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## January 10<sup>th</sup> 2020 Newsletter

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### Checkendon CE Primary School

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Welcome back to the **Spring Term!**

We enjoyed welcoming more visitors to our second **Open Morning** today; prospective parents who visit are always very impressed by what they see here, so do spread the word about what the school can offer. Thank you to Sunelle Nel and Caroline Herbert for helping out at this event, and to school councillors for their confident explanations.

We were delighted to host a visit by Oxfordshire Museum Service on Thursday; staff from the museum provided a fascinating *Rockin' Rocks* workshop session in Panda Class to launch their learning project *What do rocks tell us about the way the earth was formed?* In Owl Class, we've been having fun exploring the story *Aliens Love Underpants*; do pop into the classroom to see some of the great artworks the children have produced. Rhino Class pupils have been tackling lots of practical science activities including monitoring water temperatures and investigating liquids and solids; and in Owllet Class, part of the classroom has been made into a Space Shop!

We are very grateful to all our regular volunteers and to everyone who supports the school and we are keen to encourage community involvement. We invite parents, relatives, friends and neighbours interested in **volunteering** on an ad hoc or regular basis to contact the school office. We are still on the look-out for regular volunteers to help with gardening/ grounds maintenance, 1:1 reading, and ad hoc handyman/woman tasks. In addition, we are recruiting governors! Do get in touch if you can help.

With all best wishes for a very happy new year.

Warm regards,

**Gillian Seymour**

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### Upcoming Events

#### Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January

Summer Term Class Meetings

#### Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January

School Census

#### Monday 10<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February

Parents evenings

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### Free School Meals and Discounts on School Visits and Activities

Did you know that by registering for Free School Meals your child not only has the opportunity to enjoy a free school meal but he/she could also be entitled to a substantial reduction in the cost of residential visits and music tuition. If you would like to learn more please contact the school office.

## More Important News

### Summer Term Class Meetings

These will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January. Timing are as follows:

16:00 – 16:30 Owlet Class

16:30 – 17:00 Panda Class

17:00 – 17:30 Rhino Class

17:30 – 18:00 Owl Class

### Parents Evenings

Please be advised that Parents' Evening will take place on the Monday 10<sup>th</sup> (Panda Class and Owlet Class) and Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February (Rhino Class, Panda Class and Owl Class).

### Class Cups

Please return class cups to the office. Thank you.

### Primary school applications

We are nearing the closing date for parents to apply for a Reception place for September 2020. The deadline to submit an application is Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

### Safeguarding

A polite reminder to all parents that although the school gates open at 8.30am, children should not to be on the playground unsupervised.

The front entrance to the school in the morning is only for dropping your child off if they are late and arrive after 8:50. If needed, your child will be escorted by Mrs Tarbox to their classroom.

### Online Safety Newsletter

As part of our commitment to online safety please find attached January's online safety newsletter.

### Cookery Club

We have only had 3 children sign up for Cookery Club so far for this term. Smart raspberry need 10 children in order to run this class. Please see if you can support this club as it would be a shame to have to cancel.

### Field not in use

During the wet, winter months, the field is not in use before or afterschool.

## Census Day: Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January

The department of Education carries out a Census three times a year and the information collected is used to calculate the School's grants and funding. The next census will take place on the 16<sup>th</sup> January.

The government funding for meals for the **whole year** is based on the number of lunches booked on the 16<sup>th</sup> January, so it is very important that as many children from Owl and Owlet Class as possible book meals on that day. Please help us by ordering a school meal for your child on Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January. Menu options have been altered to include fish and chips.