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PARISH LINK

Serving the villages of Kenworth, Studham and Whipsnade for 35 years





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Dear friends and parishioners,

As I write this in early August, the heatwave of the summer is still going on and my evenings have had the accompaniment of the sound of tractors, harvesters and trailers rumbling by on the roads, while the hedges, verges and fields have turned from lush green to golden brown. Dealing with the extreme heat has been difficult for our farmers here in the UK this year, but every year farmers in other countries have to struggle with sometimes impossible weather conditions.

Every Harvest time we support the Harvest Appeal of the Bishop of St Albans. This year we are raising money to assist our partner, Christian Aid, with their 'pigeon pea' project in Malawi. This tiny pea has great potential – because of its deep roots it is resistant to both drought and flash-flooding, both increasingly common in Malawi. What's more, it puts nitrogen into the soil and the leaves can even be used as mulch and livestock feed. So growing this crop means that severe illness and death caused by malnutrition becomes less common, and people are given hope for the future.

At Kensworth Church on September 23rd at 10.30am we will be having a special collection for this appeal at the Harvest service. Bring along fruit, veg, homemade jams and chutneys and flowers too – as we auction these goodies for Keech Hospice. This is followed by a picnic.

At Studham Church on October 7th at 10.30am we will also have a collection during the service, followed by a bring-and-share lunch at church at which donations will also be gratefully received. Bring along your gifts to that as well – and the local Foodbank and Salvation Army will benefit.

At Whipsnade all the profits from the Village Lunch on Thursday October 11th at 12.30pm in the Village Hall will go to the Bishop's Appeal. We will also have a collection of tins and dry goods on October 7th at 9am in the Harvest service, which will be distributed to those in need in the village.

Thank you to all who gave so generously last year, whether money or food. We really appreciate it. With my prayers and every blessing for the month of September,

Nicola Lenthall

CELEBRATION OF CHURCH EXTENSION(the front cover shows The Bishop of Bedford, the Rector, Churchwardens and Architect at the celebration)

More than a hundred villagers, church members and guests enjoyed a lovely picnic and get-together in the churchyard, followed by the annual Evensong on St Mary Magdalene's day in July. Everyone admired the new extension, which was well used for the occasion. Thank you to everyone who helped to set up and provided food. Thanks also to the Bishop of Bedford, who came to the picnic and then helped to wash up the crockery before preaching the sermon during Evensong.

On the same day we celebrated the 800th anniversary of the earliest priest in the Whipsnade records. Gervase was sent to the parish by the Priory of Merton in 1218; he is especially remembered for being recalled to Merton after three months, as he wasn't able to read or write. We are much luckier in our present rector!

WHIPSDADE VILLAGE LUNCH

On Thursday 13th September at 12.30pm in the Village Hall; enjoy a two-course meal and coffee or tea, for £6. Choose this month from roast beef, shepherd's pie, chicken wrapped in bacon or fisherman's pie, with a choice of pudding to follow.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

On Friday 28th September from 10am – 12 noon. Come along to the church and bring your friends to support the vital work of Macmillan. Enjoy tea or coffee, scones, and cakes, with bring-and-buy, competitions and raffle, all for the cause. Contact Kim Brown (872015) or Isobel Randall (872552) for more details.

**HARVEST LUNCH**

The October village lunch on Thursday 11th October is our three-course Harvest Lunch, which raises funds for the Bishop's Appeal for the Harvest for the Hungry. This year it is called "Give Peas a Chance" – to provide a drought-resistant crop for farmers to grow in dry Malawi (see page 3). The lunch will cost £6 as usual, and extra donations for the appeal will be very welcome. More details next month.

The Harvest Thanksgiving Service will be on Sunday 7th October.

FRIENDS OF WHIPSDADE CHURCH

We are having a quiz on Friday 28th September in the Village Hall at 7.30pm. Teams of up to eight will compete over six rounds, with a break for a hot supper. Tickets £10 a head from Isobel Randall (872552) or Chris France (872375) for tickets.

CHURCHYARD WORK PARTY

On Saturday 22nd September from 10am – 12 noon; this will be our Autumn tidy-up. All help is welcome; more details from Charles Baker (872718).

