



2024-25 Week 11 Update

In school this week

This week, Class 2 enjoyed a webinar with Alex T. Smith, Class 3 enjoyed exploring more books with the Cirencester Children's Librarian, graphic novel club and brass band clubs were massive hits, and we have also been painting giant snowmen for a trail at Bibury Trout Farm!

Swimming

Letters have gone out today regarding swimming. We are delighted to have secured 3 x 30-minute swimming slots for the Spring term so that the school can be split into three groups and all go swimming. Due to the increase in the number of children on roll, this cost has decreased from last year to £7.50 a week. We will be setting up the payments ready for January.

Whole School Movie Night and Class 3 Sleepover

Letters have gone out regarding the event on Thursday 5th December. This event is free to all children and is a thank you from the PTA for all of the support they have received this year. Class 1 can return to school for a movie from 4:30–6 p.m., and children in Class 2 and 3 can return at 6 p.m. for their film. Class 3 then also have the chance to have a school sleepover!

Christmas in the Community event

Friday, 29th November, is non-uniform day. Please donate a bottle for our tombola. The variety of donations, from bubble baths to champagne, will undoubtedly add to the excitement! If your child is in Class 2 or 3, then they will have brought home a letter about the event with information about which stall they would like to run. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Gray or the new PTA team. PLEASE return all raffle tickets and stubs to the box on the porch.

Oracy Competition

Again, we are running an oracy competition at school as part of the Gloucestershire-wide 'Look who's talking' event. Winners from each class will compete with other schools in the cluster before the winner from those heats will travel to the final. If you remember, Alan won the whole competition a couple of years ago! All children will be taking part in the school event, and we ask that you and your child think about a topic they would like to discuss for 5 minutes. We will hold the in-school event in December; more information will follow next week.

Facebook

As you may know, our Facebook page remains a vital tool for sharing news and promoting our school activities. We appreciate the engagement from our community, especially our 'top fans', including many grandparents who enjoy seeing what their grandchildren are up to. We also respect the privacy of families who prefer not to share their children's photos and encourage you to contact Mrs Woodruffe if you wish to adjust your permissions.

Academisation update

This week, all staff had their TUPE consultations to change their contracts, which marks a landmark step in the process. Other aspects, such as the transfer of the lease for the land and school buildings from the Church and GCC to Corinium Education Trust and the setting up of the new DfE number, etc., are now in the hands of the lawyers. It looks as though we are still on track for our January 1st conversion.

Key Dates – for the entire year, see the website – new dates or information in yellow

<https://www.downampneyprimaryschool.co.uk/calendar/>



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25 th November	Graphic Novel Club at lunchtime
25 th November	Sports hall athletics
26 th November	sports hall athletics
29 th November	Bake Off Dakota
29 th November	Non-school uniform day – Please donate a bottle for Christmas Fayre
3 rd December	Dodgeball
5 th December	Experience Advert – Class 2 at Kempsford School
5 th December	Christmas movie night and a sleepover for class 3
12 th December	Reception and Y6 screening
12 th December	Christmas in the Community event – 5–7 p.m.
17 th December	Christmas jumper day
18 th December	Christmas lunch day
18 th December	Carols in the church at 2 p.m.
19 th December	Pantomime
20 th December	Nativity Play at 1:30 p.m. – NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB