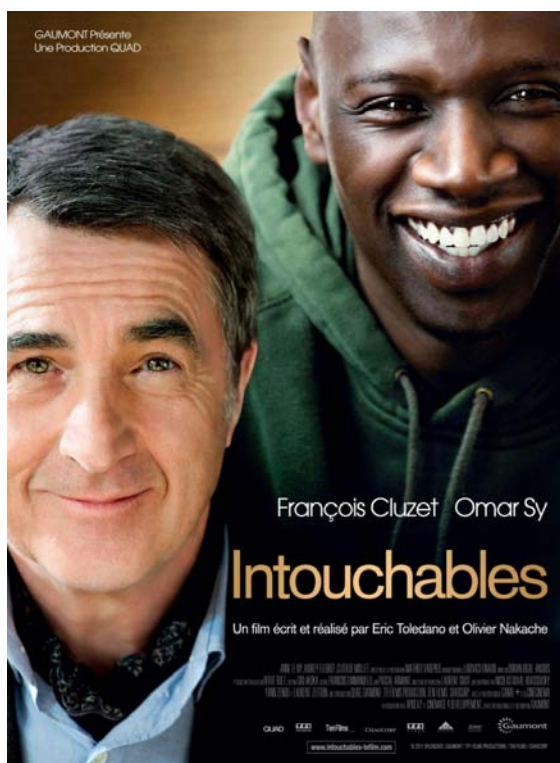


THE Grapevine NEWSLETTER

**Stockcross Film Club
Presents**

Winner of 7 International Awards

**As shown in village cinemas everywhere **



Based on a true story ...“Intouchables”, comedy/drama about an aristocratic French quadriplegic millionaire interviewing candidates for the position of his carer with heartfelt results...

In French with English subtitles
Friday 7th Feb 8pm, The Sutton Hall, Stockcross,
£5 on the door / byo refreshments.
Details from David Seaton, 07962 218 574,
davidseaton599@btinternet.com

**FROM THE SUTTON HALL
STOCKCROSS
January 2014 No:88**

**Current Hall Hire Rates (£ per hour)
1st November 2011**

	Small Hall	Large Hall	Both Halls
Resident	6.00	9.00	12.00
Non resident	9.50	14.00	17.00

**Call Jay on 01488 608769 to book
or visit our website**

www.suttonhallstockcross.org

or email

suttonhall642@btinternet.com

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THREE COTTAGES

The Benham Estate has submitted a planning application for the construction of three cottages on an area of disused land adjacent to the Lord Lyon. The site falls within the village's development boundary and as such it is believed the application satisfies current planning policy.

The cottages' design reflects the historic Estate village housing style and is sympathetic to the location. If consent is granted the cottages, consisting of a pair of three bedroom semi-detached and a three bedroom single detached unit, will be retained by the Estate for subsequent letting. The houses are relatively small with an internal area of approximately 1,000sq.ft, and are designed to meet the need of the local rental market.

JR

View from the Chair

Happy New Year to you all - I hope you had a lovely festive break with family and friends.



There was lots going on in December so I hope you made it along to the children's party, carols at the church & drinks in the hall or one of the other village events in the lead up to Christmas. I nervously took to the stage for the very first time in the pantomime this year - it turned out to be so much fun and one of the best things I've ever done - well done to everyone involved who worked so hard to make it another amazing show! The photo review was

also another great success and reminded us of some amazing events during the year and how the village changes across the seasons - if you missed it or would like to see it again, copies of the dvd are available.

We're always interested in hearing your views and thoughts about the village hall and the events we run. If you think you'd like to join the hall committee this year or just have an idea for an event, we'd love to hear from you.

Finally, please take care if you are out and about during the winter, especially in times of flood. If you are travelling anywhere or concerned family and friends may be affected by flooding I recommend you call the environment agency floodline 0845 988 1188

or visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk/flood for advice and updates.

Best wishes for 2014 - I hope to see you at a village event soon and, with the calendar filling up, there's already lots to look forward to!

Sarah Russell, Chair Sutton Hall Committee

sarah@rustyandsaz.com

01488 657296

Photo Review of 2013 available on DVD

Did you miss the photo review of 2013 shown at the village Christmas drinks? If so then don't fret as there are a few DVD copies in the shop that you can borrow and watch it in the comfort of your own home.

Stockfest 2014 – call for talent!