KENSWORTH NEWSROUND

KENSWORTH CHURCH PRAYERS

In September we shall pray for the people who live in Church End, Spratts Lane and Hollicks Lane. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact Dorothy Blackburn (872670).

KENSWORTH PARISH CHURCH

For all services, see page 14. September is when we have our **Harvest Festival**, on the 23rd. There will be the usual Family Service with special activities for the children, followed by the Auction of Produce for a local charity and a Bring and Share picnic. All are very welcome – come with your picnic to share and plenty of cash! There will be a special collection in the service for the Bishop's Appeal for the Hungry, which this year is in aid of the people of Malawi (see page 3).

The church will be decorated for Harvest on the morning of Saturday 22nd, so if you wish to contribute gifts of flowers, fruit, vegetables or preserves, you can come to the church then, or just bring them to the service.

Get some great exercise and take part in the **Historic Churches Bike 'n Hike** on 8th (see page 11). Refreshments will be available at the church when you sign in.

Reminder - on Saturday 1st September there is a **Quiet Morning** for prayer and reflection at St Mary's Church, Redbourn. See page 13.

There is a short service of **Evening Prayer** using the traditional Book of Common Prayer every Tuesday in the church at 6pm. All welcome.

Choir News: we will sing at Sung Eucharist on 2nd September and at Sung Matins on the 16th. The choir practises on Fridays, 6.15pm – 7.15pm in the church. If you would like to join us, please contact Mike Palmer (524183 or medpalmer@gmail.com), or the Rector (872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com).

Sunday School: on 9th September we'll learn about how Jesus healed a deaf man. The 23rd is the Harvest Festival (see above). Come and donate your gifts to the charities and enjoy the picnic afterwards.

If you would like your child to join Sunday School, or if you want to be a helper, please contact Katherine Huggins (607841). We welcome all children from 3+.

Messy Church: this will be held at 3.30pm on Friday 14th in the Church Hall. All schoolchildren and their carers are welcome to a fun afternoon of crafts, story and song from Bible themes, followed by a hot meal for everyone. Older youngsters welcome to come along and help!

Wheelchairs are available for short-term loans from Kensworth Church Hall, for a small donation. Please contact Heather Woods (873492).

AROUND ABOUT STUDHAM

ST MARY'S CHURCH

Church prayers: in September we shall be praying for the residents of Valley Road and Valley Close. If you would like a particular prayer to be said, please contact churchwarden, Meg Bender (872967 or meg.bender4@btinternet.com).

On Saturday 8th September we shall be supporting the **Sponsored Bike 'n Hike** organised by the Beds and Herts Historic Churches Trust. (see page 11). The church will be open from 10am until 6pm. Whether you're taking part in the Bike 'n Hike or not, please drop in for refreshments.

Children's Church resumes after the summer break on 16th September at 10.30am – new children, from the age of three years, will be very welcome. Following the gospel reading from St Mark, the children and young people will be encouraged to think about how they can develop a personal relationship with Jesus. After the service there will be refreshments and a celebration of all the September birthdays.

The Harvest Festival is on Sunday 7th October at 10.30am. The church will look its very best thanks to the support from village organisations who once again have kindly agreed to decorate the windowsills. But for the first time we shall be taking the concept of Messy Church into our harvest celebrations. Following the theme of the Bishop of St Albans Harvest Appeal, *Give Peas a Chance* (see page 3), there will be activities at 10.30am followed by a service at 11.15am and then a bring and share harvest lunch in church. Contact Meg Bender for more information – see contact details above. Everyone is invited!

Annual Quiz – please note the date of Saturday 24th November – it's a week earlier this year! More details next month.

VILLAGE WAR MEMORIAL

Following on from last month's story regarding the refurbishment of the War Memorial, this is a picture of villagers gathering around the old Memorial.

Thanks to Keith Reynolds for the photo.



MORE KENSWORTH

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH: for all services, see page 13. 8th September: 10.30am – 12 noon: **Coffee Morning and Bike Ride.** Do come along for delicious cake, coffee and a chat. Everybody is very welcome.

KENSWORTH LADIES' CLUB: on Monday 3rd September we have a 'Holiday Snaps' evening. Bring your souvenirs of your most memorable holidays and share them. It is in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.

