



Vernham Dean Gillum's Church of England Primary School

Newsletter

Thursday 12th October 2017

Arrangements for Our Countryside Day Wednesday 18th October

We are looking forward to our Countryside Day next week. Please see pages 2 & 3 of this Newsletter for full details and arrangements. If you have any queries regarding the day, please do ask either Miss Thompson, your class teacher or the School Office.

Latest News and Updates

- **Time to Shine Day Road Safety Friday 20th October.** Please can the children wear bright clothes to school to show an awareness of being bright in the dark
- A reminder that the old pound coins go out of circulation on October 15th—please check any coins being handed into school.
- **Inset day** reminder Monday 30th October is an INSET day. Half Term 23rd-27th October, return to school Tuesday 31st October
- **Next Open Afternoon** for September 2018 intake. Thursday 9th November 2:00pm.
- **End of term Thursday 21st December.** School lunch will be as usual
- **School lunches.** There will be a new menu starting after half term and menus will be sent out next week. Details also on our website.
- **Safety Note** If you are late into school, please sign your child in with the Office. Side gate is locked at 9:00am, please use main gate.

Events

- **Parents Evening** Wednesday 1st November 2:30pm—7:30pm, sign up sheets for appointments will be put on the class doors on Thursday 19th October. If you are unable to attend the parents evening, please see the class teacher to make an alternative date.
- **Curry and a Murder Mystery Evening (Part 2)** - Friday 17th November 7:30pm at the Village Hall. Tickets £15 each (bring your own drinks, £1 corkage).
- **School Photographer 7th November.** Individual and sibling portraits. If you would like a family photo with a pre-school sibling, please come in to school at 8:30am
- **Bag2School** Thursday 9th November—please save any unwanted clothing, shoes, bags, hats, jewellery, curtains, soft toys etc.

Dates for your Diary

17/10 Tractor afternoon
18/10 Linkenholt
20/10 Time to Shine day, wear bright clothing
30/10 INSET Day
01/11 Flu Immunisations Yr R— Yr 4
01/11 Parents Eve 2:30 until 7:30pm
07/11 Individual School Photos
08/11 Saxon League Rugby Vernham Dean
09/11 Year R (2018 intake) Open Afternoon
09/11 Bag2School
16/11 Spotacular
17/11 Curry and a Murder Friends of the School 7:30pm
24/11 Yr 6 & JST tree planting Harmony Woods
25/11 Church Christmas Fair Village Hall 4:00pm
28/11 Choir to sing at Village Hall Christmas Lunch
01/12 Jingle and Mingle Christmas songs & Markets
11/12 Panto Village Hall
14-21 Book People Book Fair
15/12 Governors Christmas Lunch
20/12 School Disco 3:40-4:40pm
21/12 Carol Service 10:30am
21/12 Reports out
5th January 2018 return to school after Christmas
INSET DAYS
30th October, 4th January
29th March, 23rd July

Free Reading Friday

What is Free Reading Friday? The purpose behind Free Reading Friday is for the children to access a range of books and texts in engaging ways that allow them to experience the pleasure of reading. Friday's free reading session will include:

- Sharing loved books between younger and older children
- Library skills
- Reading comics
- Reading challenges

Of course there will be other activities, but those listed give you an idea of what your child will be doing. One of the key aims we wish to achieve is for the adults in the school to share their love for books and reading.

Countryside Day Wednesday 18th October 2017

Arrangements for the day

- Arrive at Linkenholt for normal school day, bell at 8:55am for 9:00am start
- The 8:30am drop off arrangement for children, already signed up, will be 8:15am if needed
- Collection at the end of the day is 3:30pm sharp
- No clubs this day
- If you are late dropping off, please ensure that your child has been signed in with a member of staff

We would encourage lift sharing where possible to cut down on the number of cars using the road and track to the site. Please allow extra time for your journey and drive slowly as there are pot holes on the road and to allow for passing other cars coming in the opposite direction.

What should my child wear and bring?

- Old clothes are a must! - not school uniform.
- Tracksuit/jogging bottoms
- Warm clothing
- **Waterproof jacket - essential**
- Wear sturdy old trainers
- **Plus wellies in a bag - essential**
- Rucksack with spare socks and an extra sweatshirt/top
- Your child can take layers off so please label all clothing
- Packed lunch, snack and water bottle. **Reminder that we are a nut free school so no nut based products. No glass bottles or fizzy drinks**

If you would like to order a school packed lunch, please let us know by Monday 16th October

What will my child be doing?

- Learning to campfire cook
- Building emergency shelters
- Creating art in nature
- Exploring symmetry in nature
- Learning about rural crafts
- Singing in the woods

Directions

Linkenholt Countryside Adventure, Linkenholt.
The grid map reference is **364 587**.

For a map, please use the following link:

http://www.linkenholt.org/where_we_are.html

Please note there is no postcode if you are using sat nav.

Please see the map for further details or contact the school office.

If you need to contact us during the day the mobile phone number is 07908 284586

Church

St Mary's Vernham Dean

Family Service 10:00am 2nd Sunday of each month

St Peter's Hurstbourne Tarrant Family Service 10:00am 1st Sunday of each month

