



# Summer Term 2017

14<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

School is certainly a busy place at this time of year! Our recent production of 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' was a huge success and I am very proud of all the children. It has been such a pleasure watching our year five and six grow in confidence, and the performances they gave this week certainly showed how much they have grown! Well done to all!

On Wednesday, 28<sup>th</sup> June, some of our Year Four and Five children took part in a fabulous Orchestra Concert at St. Peter's Church. The children attended full day rehearsals in the autumn, spring and summer terms, which culminated in an impressive evening performance. Well done to those involved!

Last Wednesday was Sports Evening. The weather was glorious and children, staff and parents all had a fun-packed evening of traditional sports day races. Even the teachers joined in this year! Kudos to our enthusiastic parents - I think we had the most Mums and Dads we've ever had sprinting!

It was great to so many of the children at the FOGS end of year disco yesterday. Thank you once again to our fabulous FOGS team for organizing another exciting event for the children.

Looking ahead to our final week of term, our Leaver's Service for Year Six children and their families will take place at St. Mary the Virgin Church, Southwick, on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 6pm, and I hope to see many of you at our final Leaver's Assembly at 2pm on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July. Please return any cups received last year so we can hand them to their new recipients in the Leaver's Assembly. This year, we say goodbye to our Year Six children, the Stephen-Smiths and Charlotte Thory, as they all move on to pastures new. We will miss you and wish you all the very best for the future. A huge thank you goes to Miss Marrison, Ms Oram, Mrs Croot, Mrs Millward and Mrs Godfree, as they also move on at the end of the year. We always seem to be blessed with fantastic staff who go 'above and beyond' for the benefit of the children, and these ladies are no exception. We all wish you well for the future!

I hope that you all have a lovely, restful summer holidays, ready to start the new academic year on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September!

Mrs Lou Coulthard, Head of School

## End of year message from the Chair of Governors

As a school, we have had an extremely busy year and this has certainly been the case for the Governing Body.

With Ofsted due at any time, it has been essential for us to familiarise ourselves with the kinds of questions to expect and, most importantly, being ready with some strong and positive answers. Close to the start of the academic year, all Governors attended a course to strengthen this preparation. Additionally, throughout the year, Governors have furthered their individual knowledge of Governance by attending a variety of courses, delivered by experienced speakers, or by on-line training. We have also each gained experience of a particular subject area through our roles as Link Governors, continuing the process of monitoring and evaluating our subject areas in relation to the School Development Plan.

At the start of the academic year our first ever year six group, together with the year fives, moved into a fabulous new classroom. As the year progressed, we saw the completion of School House, followed by the incorporation of the garden into the main playground - what a difference! At the same time, Robins class gained additional space almost doubling their outdoor area. This latter area is a priority for development in the next academic year.

At the end of the autumn term we started the search for a new Headteacher following Katherine Towns' decision to move to pastures new. The whole Governing Body supported the recruitment process, for which I extend my sincere thanks, including almost 100% attendance at extra meetings often, by necessity, called at very short notice. We were delighted to attract a range of strong candidates across a number of different models. Following a period of discussion and consultation we were delighted to appoint Mrs. Lou Coulthard to the position of Head of School, which started on the 1<sup>st</sup> June. Mrs. Coulthard has already shown huge commitment to the task of leading the school, whilst continuing to teach in Red Kites class. Excellent relationships are building fast with the Rutland Learning Trust with whom we have established a Memorandum of Understanding and I extend my thanks in particular to Glenn Fraser, the Head of Ketton, and Rob Gooding, the CEO of the Trust for their hard work in establishing the link, for the speed of doing so and for their support throughout.

Early next year we will see the very last piece of the Primary School jigsaw completed, namely the MUGA (Multi-Use Games Area). This will allow use of our field for curriculum PE sessions and a full range of outdoor, extra-curricular activities all year round without interruption by wet weather. The planning application has been submitted and we have a contractor lined up to start work just as soon as we are able to give the go-ahead.

We have a strong staff team waiting to start the New Year in September but for now, after such a full and successful year, everyone needs a large dose of rest and relaxation.

I wish you all - staff, parents, carers and most definitely not forgetting our wonderful children - happy and safe holidays.

With best wishes,

Julia Hart

Week beginning 17<sup>th</sup> July

**NO CLUBS THIS WEEK**

|                                      |   |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| Monday 17 <sup>rd</sup><br>July      | Swimming Y1-4<br>Yr 6 Transition to Prince William School         |   |
| Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup><br>July     | <b>MOVE UP DAY</b><br>Yr 6 Transition to Prince William School    |   |
| Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup><br>July   |   | Year 6 Leavers' Service<br>Southwick Church 6pm |
| Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup><br>July    |   |   |
| Friday 21 <sup>st</sup><br>July      | Last day of term<br>2pm Leaver's Assembly at school - all welcome |   |
| Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup><br>September | <b>Children return to school</b>                                  | No clubs during Week 1                          |

**Move up day!**

On Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> July, all the children will move up to their new classes for the day. The children will have a chance to get to know their new teachers and experience what it will be like in September. Please bring the children to the classrooms that they will be in in September at the usual time of 8.45am. Pick up will be from their new classrooms at the usual time.

| Class 2017-18                | Teacher 2017-18                         |
|------------------------------|---|
| Robins (EYFS) (Morning only) | Mrs Zoe Taggart and Miss Louise Gregory |
| Barn Owls (Years 1&2)        | Miss Debbie Vickers                     |
| Nightingales (Years 3&4)     | Mrs Wendy Edwards                       |
| Red Kites (Years 5&6)        | Mr Tom Ormston                          |

**Chattabox**

Each summer, St. Peter's Church in Oundle run 'Chattabox', an exciting week of arts, crafts, sports, music and learning about Jesus and Christianity. Please see the link below for more details.

<http://www.oundlestpeters.org.uk/young-people/chatterbox/>

**Kids Week**

See the link below for some great opportunities to purchase children's cut-price tickets to top London shows over the summer!

<http://www.kidsweek.co.uk/shows/>



**Congratulations Mrs Sawyer!**

**Mrs Sawyer became a Grandma to Max Edward, born on 12<sup>th</sup> July! Huge congratulations to Olivia, Adam and all the family!**

Note from Mrs. Sawyer - I'm a bit embarrassed about all these congratulations! It's not as if I personally have done anything towards Max's safe arrival! But whatever, it's all good fun and he is of course LOVELY!!