KENSWORTH DROP IN CLUB: do drop in to our friendly sessions for all ages, 9am – 11am every Thursday morning in the Village Hall for tea & coffee, biscuits, toddlers' snacks, chat and games. We also organise outings. All are welcome to come and meet other residents of the village.

FRIENDS of KENSWORTH CHURCH: Annual General Meeting: all are welcome to come to the AGM, which will be held in the church on Wednesday 26th September at 7.30pm. The business will be followed by refreshments. We need as much help as possible to keep this beautiful old building in working order. It is almost 900 years old, the oldest building in the area (the village moved up the hill; the church stayed put!). You do not have to be a church member to be a Friend, just have an interest in the preservation of ancient buildings.

KENSWORTH VILLAGE HALL: Mike Sawyer, Chairman, contacted the Wixamtree Trust for a grant to complete much-needed refurbishment costs in the hall: as a result, they have generously offered £3000 on the condition that we obtain supplementary grants to make up the remainder of the money needed for work on the hall. This offer is valid for 6 months. Mike has also applied to other organisations for grants and we await their response.

Pat Mitchell was able to find the information required for BlackRock to confirm that the Kensworth Men's Club intended their assets to be used for the Village Hall; hopefully, the dividends will all be restarted. It has taken almost 6 months to find the information that BlackRock required to prove this. These dividends amount to £560 per year with capital invested of £14,000, which would be invaluable to the Committee in refurbishing the hall.

The monthly **Village Walks** are very popular; two evening walks were also held during the summer. Please look out for notices advising the dates of those planned in the autumn. These walks normally commence and end, with coffee and a biscuit, at the Village Hall on Saturday mornings at 10am. The next walk is on Saturday 15th September.

The **next meeting** of the Village Hall Committee is on Wednesday 5th September at 7.30pm in the committee room; all are welcome to come along.



POPPY APPEAL

The Appeal this year is from 25th October to 11th November. Please support this very important charity. If you would like to help with door-to-door collections in our three villages please contact Pam Ward, Area Organiser for Kensworth, Studham and Whipsnade (872406).

BIKE ‘N HIKE

A reminder that the sponsored Bike ‘n Hike takes place on Saturday 8th September between 10am and 6pm.

For sponsor forms or if you can help man one of the Churches, contact Roger Kendrick (413564) or Pam Ward (872406), Whipsnade, Jane Bedlington (871139), or Anita Shury (872117), Kensworth, Meg Bender (872967), Studham. Last year Whipsnade received their sixth bronze certificate for raising more than £500 – a record which we hope to keep up.

NORTH CHILTERNERS GROUP NEWS

The Annual Quiet Morning: there is still time to talk to your NCG representative (Isobel Randall 872552, Derek Spriggs 873468 or Dorothy Blackburn 872670) about coming to the Quiet Morning at St Mary’s Church, Redbourn on Saturday 1st September from 9.30am – 12 noon.

DUNSTABLE & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

On Tuesday 11th September at 7.45pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Dunstable, a talk about the history of London’s Crystal Palace, “The Perfect Playground”.

THE TRADITIONS of HARVEST

Harvest is from the Old English word hærfest, meaning “autumn”. It then came to refer to the season for reaping and gathering grain and other grown products. The full moon nearest the autumnal equinox is called the Harvest Moon. Therefore, coinciding with ancient tradition, harvest festivals are traditionally held on or near the Sunday of the harvest moon.



Early English settlers took the idea of harvest thanksgiving to North America. The most famous one is the harvest Thanksgiving held by the Pilgrim Fathers in 1621, now celebrated on the fourth Thursday of every November as a national holiday, Thanksgiving Day.

Nowadays the festival is held at the end of harvest, which varies in different parts of Britain. Sometimes neighbouring churches will set the Harvest Festival on different Sundays so that people can attend each other’s thanksgivings.





LOCAL NEWS 2

HAVE YOU EVER CONSIDERED BEING A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

Studham Church of England Village School is looking for new governors. The School serves the villages of Studham and Whipsnade. We are an OFSTED 'outstanding' school, with a strong staff team, and wonderful children aged 2 to 9.

