



# Middle Barton School

## Newsletter

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### Head's News

Christmas has already begun in school and the children are busy learning their songs and carols. I have had numerous conversations with parents this week who have raised concerns about the indoor performances. We have therefore made the decision that all indoor performances will now take place on the school playground. Our plan is that we will put up a gazebo/small marquee for the children to shelter in and decorate it with lights to make it look festive. Due to the cold weather, we will be making adjustments to the performances, particularly the Acorn and Sycamore ones, so Miss Reynolds and Mrs Merry will be in contact with those classes shortly. As last Christmas many people were unable to see family and with the short period of time between the performances and Christmas day, I think it is the safest option. It does mean that numbers will not be limited and therefore no need to book tickets. We will be changing the Acorns and Sycamores timings very slightly so the evening performance will begin at 5pm. I hope that people understand the dilemma we are in but I want to ensure that all of us have a happy

and healthy Christmas this year. FOMBS will be selling refreshments at each performance.



#### Performances:

##### **Acorns and Sycamores**

Tuesday 7th December- 2.30-3.00pm

Wednesday 8th December- 5.00pm-5.30pm

##### **KS2 (Year 3-6)**

Wednesday 15th December- 9.30-10.00 am

Thursday 16th December- 10.00-10.30 am

##### **KS2- Carols to the community**

Thursday 16th December 5-5.30pm

Term finishes at 1.15pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Two of our Year 5 girls, Phoebe and Gracie, attended an English event at Chipping Norton School this week. They learnt all about 'The Christmas Carol'. It sounded very interesting and the girls both enjoyed it.



Tea Time club now has a new recruit. Denise Gill has officially become one of the team, joining Andrea and Zoe.



Some of Year 6 have been out on their bikes this week. They have learnt about road safety and how to look after themselves while cycling.



I had the great pleasure of attending the FOMBS meeting this week. It was great to see the passion and enthusiasm the group had for fundraising for our school. I am putting out a plea for more people to join this fantastic group. Without them so many lovely things in the school wouldn't be able to happen. If you are interested in offering you support, no matter how small, please contact the school.

Hope you all have a lovely weekend and don't forget the Christmas tree lights are being turned on this Saturday at 6.00pm - look out for Lillie's poster advertising this around the village.

## FOMBS General Report for 2020-21

Thank you to those who attended the FOMBS Annual General Meeting on Wednesday.

The purpose of FOMBS is to raise money so that all the children in the school can enjoy supplementary things. With the Covid pandemic, it is quite difficult to hold fund-raising events.

Some of the things that FOMBS has funded recently are the Running Path, equipment for Outdoor Learning, school reader books and other reading books for every classroom, and FOMBS is usually involved in providing the Christmas treat(s) for the children.

If you value these provisions for your child(ren), please continue to support FOMBS events, and consider whether you could spare any time to assist at an event, or share your ideas about an event that you would like to see happen at school.

### **We would like to share the General Report with all parents:**

As might be expected after a pandemic, nothing is quite the same as before in terms of ordinary FOMBS activities. Since last year's AGM fund-raising has been limited by Covid regulations and restrictions, and meetings have been held via Zoom.

Christmas fund-raising consisted of a virtual raffle and some stalls outside the school gates, plus the children designing Christmas cards.

After the early Spring lock-down, restrictions eased only gradually and no 'Summer fayre' was permitted. A virtual Summer Raffle took place but was not very well supported, possibly due to the price of tickets compared to our usual 'real-life' raffles.

In the Autumn we were pleased to be allowed to organise our Village Fireworks Night as pre-Covid since outdoor events are deemed less risky for infection. This was a huge success (see Treasurer's report). Many thanks for the great effort from all the Committee, staff, friends and volunteers from the community who ensured this success.

## Come and join the Governors



Are you interested in helping Middle Barton School be the best it can be for the children in our village?

As Governors, our role is to support and challenge the school leaders and to work together to ensure continued progress and improvement for the school and all its pupils. We are a small but committed governing body and we really need some new members to strengthen our team.

We have new opportunities for parents to become involved, and we are sure that amongst our parent body we have people with a range of skills and expertise that could contribute to the work we do behind the scenes. We are particularly looking for those of you with an interest or experience in chairing a governing body, and in finance and budget monitoring, but we would be really interested to hear from you if you are keen to join us and willing to develop your current skill set. The River Learning Trust provides excellent training on a range of themes to enable us to help the school run effectively.

We usually meet every 6-8 weeks so if you are interested and or have questions please get in touch! You can reach us via the school office or email [CoG@middlebartonschool.org](mailto:CoG@middlebartonschool.org).

## Morning run

Congratulations to these pupils who have completed their Half Marathon this week: **Jozef, Alex W, Henry**

This week also sees us congratulate the first people to complete One-and-a-half Marathons (this is 234 laps): **Alfie, Jonathan, Harvey**

Mrs Henderson has calculated that as a whole school you have now run 1049 miles!

We have been very pleased about how many children have continued participating in Morning Run after they have received a certificate for their Half Marathon. It is great to see that people feel the benefit of a little exercise in the mornings to get them ready for a day at school, and also like to set themselves another challenge! There are now plenty more pupils heading towards their Marathon certificate, and their one-and-a-half Marathon certificate!

It is also good to see that pupils are still coming to try out Morning Run, even if they never have before. Remember – it's never too late to start; just keep turning up and going round the track and you will get to 78 laps sooner or later!

Special mentions: Lillie, Kieron, Emilia, Eden, James, Harris, Elise, John, Harry B, Poppy, Arden-Beau, Millie.

## Dojo points

**Acorn – Layla**

**Sycamore – Alfie**

**Maple – Reuben**

**Beech – Rose**

**Willow – Poppy**

**Oak – Lily W**

## Values Leaves