Would you like to be involved in Stockfest this August?

Are you a musician, in a band or perform?

Do you have a skill or craft you could run a workshop on?

Are you a keen walker or sportsperson and could run a session?

If you are then *please get in touch*.

Claire 01488 608597 / Viv 01635 760138

info@stockfest.org.uk

Pop the dates in your diary everyone. This year Stockfest will be back and we're promising a jam packed calendar from 9th to 24th August.

Knitwits

We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month in the small hall. Bring along some knitting and enjoy a cuppa and a chat. If you'd like to start knitting then come along and we'll set you off with some basics.



Novices or experts welcome. Viv finished a waistcoat this month, 7 months after starting this "easy make", thanks to Sarah from Purlescence.

<http://www.purlescence.co.uk/>

Mobile Library visits to Stockcross

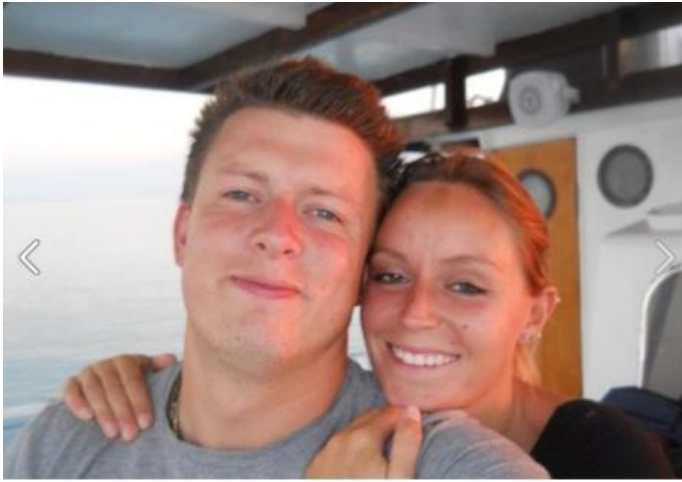
Village Hall 1.50 to 2.35pm
Bayford House 2.40 to 3.40pm

JAN	FEB	Mar
	17	10
27		31

Around The Village

Lord Lyon Latest

Introducing the new landlord & landlady, Jack & Amanda



Between us Jack and I have worked for the Arkells family for 10 years.

Jack grew up in his family home on the same street as Arkells Brewery and got his first job at the New Inn as a bar tender, four years later he was the manager at one of Arkells biggest hotels.

My family and I settled in Royal Wootton Bassett after my dad came out of the Air Force. After six months travelling Australia I started working as a part time glass collector at the Great Western Hotel Bar and Grill. Within two years I became assistant manager which is when I met Jack.

For the last two years we have been living and working in Australia. Throughout our travels we have learnt a lot about ourselves and the industry and are now ready to settle and put our knowledge to good use.

We hand over with Mark on the 16th January. We will have lots of work to do over the next few days but our doors will be open. We won't be able to serve food for the first week or two but our menu will be up and running as soon as possible.

If anyone has any questions or ideas please feel free to let us know. We would be delighted for everyone to come in and see what we are up to and we look forward to meeting you all.

Amanda

Ed note :Just in case anyone is worried, the Lord Lyon chickens have found a new home with a gentleman in Wickham

Stockfest grants made.



Not only was Stockfest13 a huge amount of fun, but we also managed to raise a good pot of money for use in local projects. All thanks to you and your support!

This month, the Stockfest Committee are very pleased to announce what this pot of funds is to be spent on. Grants will be made to local clubs and associations: £300 to Stockcross Tennis Club and £270 to the Stockcross & Speen Historical Association (SaSHA). Stockfest will also be purchasing a new permanent village noticeboard to sit proudly outside of the Village Post Office and Shop. This information will be open for anyone to use to promote local events, goings on and clubs (and in August will become the information point for our festival). Oh, and it's going to be made from a hard material that should withstand the weather for years to come!

Many thanks to Heather and Stu at the shop for allowing the noticeboard to go up.

NB Apologies to Simon Wood who was left off the list of Stockfest sponsors in the last Grapevine. Thanks for the donation Simon.

The Rising Sun Book Group

We meet every 1st Tuesday of the month 8pm at the pub. Over Christmas we read Jane Eyre by Charlotte Bronte, our first classic and all agreed well worth returning to. The book gives so many extra details that a film never can.