We are currently looking for new members of our School governing body. There is currently a lot happening in education which will impact on our school and our pupils. So if you are interested in ensuring that we continue to have a top quality first school for our village children, playing an important part in the life of the community, please consider applying to join us.

Governors do not need a professional background in education – the governing body benefits from a wide mix of skills and experience of business, public service and parenting. It is an immensely enjoyable and rewarding role in school leadership.

If you would like further details about the role and how to apply, contact Chair of Governors, Joan Bailey (joanmbailey@btinternet.com) or the School (872337).

HOLIDAY TO SOUTHERN IRELAND – MAY 7th - 17th 2019

A holiday to Ireland has been organised, to visit Dublin and Killarney. There will be visits to the Guinness Storehouse, Kilmainham Gaol and a panoramic guided tour whilst in Dublin. We will stay at the 3-star Wilton Hotel in Bray from which the Dublin visits will be made.



After 2 days there, we will travel to the 4-star Innisfallen Hotel for 6 nights in Killarney (left). There will be a guided walk in Killarney, a Lake Cruise and Jaunty Car Rides. There will be a day to the Ring of Kerry and a day to the Dingle Peninsular, both with courier guides. We will drive to Cobh where a visit to the Titanic Experience and Trail will be made. On the last day in Killarney, we will take a ferry to Garnish Island to see an Italian garden and to see the seals. After the ferry back to Holyhead, one night will be spent at the 4-star Tre-Ysgawen Hall Hotel near Llangefni, before the drive home.

If you are interested in this holiday, please phone Margaret Maddox (01582 873225) for more details.

SOUTH BEDS ASSOCIATION OF NATIONAL TRUST MEMBERS

On 5th September at 7.45pm, we will have a talk "An Unassuming County - Changing Bedfordshire Countryside" by Bill Kerr. This will be in the Salvation Army Centre, Bull Pond Lane in Dunstable. Guests are welcome at £3.





CHURCH NEWS

MESSY CHURCH HOLIDAY CLUB

This year's Messy Church Holiday Club in Kensworth Church Hall, masterminded as ever by the brilliant Kathy Huggins, focused on St. Paul – how he transformed his life and those of the people around him. Participants were able to think about how we can transform parts of our lives too, and how the love of God acts in even the most impossible-seeming situations. Over twenty children aged from under one (!) to fourteen joined in, created some amazing crafts to take home, from fish-shaped keyrings to junk modelling boats, worshipped together, and sang their hearts out. I would like to say a huge thank you to all those who helped – especially the mums who joined in so willingly.

If you are interested in coming along to Messy Church, the dates for the next term are: Kensworth Church Hall on 14th September and 30th November, from 3.30pm – 5pm; with a special Messy Church Holy Communion on Sunday 14th October at 10.15am at Kensworth Church. We will be meeting in Studham Methodist Church on 21st September, 19th October and 16th November from 3.30pm – 5pm. For more information, contact Revd. Nicola Lenthall (01582 872223 or revnicolalenthall@btinternet.com).

Nicola Lenthall

KENSWORTH METHODIST CHURCH

2 nd September: 9.30 am	Morning Worship	Rev. Nigel Bibbings
9 th September: 10.30 am	Morning Worship	Mr Chris Berry
16 th September: 10.30 am	Harvest Festival: United Service at Edlesborough (No service at Kensworth)	Rev. Wallace Edwards
23 rd September: 10.30 am	Holy Communion	Mr Colin Quine
30 th September: 10.30 am	Morning Worship	Mr John Enejo
Growing Together: 27 th September – 7.45 p.m.		

STUDHAM METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday 9 th September	10am	Rev. Mmasape Zihle	Holy Communion
Sunday 23 rd September	3pm	Rev. Richard Lawson	Harvest Festival (Joint Superintendent) Tea and cakes after service.

CHRISTIANS AGAINST POVERTY

Alan and Lesley Poole, trained and accredited Christians Against Poverty Money Coaches, have planned another in the series of CAP Money Management courses at Markyate Baptist Church to seek to equip people to plan their finances in a totally confidential and unthreatening way ahead of Christmas this year. It will give useful hints and tips in managing money in a more positive and helpful way. The course is scheduled to run over three consecutive Thursday evenings from 7.30pm – 9pm starting on 8th November. The course is free of charge. You need to register for the course on the website which is: www.capmoney.org and the course is listed under Markyate Baptist Church.



