



Box CE VC Primary School
High Street, Box
Corsham, Wiltshire
SN13 8NF

Headteacher: Jo French

Tuesday 24th July 2018

Dear Parents,

Governors' Summer Newsletter 2018

Well, it's been a scorcher so far, hasn't it?! Whether the weather sustains into the school hols remains to be seen of course, but with some football fun and a lot of sun, we hope your summer's going well; long may it continue.

I hope you'll understand me starting our termly round-up with some high praise and a rave review for the recent Key Stage 2 production of Gilbert and Sullivan's operetta *The Pirates of Penzance*. For those of you who didn't experience it, this was a lavish production on a grand scale featuring dazzling performances given with charm and gusto from our wonderful ensemble cast. If you did come to see it, I'm sure you'll agree that the decision to stage the KS2 production at the Wiltshire Music Centre for the last couple of editions has more than paid off - the acoustics, lighting and size of the stage gave the show a real star quality enhancing even further what was a hugely enjoyable event.

As always, our thanks go to all the staff who worked tremendously hard to put the show together - a special mention here to Kate and the key stage two teachers for their expert pirate-wrangling skills - plus to you, the parents, for your support and encouragement which enabled the children to enjoy themselves so much and to put on such a fine show. Bravo!

Elsewhere, as you'd expect, the school has had another busy and productive term passing on information vegetable, animal and mineral to the children. Keeping fit, healthy and active is a big priority for us here at Box as we feel it brings benefits both physical and mental to the pupils, and you'll be aware that recently we've been implementing our Sports Leaders initiative as well as taking part in The Big Pledge as part of our overall strategy towards health and well-being.

It's been a super summer as far as more conventional sporting activities go too. Our Years 5 & 6 girls won the Mid-Wilts cricket competition, the sports Orienteering group came first in their event and there were a clutch of runners-up positions for our other cricket teams plus our lacrosse players. With tennis coaching, bikeability, and of course our Sports Day as well, we believe we're giving the children the encouragement they need to enjoy leading an active and healthy lifestyle.

Now, as is only right and proper, summer term away-days have been enjoyed right across the school over these last couple of months. Ash Class delighted in some serious safari time at Longleat, Sycamore explored HMS Victory, Oak were beside the sea-side at Burnham and our Year 4s took what could be a final trip for Box kids to the Braeside centre in Devizes for their traditional residential stay.

We've had so much going on of late that there's barely time to mention the Coding Club, our Waste



Week, the violin concert, a couple of Roal Dahl events and lastly - but certainly not leastly - our Year 6s taking part in the now annual Young Apprentice fair. Please do support our budding entrepreneurs if you can by helping them raise money for charities after school this Tuesday, 24th July.

While we've been basking in the balminess these last few weeks, I'd really like show some very well-deserved appreciation to our very hard-working staff here at Box. Far from winding down in June and July, I've come to appreciate that this really is a hectic time for teachers and support staff alike and I'm sure you'll join me in thanking them for all their hard work helping our children be the best that they can be. I'd also like to thank you, the parents for your support and dedication to our pupils' education.

And as the curtain comes down on yet another academic year, just time to mention some staffing comings and going here at Box. A big thank you too to Julia Johnson who has been working in Ash and Oak classes; she's leaving to take up a post at Colerne, but her energy and enthusiasm during her time here are very much appreciated. You'll be aware that Alice James and Grace Hobbs will be taking their maternity leave next term and, of course, we wish them all the very best of luck with their fabulous adventure ahead! Many of you will recognise Jane Williams who will cover for Alice in Sycamore from her previous spells here at Box; she's very keen to take on the role of Year 6 teacher and we're delighted she's been able to join us. We're equally looking forward to warmly welcoming Alice Hanratty who will be looking after Ash class.

Finally, a special mention for Lee Towler who is stepping down as a governor here after 19 years. Many of you will know her as a very popular and valued friend of the school and our community, and on behalf of the governors, I'd like to say a huge thank you to Lee for her invaluable contribution over the years. Lee's knowledge, experience and skills - as well as her energy, kindness and ready wit - will be very much missed in committee meetings and at governor-related events. We are, however, hoping to keep her involved in some way at the school. You don't get away that easily, Lee!

To sign off then, we do hope you can join us on Wednesday at 2pm as we bid our Year 6 pupils a very fond farewell at our end of year service. Onwards and upwards for them and we wish them all the very best of luck for the next stage of life's great adventure. Whether any of them is able to rise up the ranks to become a Modern Major General remains to be seen, but either way, it's been a pleasure to have every single one of them here at Box.

Have a terrific summer, may the sun keep shining and we'll see you back here in September.

With very best wishes

Stephen Clark
On a Behalf of the Governing Body.