Records Office for welcoming our children and coming to visit the exhibition that they put together afterwards.

Cross country

Well done to all of key stage 2 for participating in the cross country. We were very proud of everybody who took part for their fantastically positive attitude towards it. Well done to Joseph and Orlagh who have both made it through to the final later in the year.

Morning drop off

All of the children have made a very positive start to the new school year. Our youngest children in particular have settled very well into school life and it feels as though they have always been here. To ensure that all children have a calm and productive start to the school day, can parents now please drop their children at the school door. Our corridors are very narrow and this makes it tricky to get around when there are lots of people inside. If you do need to pop in to speak to a member of staff, please ask the staff on the door.

Arrival time

A little reminder that children can arrive at school between 8:40am and 8:50am. We have had a lot of children arriving increasingly late recently and it makes the start of the day a lot more hectic, as they are late for registration and this has a knock on effect throughout the day. Whilst we understand that occasionally families might get held up in the morning or stuck in traffic, please try to ensure that this is not a regular occurrence as it does get noted on your child’s attendance record.

Golden Mile

Earlier in the term we started doing the ‘Golden Mile’ each morning in school. In a bid to promote having an active lifestyle and ensure that children are getting fresh air and exercise each day, we spend 10 minutes running, walking or sometimes skipping around the field early in the school day. We have been very impressed with the positive response to this from both children and staff!!! Every child in school has been involved and many are competing to reach personal targets or beat their own number of laps. Several of our children are now able to complete a full mile in the 10 minute time slot. We have also noticed the positive impact that this is having on children back in the classroom. We are all feeling more awake, energised and able to concentrate during the morning. Well done to everybody for their positive attitude towards this.

Winter Shoes

As we are getting into the winter months we would like to ask children to ensure that they have a pair of wellies or boots in school for using outside on the field. We regularly go outside during the winter even if the weather is a bit drizzly and the ground is a bit muddy. Please ensure that children have a suitable pair of shoes in school but also their school shoes to change into inside to prevent our carpets getting covered in mud.

Swimming and Forest School

After half term, key stage 2 children will continue to go swimming on Friday mornings.

It will be the turn of reception and year 1 children for forest school. They will need to come to school in warm clothes that they don’t mind getting a bit muddy, they will also need wellies and a coat. Please bring school uniforms in a bag to change into afterwards.

Year 2 children will be staying in school with Mrs Watts.

Bug hotel

The bug hotel that has stood for many years on the field has taken a tumble and fallen apart. Forest school plan to rebuild a new one. If you have any old plant pots, bits of wood, bamboo canes, bottles or anything that you think might make a nice home for bugs please bring them into school after half term and the children will build a new haven for wildlife on the field!

Christmas production

Our Christmas production is going to be a little bit different this year. We will be holding a Christmas nativity and carol concert in Occold Church on Wednesday 11th December. The children will also be filming a Christmas film which will be shown in our ‘Cinema’ in school (date to be confirmed). We understand that some families may not wish to attend both events. There will be a letter going out after half term where we will provide more information and ask you to indicate whether you will be attending the concert in the church. It is important that we know which children are intending to come before we cast the children and decide on parts.

Student Teacher

As well as Miss Merry who is working in Rabbit class this term, we would like to welcome Miss Green. Miss Green is working mostly in Fox class and you may see her around lots over the next few weeks.

Have a lovely half term break and year 6 children have a fabulous time at Aylmerton!

Gemma Watts

Head of School

Dates for the diary

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| Monday 28th October  | Aylmerton Week for year 6.  |
| Tuesday 29th October  | Flu immunisations |
| Monday 11th November  | Fox class Victorian Week  |
| Thursday 14th November | Otter Class- Stone age day Fox Class trip to Gressenhall  |
| Tuesday 26th November  | Individual and sibling photographs  |
| Friday 6th December | Christmas Fayre  |
| Wednesday 11th December | Christmas Nativity and Carol Concert |
| Thursday 12th December | Fox class- Drama day at Hartismere |
| Tuesday 17th December  | Whole School Trip to the Pantomime |
| Wednesday 18th December  | Last day of School |
| Thursday 19th December  | Christmas Holidays!  |