KENSWORTH & STUDHAM

KENSWORTH FLOWER AND VEG SHOW

The Show will take place on 8th September at the Village Hall from 2.30pm. For details, contact Sylvia Inns (07831 338682 or sylvainns@gmail.com) or Lynn Lewis (873981 or lynnlewis69@hotmail.com).



KENSWORTH CRICKET CLUB

September fixtures:

2nd September Carpenters H (Markyate) 1pm

If you are interested in joining the club, please contact Duncan Wingfield (01582 872743) or Jon Holt (01582 872896) for further details.

KENSWORTH ALLSORTS

An Entertainment on Saturday 6th October at 7pm in Kensworth Parish Church. Tickets are £5 per adult, children £2. In aid of Multiple Sclerosis Research and church funds. Refreshments and raffle at the interval. Details and tickets from Jim Putterill (872436).

STUDHAM VILLAGE HALL

At the AGM, trustees Felicity Cornelius, Andrea Maxted, Jean Pigden, Des Salmon (Chairman), Chrys Smith, and Lynne Smith were re-elected. We still have vacancies for a Secretary, currently being covered by Chrys Smith, and Treasurer, currently being shared by Des Salmon and Lynne Smith.

The financial position is sound with reserves enough to cover the loss of income when the hall will eventually be closed while the floor is being replaced.

Looking to the future, the formation of a Book Club is actively being considered. The contact is Chrys Smith (872989 or smithlaws@hotmail.co.uk) or a trustee.

On Saturday 29th September the future of the Village Hall will be a topic at the Parish Surgery in the Village Hall. The Village Hall is a community building and this will be an opportunity for all to discuss your thoughts. In the middle of a lovely summer, a diary note that Carols in the Hall will be on 25th November!

QUIZZES

Red Lion Quiz nights are back! The first Tuesday of the month (except January which will be on the 8th!) September through to May. No increase in prices: £3 a head for quiz. All proceeds will go to the Village Hall Improvement Fund. Quiz starts at 8pm, any size of team, food is available (but be warned you need to book the curry 'cos it sells out!). Call Garry Ellis (872530).

WHIPSNADE & STUDHAM

WHIPSNADE SUMMER FETE 2018

This year's Whipsnade Summer Fete took place on a hot afternoon in June. The afternoon started with a short piece from the Farley Pan Players, from Farley Junior School in Luton. This was followed by a Steel Pan workshop for those wanting to show their talent. Throughout the afternoon we were also entertained by The Parkside Singers from Ampthill, who did very well in the less than perfect windy conditions! The Song 'What Would I Do Without My Music' was quite apt for the afternoon!



The event finished with our dog show. We had a variety

of dogs of all shapes and sizes taking part in our various classes and fun was had by all (the photo shows the overall winner).

A big thank you must go to everyone who helped out with the setting up and taking down of the event. Also a big thank you to Town and Country and the National Trust at Dunstable Downs for all their help and support. Also to all our Grand Draw donors and everyone who took part in any way. Over £2000 was raised - this couldn't have been achieved without you.



STUDHAM TENNIS CLUB

We are delighted to offer free annual Junior Membership* and annual Family Membership from £75, (*with every full adult member).

Junior and adult tennis coaching takes place every Saturday morning between 9am and 11am (juniors 9am – 10am, adults 10am – 11am). All are welcome – non-members £6 per session, members £4 per session. Family social play takes place on a Saturday between 2pm and 4pm.

Our coach, Justin, is also available for private individual or group lessons. Please contact him (just.brooketennis@gmail.com or on 07807 721810).

For more information on coaching or joining the club, please contact Andrew Jones (andrew.jones@expressvending.co.uk or 07833 111682/www.studhamtennisclub.co.uk).