This month we are reading Mrs Palfrey at the Claremont by Elizabeth Taylor for discussion at our meeting on 4th February.

Future planned reads :

"Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day "by Winifred Watson

"As Time goes By " by Ted Allbeury

All our books are chosen by members, one of whom has just retired so will have more time for reading!

Congratulations Linda Mason.

All welcome please come and join us.

QUARTERLY ROUND UP

Children's Christmas Party



The Stockcross Children's Christmas party was well attended by nearly 40 children. A big thank you to AB Entertainments for a terrific hour of games and dancing, and to our fun and friendly Father Christmas for finding time in his busy pre-Christmas schedule to visit the children of Stockcross. Special thanks to all the mums and dads who helped out on the day and to the Sutton Hall for its financial support of this happy, and very noisy, Christmas event.

Rachel Thistlethwaite

Harvest Supper

Last autumn's quickly arranged Harvest Supper turned out to be one of our best for many years. The village ladies and gents provided yet another spectacular spread - from Brian's ever popular cow pie, Carolyn's sausage plait, MBE's coleslaw and Charlie's beetroot to Angela's treacle pud and lots of gooey chocolate deserts - there was more than plenty for everyone to be full to the brim but it was the entertainment that was the cream on the top.

Ron, with a lot of help from his son-in-law Jonathan and a little help from iPad technology, produced a true sing-a-long. The ladies were swinging and singing while serving the food, there was a girls versus guys singing competition and we finished the evening off with a rendition of New York, New York. Even to this day JB often bursts out 'Dayo, Dayo, daylight comes and me wan' go home'. Thank you to everyone who supplied and supported the evening, same again next year please!

Date for your diary Saturday 4th October 2014. Tickets will be on sale early September.

Angela Tyler.

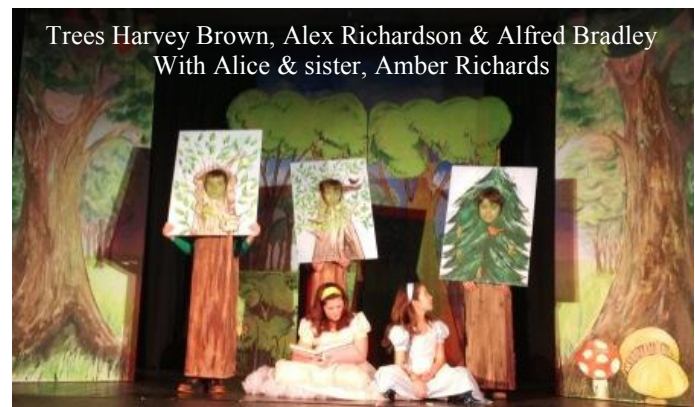
Alice? Alice ? Where on Earth is Alice?

As one of the founding members of Stockcross Panto Players it was gratifying to have so many new faces join this year. Whole families took to the stage and helped behind the scenes. There was a time when we struggled to get a full ensemble together and the future of Panto lay heavy on a few shoulders. After this year I have no doubt that the future of the annual village panto is in safe and enthusiastic hands.

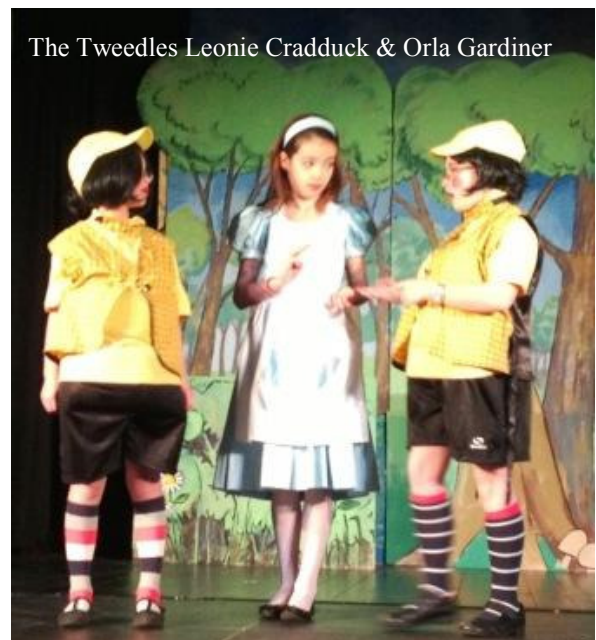
The first act showed off our young stars' talents as an array of magical creatures helped Alice on her way. The second act was the "grown ups" chance to shine with the Red Queen, Sarah Bradley dominating proceedings. Our Mad Hatter, John Mingo was a revelation and Adrian Bradley as the Duchess was in full bloom!

