

SCHOOL NEWS

*Remember, remember the fifth of November
Gunpowder, treason and plot*

Recently Anson Class found out why and how we remember 5th November.

Guy Fawkes was hung, drawn and quartered because he tried to kill King James by blowing up the House of Parliament with Gunpowder. *Adam S*

We remember November 5th by lighting a bonfire and watching fireworks. Sometimes we burn a Guy on top of the fire. *Cameron T and Alfie K*

On the covers is picture of the display in our classroom with the fire and Guy. We have also written some poems about fireworks.

Firework Senses *By Ashley W*

Did you hear a rocket explode?
Did you see a rocket soar in the sky?
Did you smell some yucky smoke?
Did you taste a marshmallow?
Did you touch a matchstick to light the fire?

Firework Senses *By Dexter H*

Did you hear a crackling bonfire?
Did you see a fire curling away?
Did you smell a sparkler in your nose?
Did you taste a sweet hotdog?
Did you touch a furry tree?

Firework Senses *By Tristan R*

Did you hear a cracking fire?
Did you smell a burning firework?
Did you see a pretty pattern?
Did you taste a warm hotdog?
Did you touch the bonfire? No! No!

CHILDREN IN ANSON CLASS

PRE-SCHOOL NEWS

We have all been very busy as usual, we've been talking about firemen, policemen and vets through out topic of 'jobs' and are now moving towards getting ready for Christmas! The children will be having a try at all sorts of crafty activities as well some surprises for mums and dads plus of course rehearsing for the all important Nativity. Look out for some photos in the next issue! Until then, all the Staff and Children would like to wish you a very merry Christmas.

If you would like any further information on what we do at Marcham Pre-School or would like to arrange a visit please telephone 07749 245313.



MARCHAM BROWNIES

May I take this opportunity to thank everyone involved in Brownies. As some of you are aware Brown Owl (Sue Freeman) is no longer with us as she has moved to sunny Wales – best wishes to Sue and family. I was approached by Sue back in the summer and was invited to take over. **My - what a task I had on my hands.** We have a lovely group of about 18 girls and have a waiting list for after Christmas. So we have gone from strength to strength. Some of the girls are from Marcham and the rest from Abingdon, most of whom have joined us from Rainbows.

I had the wonderful task a couple of weeks ago of enrolling 14 of the girls, that was definitely a wonderful sight to see. We now meet on Wednesday evening instead of a Monday, which is much preferred by all.

Yours in guiding **IVY**

If you run or are a member of a group, why not write a short report about it?

Brownie Friends

Brownies Brownies everywhere
We all need to wave our hands up in the air
Do our promise
And we will be Brownie friends
for ever more

So come to Brownies and play with us
And we will like you all through the night.

By RACHEL BUTT



GET GARDENING

Hopefully you have all enjoyed the rich splash of seasonal colour this autumn has given us!

The season of Autumn is a period of huge change in the horticultural world. It indicates to us that the growing season is in its final days. More importantly though, it is a reminder that the new growing season starts immediately after. Not after Christmas, as some of us more lazy gardeners fool ourselves into thinking. For it is as soon as the last leaves have fallen, that the ground is cleared and dug in readiness for next year's crops and flowers.

Plants, during Autumn, transform into a fiery spectacle as their leaves take on the rich colours of the season, prior to falling and leaving the parent plants naked. Which in itself can cause interesting effects during those winter months that seem to be endless.

Having been inspired by this Autumn colour, now is the time to choose some new plants for your garden, particularly ones with a wonderful Autumn colour display, as well as those that produce 'berried treasure'. By this I mean the range of trees and shrubs with attractive berries. These are not only attractive to gardeners but also to wildlife. Holly, Crab Apple, Cotoneaster and Mountain Ash varieties usually are laden with heavy crops of berries and fruit each Autumn. These will often hang on long after leaf fall, extending the season of their enjoyment. Berries are a rich source of food for wild birds such as Blackbirds and Thrushes and their visiting cousins from the north, Fieldfares and Redwings. Or maybe even the rarer Waxwings! Your garden could make the difference between a bird surviving or perishing in the winter cold.

If the ground is wet and cold once Autumn has finished, and you have been inspired enough to choose your own plants to expand your Autumn display. Whatever you do, don't rush out there and immediately by your plants from the garden centre. You may well have to delay the planting process until things warm up again in Spring.

Although Autumn is the best period for planting, if it is left to late, you will merely lose your new plants to wind, rain or cold if they don't have time to establish before the bad weather sets in.

If planting isn't suitable, keep a note of all the plants you have seen that you may like to add to your own collection. Perhaps then spend those cold winter months looking through your gardening books and visiting some garden centres for ideas of other additions you could make to your garden. Making it inviting and enjoyable for longer in future years.

That is, once you have dug, composted and prepared your ground so you are ready for the new burst of activity that comes with every spring. Get the hard work done now, and see the benefits next spring when the soil is perfect for planting into.

Happy gardening.

STUART MABBUTT