STUDHAM SPORTS & SOCIAL CLUB – THE RYDERLESS CUP

Why not join us for The Ryderless Cup on Saturday 15th September. The fun begins with tee-off at 12 noon at Whipsnade Golf Club and continues through the evening from 7pm at the Studham Sports & Social Club. This is golf – but not necessarily as you know it!!

PARISH LINK & PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

PETER KYTE: Peter, our Advertising Manager, has stood down after many years successfully managing our advertising. We are grateful to him for his quiet efficiency and effectiveness and we wish him well in the future. Thank you to Mike Bailey for taking over from Peter.

BRIAN FARRELLY

From the three Parish Councils

It is with great sadness that we learned of the death of our former Clerk, Brian Farrelly. Brian served as Clerk to both Whipsnade and Kensworth Parish Councils between 2004 and 2015, and for a time also as clerk to Studham Parish Council. Over this period, he gave sterling service to our communities providing the benefit of his 40 years of service in local government.

A private, family man, Brian was also active in his local community in Farley Hill, Luton where he served for many years as an officer in the Boys Brigade. He will be fondly remembered, and our thoughts are with his wife Linda and her family at this sad time. Brian's funeral took place at the Vale, Luton on Tuesday 14th August and was attended by councillors from the three parishes, past and present.

From Robin Radford

It is with much regret that I learned of the passing of a dear friend, Brian Farrelly, a true Yorkshireman, born in Bradford. Brian died whilst visiting his family in Spain on the 14th July. Brian, who reached 75, was Parish Clerk for Kensworth, Whipsnade and for some time, Studham.

A very religious person, Brian could be relied upon to try his utmost for our residents and, previously, for Bedfordshire County Council, being responsible for student grants. Brian leaves a widow, Linda, two children and three grandchildren. Our condolences to them.

Brian would have echoed the words of Laura Wilder:- "Remember me with smiles and laughter, for that is how I will remember you all".

Personally I was honoured and blessed to have known such a likeable and kind person.

WHIPNADE PARISH COUNCIL: the next meeting is on Tuesday 11th September at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

KENSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL: the next meeting will be in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Thursday 13th September.

STUDHAM PARISH COUNCIL: the next meeting is on Monday 3rd September at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Members of the public are always welcome to all these meetings.

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM CHURCH

We are a friendly group who aim to raise funds throughout the year to support the maintenance of the oldest building in the village, the Church.

Many thanks to those who organised, performed or just attended the excellent Caritas concert in June, which raised a good sum for our funds. Our next event is our annual **Call My Bluff Wine evening** on Friday 19th October. An evening of humour, deception, fine wines and fun! Tickets £17.50 from John McDougal (see below for contact details).

We also run a 100 Club which costs only £12 per year with £60 in prizes each month. John Hanna and Fiona McDougal were winners in July, whilst Leslie Martin and Eric Jacoby were successful in August. To join the 100 Club, or perhaps run it (we're looking for a volunteer), or to find out more about the Friends or reserve your Call My Bluff tickets, please e-mail john.mcdougal@btinternet.com or call 873257.

MAY FAIR

The 2019 Studham Village May Fair organised by the Friends of Studham Church will take place on Saturday 11th May. More details to follow but please put this date in your diaries! If you are interested in helping to organise the Fair, please contact John McDougal (873257) or Mike Bailey (872318).

FRIENDS OF STUDHAM COMMON

Studham Common has received the prestigious Green Flag Award for 2018–19; our eleventh consecutive award.

The Friends' overall objective is to ensure that we provide excellent habitats for all small mammals and birds and enhance the Common's visual and natural appearance. Anyone wishing to help keep the Common in this superb condition is most welcome to come and join us in the next volunteer **work party** on Saturday 15th September. We meet at the War Memorial on West Common, opposite the Red Lion at 10am. Tools and lunch will be provided.

Why not attend our **AGM** to discover much more about the Friends. This will be held in the Village Hall on Friday 21st September at 7.30pm. Light refreshments will be served and Steve Halton will give a talk on his life experiences of being a Countryside and Conservation officer for Central Bedfordshire.

For further information, contact Denis Davison (Denis@den-jen.co.uk or 872650).

CARPET BOWLS

The Club meets at 7pm on Thursdays and dates are in the diary section. We are a small friendly group and new members are most welcome or just come for a taster. Contacts are Pat Thorne (872751) or Des Salmon (872082).

