



Ampney Crucis C of E Primary School
Together we live, learn and flourish

Newsletter: Number 17

Spring Term 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

I will start off this newsletter by wishing you all, "**Xīnnián hǎo**" (新年好), literally meaning 'New Year Goodness' or 'Good New Year' as last week saw the start of Chinese New Year and the year of the snake. Maple class have been learning lots about this festival and made their very own Chinese dragon which they showed off on Thursday at the end of the school day. Well done Maple children.

It has been a whirlwind couple of weeks.

Thank you again for your support during our OFSTED inspection. The children were amazing (as usual) and the staff worked extremely hard to make the days work linguistically, which isn't easy when there are 2 inspectors wanting to see different things at the same time with 2 teachers who also need to be in class teaching!

Ampney Crucis Literature Festival

Of course, school life never stops even after an inspection and this week saw 7 authors coming into school for our Literature Festival Day. This was a



wonderful event, mainly thanks to the hard work of Mrs McKay and was thoroughly enjoyed by all the children. A special mention goes to all the reading ambassadors who greeted our authors as they came



through the front door, had produced great posters advertising the books and dressed up during lunchtime. A highlight of mine was definitely seeing an inflatable dinosaur go past the window! (only in a Primary School would you see this!) I hope your child came home buzzing about what they had listened to and wanted to read some of the books they had heard about. No other school in the area runs this kind of event so its makes even more unique! Thank you to the Friends as well for contributing to the costs.

Cross Country

The first race of the season was held last Thursday at Kingshill. It was cold but thankfully not raining. I was extremely proud of all the children who ran, especially the Year 3 children, as this was their first time competing against others in a race. A special mention goes to Isla, as our only girl running, who did so with a smile on her face and in a very relaxed manner! Well done also to Rowan who came 8th in the Year 5/6 race- a great result. Next race is at Far Peak – a very different course!

What's Happening This Week?

We welcome our new **Bishop's Visitor to school, Mr Mark Lees**, to school today (Monday). You may well be asking yourself, what is a Bishop's Visitor?

Bishop's Visitors (BVs) come from a variety of walks of life, many are former teachers and senior leaders of schools, but all come with experience of supporting children and young people. They volunteer to support church schools across the Diocese in a number of ways.

The purpose of having a Bishop's Visitor in a school is:

- to provide pastoral support to the school
- to foster the link between the school and the Diocese and the Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education team
- to foster good relationships within the school, between the local church, and the wider community
- to encourage and support the school in upholding its Christian ethos through its vision and values
- to have a Christian presence supporting and enhancing the distinctive nature of the school.

Mark is here to support our work as a Church School and to be a listening ear for myself and others.

This **week is Children's Mental Health week**, the theme being Know yourself, grow yourself. All classes will be focused on different activities linked to this.



Year 3 children are attending a prayer space session at Kempford on Tuesday and Year 4 are attending the In the Net production on Wednesday.

It would have been **Bob Marley's 80th Birthday on Thursday of this week**, so to mark the occasion, we will be joining Young Voices from Manchester Co-op Live, to sing with them and thousands of other children across the country, the Bob Marley medley.

Have a lovely week,

Mrs Wood