Georgia Brown was a perfect Alice and was in every scene holding the string of cameo performances together.

Cast and crew should be congratulated on producing a first class piece of family entertainment. Let's do it all again next Christmas! VW

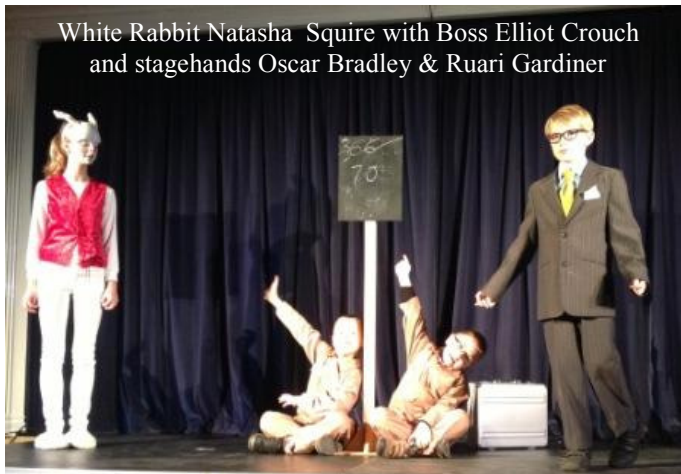


Trees Harvey Brown, Alex Richardson & Alfred Bradley
With Alice & sister, Amber Richards



The Tweedles Leonie Craddock & Orla Gardiner

QUARTERLY ROUND UP



White Rabbit Natasha Squire with Boss Elliot Crouch and stagehands Oscar Bradley & Ruari Gardiner



March Hare Claire Mingo, Dormouse, Grace Mingo, Mad Hatter John Mingo at tea with the White Rabbit



The Caterpillar Alex Richardson & Harvey Brown



Duchess Adrian Bradley and Red Queen Sarah Bradley



Memory Jogger Amelia Crouch, stagehands, Alice and Cheshire Cat Claire Ralphson Cook with 2 members of the audience



King Keith Phillips, Alice and Fairy Sarah Russell who went on despite suffering horrific hot water burns after the first night. What a trooper!



Clocks: Amelia Crouch, Phoebe Reid, Grace Mingo, Emily Bune

With a grant from Greenham Common Trust we were able to invest in a back curtain and side flats which helped the staging of this year's panto.

Jane Batt has designed and taken charge of creating the sets for the last few years and will be a hard act to follow if she ever decides not to invest her usual incredible amount of time to the project. Jane the Panto Players thank and salute you.

AROUND THE VILLAGE

Eunice Greenwood 1938 - 2013



Eunice was known as noon to her family or nanny cakes to little George. Eunice was born in Shallbourn 76 years ago. She was one of five children Les being the eldest, followed by John, herself, Charlie and 15 years later her younger sister Dora, which gave her plenty of practice for later years.

Though she grew up through the war years she had a very happy childhood, living on a small holding where they would help with the farm duties. But there was always time to enjoy the freedom of the countryside, where they would swim in rivers and play in woods.

Eunice attended Stockcross school where she was very happy and then moved to Lambourn school where she discovered her talent for sewing and baking, but never quite grasped the foreign language lesson. She left school to start a job in the Woolworth store in Newbury, where she was a sales assistance and would also help to dress the windows. Then she left to learn about the grocery trade in the world stores, but soon found she was back in Woolworth's where she had fond memories of her happy days.

She met Jim in 1956 in her Woolworth days. And would be soon seen riding on the back of his motor bike. She made her grandchildren laugh by saying she had to be in at 10 o'clock knowing these days that's what time they go out. They married in 1958 in this church, set up home at 68 Stockcross, where Tony and Robert were born. They moved to wash common for a short while but soon returned to her beloved Stockcross, where her heart belonged with her family, where she raised her boys and later cared for her grandchildren who she was very proud of Katie, Thomas, Beth, Jessica, Matthew, Joseph and George. Lucy, Katie and Ellie were also treated like her own grandchildren. Whilst raising her family, she also worked in the local village post office and pub, where she became well known to the villagers, not only for her work but also for providing friends and neighbours with her well known Christmas cakes.