VILLAGE SCHOOLS

STUDHAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

The term ended with the usual whirlwind of trips, sporting events, concerts and assemblies. Our annual school trip was to Wicksteed Park, which was hot, but a great success. We were very lucky with our sports day which was on one of the cooler mornings that July had to offer. The same could not be said for the Summer Fair which again was a great success but oh so hot! Thanks to the Sports and Social club for hosting both of those events.

In amongst the end of term activities, it was nice to reflect on our academic results, which once again were very strong, with 100% in phonics and year 4 reading and very high scores across the rest of the school. Many congratulations to the children who worked so hard.

KENSWORTH C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL & PRESCHOOL

It's hard to believe we are about to start our new school year after a well-deserved break for everyone. Firstly, a huge 'Hello and welcome' to new starters in our Preschool and for a few other new faces throughout the school, including our Head Teacher, Mrs Olivia Bates, who also currently works at Totternhoe School.

Our topics this term include 'All about me' and 'Celebrations' in Preschool and Reception, 'Polar Regions' in Cherry Class and Oak Class will be visiting 'The Wild, Wild West' (yee haw!). Year 5 and 6 (Hornbeam Class) are going to be looking at the Ancient Greeks, with some great art work to create.

Talking of art, there will be some samples of the children's wonderful work displayed at the Flower and Vegetable Show on 8th September in the Village Hall.

We will be supporting 'Jeans for Genes' Day on 21st September, where the children will be able to wear denim and be asked to donate £1 for this fantastic cause. All proceeds will go towards raising money for the quality of life of children and families affected by genetic disorders.

We are still counting the money raised for Keech Hospice with our sponsored walk in July and will let you know in the next issue.

For further information regarding the school please contact 872336.

Kensworth School Parent Teachers' Association:

Save the date for a PTA 1940s **vintage afternoon tea** to be held at Kensworth School Hall on Sunday 23rd September 1.30pm – 3.30pm. Sandwiches, cakes, tea and prosecco to be provided for a fee. More information to follow. All contributions will go to help Kensworth School.

There will be a **quiz night** on Saturday 24th November at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. Contact kspta@outlook.com or Gina Owen (07506 722 053) for details.

BINGO

On Wednesdays 12th and 26th September at 7.30pm in Studham Village Hall. Come and play bingo in friendly surroundings. £5 will pay your entrance, books and even a strip of raffle tickets! We would love to see you.

STUDHAM PLAYING FIELDS

Would all those who walk their dogs through the Playing Field, please keep them on a lead whilst in the grounds and remember to clean up after them. Dog faeces can be dangerous to the health of young children as well as being 'anti-social' to those using the sporting facilities.

SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUB

Memberships: thought about joining but never got round to it? Well, come and see what we are all about. Have a game of pool, dominoes, cribbage, darts, join one of our Sports sections: tennis, cricket, football (all of which have thriving junior sections), or just have a social drink in friendly surroundings. Families are always welcome.

Remember that as a member you are able to hire the facilities for weddings, anniversaries, baby showers, birthdays, other occasions or even just a party! Please phone the club house (872137) between 6pm and 8pm for forms and information.

Keep an eye on Facebook and the notice board for events throughout the autumn; we hope that many of you will come and join us.

SCRABBLE

Our small but enthusiastic Scrabble group meets at 2pm every Tuesday afternoon in Studham Village Hall – the weather (13) may be wet (8) and chilly (14), but we can assure (6) you of a warm welcome (14).

WI

Thursday 6th September – 7.45pm Village Hall – Moths of a Village Garden. This will be an open meeting, meaning that all are welcome to join us for this fascinating talk and slide show by Andy Harding. Entrance is just £3.50 and there will be a Bring and Buy Table with lots of things relating to the garden as well as other items and a competition of anything relating to or featuring a butterfly or moth.

Just a forward note for all your diaries: on Thursday 20th September, our MP, Andrew Selous, has agreed to tell us all about the workings and history of the Houses of Parliament. Should be a wonderful evening and all are welcome. It will take place in the Methodist Chapel at 7.30pm. Entrance £3.50.