Her last job before she retired, was working at Rookwood farm, where she really enjoyed her role as housekeeper and nanny to Arabella and Olivia. It was not only a job to Eunice it was like her second family. That was Eunice always thinking of others and asking for nothing in return. It was such an honour and privilege to have known such a wonderful lady.

LATE PRESS

Grapevine is sad to report the death of Mrs Millie Spence on 6th January. Condolences to her family. Funeral 21st Jan 2pm at St John's Church.

A Stockcross Wedding Sarah Ching & Gordon Pearce



November 23rd was a perfect day for a wonderful wedding and that is just what we had. The sun shone and the sky was blue. It was a little chilly but we were warmed by the generosity of every one who came.

The reception at the village hall was fantastic, we danced into the night and everyone had a wonderful time.

Thank you to everyone that made our day so special.

Sarah and Gordon x

Teddy Bears Pre-School is moving to a brand new building from Sep- tember 2014



Construction of the new building at the Boxford Recreation Ground is well under way. It will provide a new village hall for Boxford and brand new space for the pre-school. This highly regarded pre-school, which sends many children onto Stockcross and Welford and Wickham Primary Schools, will benefit from modern facilities, technology and a brand new outdoor play area - all in a beautiful rural setting with easy parking and an eco-friendly building.

Teddy Bears currently has spaces available for 2-4 year olds. For more information contact Wendy Napier on wendy@teddybearspreschool.com

AROUND THE VILLAGE

Happy 80th Birthday John Foster



John was born on the 27th December 1933 in Shalbourne, Wiltshire. He was one of George and Eunice Fosters five children- Bill, John, Eunice, Charlie and Dora. Around 1940 when he was seven, the family moved to Marsh Benham. He attended Stockcross School and later attended Lambourn School. When John left school he worked at Bradford's Farm

until 1952. After working here for 3 years he had to leave to carry out his national service. He was based in Benghazi in North Africa for nearly 21 months. In 1955 John and Daphne got engaged. John was now working for Jack Perris at Hoe Benham farm and later Rookwood farm. Childhood sweethearts were married in 1957. They lived at 140 Wickham Heath. In 1960 they celebrated the birth of Paul and in 1961 they had Carol. In 1962 they moved to Stockcross, where they have lived in the same house ever since. John started work in the 1980's at Suttons Estate. After 15 years of retirement he is still driving the beaters truck!

Sign up for Superfast Broadband

Having met two worthy gentlemen of Stockcross recently who have not yet registered their interest in superfast broadband I thought perhaps it appropriate to include a reminder in The Grapevine that the more people who do register the more likely we are to get what we want.

This is especially important for we poor souls who dangle at the end of the 01488 Kintbury line!

The place to register is www.superfastberkshire.org.uk.

Keith Phillips

Raise a Smile For the New Year

A Poem submitted by Angela Painting

Smiling is infectious; you can catch it like the flu
When someone smiled at me today, I started smiling too
I passed around the corner and someone saw me grin
When he smiled, I realised I'd passed it on to him.
I thought about that smile, and then realized its worth
A single smile just like mine could travel round the earth
So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected
Let's start an epidemic quick and get the world infected

Boden Sale

15th February at Boxford Village Hall. 10am - 2pm.
20% off all spring fashion for men, women and children.
Proceeds in aid of Teddy Bears Pre-School.

Stockcross Two O'Clock Crowd

STOCC had an excellent 2013 and it was lovely to see so many new faces join in our events. Our coach trip to Gloucester was highly enjoyable with historical interest as well as fantastic Christmas shopping to do. The Christmas lunch was in such demand that we must apologise to those who were disappointed and next year we will book a larger venue. We have arranged some splendid speakers and outings for 2014; all are welcome and no membership fee is required. We meet (usually) on the last Wednesday of each month with occasional changes so look in the Grapevine or on the Sutton Hall notice board for details.

Wednesday 29 January: 'The Kennet and Avon Canal' a talk with slides

This will be given by David Saady who has been involved with the K&A Trust since the 70s at all levels – even digging out! David and his wife are enthusiastic narrow-boat owners and this promises to be a lively talk, do come and bring your friends. 2:00pm in the large hall. Cost £4 includes refreshments

Wednesday 26 February: 'My Journey with Harps' by Felicity Merchant

A Stockcross member of Wessex Harpers, Felicity will be bringing her harps along to play and chat about her harping. Anyone who attended the wonderful concert at the church during Stockfest13 will realise what a treat is in store. 2:00pm in the large hall. Cost £4 includes refreshments

Wednesday 26 March: Pub Lunch – details will be posted later

Leaving the Village

Stockcross has recently seen two of its long term residents, Mrs Phyllis Dornan and Mrs Pearl Dromgoole move away. Our best wishes go with them

Deanwood Park Golf Club

Our new fully covered driving range is now open so people can get a golf fix even in really bad weather.



Our quiz night has been re-arranged for Friday 28th February. £10 for a team of 4. Start 7.30pm. All proceeds to Newbury & District Cancer Care Trust. Book teams on 01635 48772.

JB

Coming Events

All events at the Sutton Hall unless otherwise specified

JANUARY

- 29 STOCC 2pm**
Tea & Talk £4
"Kennet & Avon Canal"

FEBRUARY

- 7 Film Night**
- 15 Boden Sale** at Boxford VH
10am - 2pm 20% discounts
- 26 STOCC**
Tea & Talk £4
"My Journey with Harps"
- 28 Quiz** at Deanwood Golf Club
7.30pm £10 a team of 4

MARCH

- 18 Speen Parish Council Meeting** 7.30pm at
Speen Village Hall
- 27 STOCC TBA**

Regular Events

- Daily**
Weekly
Monday Yoga at village Hall 7pm
Tuesday Baby & Toddler Group village hall 9.30am
Yoga at Village Hall 6 pm
Toffs Bridge at Village Hall 1.30pm
- Wednesday** Pilates Village Hall 10.15 & 11.15
Coffee morning at Newdale Court 10.30am
- Thursday** Bridge Club at Lord Lyon from 7.30pm
- Friday** Toffs Bridge at Village Hall 1.30pm
Coffee morning at Newdale Court 10.30am
- Sunday** Tennis at Rec mornings
Folk at Rising Sun 8pm

Monthly

- 1st Weds** Quiz at Rising Sun 8pm
1st Tues Book Group at Rising Sun 8pm
2nd Weds KnitWits at Village Hall 7pm -9pm
2nd Tues Village Hall Committee Meeting at the hall

Church Services

JANUARY

- 26 CW Holy communion 11am**

FEBRUARY

- 2 Family Service 11am**
9 CW Holy communion 11am
- 23 CW Holy Communion 11am**

MARCH

- 2 Family Service 11am**
9 CW Holy Communion 11am
23 CW Holy Communion 11am
30 Mothering Sunday TBA

APRIL

- 6 Family Service 11am**
13 CW Holy Communion 11am
20 Easter Day Holy Communion 11am
27 CW Holy Communion 11am

News from Stockcross Primary School



After an exciting and busy end to the Christmas term, the children have returned to school after a restful break.

The children worked hard last term enjoying trips, sports matches and concerts as well as their classroom curriculum.

Class 2 enjoyed their visit to Ufton Court and had the chance to make a fence by wattling with willow – a very tricky skill. They enjoyed stepping back in time and ended their visit with some Tudor games on the lawn. The whole school had a wonderful day out to London spending the morning at the Science Museum exploring space and the wonders of scientific developments over the last century. We spent the afternoon at the theatre watching the amazing production of Stomp! The children were inspired and the infants gave their own percussion concert at school the following day.

Children in the infants finished term with a wonderful nativity, and our juniors enjoyed sharing Christmas Carols with the Speakability group and residents of Bayford House. We continue to support charities at school and last term raised:

Remembrance Poppies £89.12 : BBC Children in Need Appeal £144.28 : Save the Children £380.04 (St Nicolas Concert - £213 & School Nativity Collection - £167.04) : The Children's Society £160 (Christingle collection)

We are looking forward to this term with more exciting learning opportunities for our children. We are taking all the children swimming as part of their PE curriculum this term, and Class 3 are performing at The Royal Albert Hall on 11th March as part of a massed choir from schools across Berkshire.

We always welcome visitors into school and hope to see some of you at events in the coming months. The school PTFA are organising an auction/curry night on March 21st and all are welcome

Florence Rostron Headteacher

