

SCHOOL NEWS

Maths Trip

On the 27th January 2011, Robyn Swain, Lucy Sharrock, Joseph Mutch, Amber Chisholm and Avalon Halgreen went to Sunningwell School for a maths afternoon.

First we played some games while we were waiting. Next we got into groups with other schools and we had to think of things we had in common. Our activity was to make a lunchbox and fit a bottle of water, an apple, a sandwich and a packet of crisps into it. We had to make the lunchbox out of a net and we had to work out how much everything was going to be. Next we needed to decide how much we would sell the lunchbox for. Then we made a logo for the lunchbox. While we were making the lunchbox, we got called over to make a sandwich and collect the food to put in our lunchbox. Then we were finished and we went back to school. **WE HAD A VERY GOOD DAY!** See cover for photo)

Anson Class

This term in Anson Class we have been learning lots of things about France. We have looked at all the different ways of crossing the English Channel and we have made posters on Lyon, Paris, Colmar (twinned with Abingdon), Nice and Calais. We have been reading the Babar the Elephant stories, as these were written by a French author.

We also looked at French recipes, like Ratatouille, and Mr Pullen (Mai's dad who used to be a chef in France) came in and showed us how to cook some French biscuits (called Longues des Chats - Cats' Tongues!) which were delicious.

Freya and Hannah

Marcham School PTA

Marcham School PTA is holding a **TABLETOP SALE on Saturday 19th March 2011**, time 10:30-12:30 in Marcham School Hall, Morland Road. Bring your good quality clothes, toys, household items, DVDs, CDs etc and sell them! Only £5 per table*! To book your table, email: marchamschoolpta@monkeynose.com. Buyer entry free!

**Tables must be booked and paid for in advance. Sellers must take away unsold items at the end of the table top sale. No furniture.*

SARAH MUTCH, Marcham School PTA

Marcham Mothers Toddlers and Babies

We meet every Tuesday from 10:00 am to 11:30am at the back of All Saints Church, Marcham.

For mums, dads, and grandparents, there is always a hot drink and a chance to chat to other grown-ups.

For toddlers, there are lots of fun toys, new friends to meet and play with, story time with drinks and biscuits, followed by a lovely singalong.

THEN there is activity time - don't worry, we provide aprons for the children if it's a messy activity. Just think of all the artwork you could have to display on your fridge OR give to adoring grandparents!

For babies, there are lovely, soft cushions to lie on and watch others or have a sleep, lots of soft toys, and stimulating, colourful toys too. There are even two "granny types" willing to entertain any child there, even crying babes. They are both experts in cuddling!

Please come and join us any time you can. On your first visit you don't pay anything and after then it is £2 per family per week.

We won't be in church on Tuesday 15th March because we will be in the SSSC Club (see below) - please come and join us: we need your support!

**Marcham Mothers and Toddlers
COFFEE and CAKE MORNING**

on Tuesday 15 March, 10:00 - 11:30 am

at Marcham Scouts, Sports and Social Club (Cricket Field)

Everyone - all ages - are welcome. Please come for a chat.

All money raised will go to support Marcham Community Group

MSSSC: Marcham Sports, Scouts & Social Club

20.30 Friday 18 March, Quiz night

We look forward to seeing you at the club

For more info contact Geoff Dix, secretary on 391577 or geoff.dix@hotmail.com

March 2011

INDOOR SEED SOWING

At this time of year, as the buds on the trees and bushes are about to burst our minds turn to seed sowing for the coming season. In many places it's still too cold for direct sowing into the open ground, so why not try sowing seeds indoors,



for planting out when things warm up a bit more. As long as the container you will be using has drainage channels or holes, it is usable, but do try not to use wooden containers as it is hard to clean off pests that may be lingering from the previous seasons. Plastic containers work the best in my opinion.

The planting medium to fill your chosen containers should either be a seed compost or a multi-purpose kind. Fill the container to a maximum of 2cm below the top of the container, and it is always best to water the compost thoroughly about 12 hrs prior to indoor seed sowing.

Fine seeds are not covered by compost when sown as they will root on the surface of moist compost. Larger seeds need covering with a layer of compost though. The rule of thumb is cover large seeds so they are twice their diameter below the soil surface. The same rule can be used for many spring bulbs too, but by no means all.

Most seeds will need, for germination purposes, to be kept in warm conditions, so a window sill that can be kept at a regular room temperature is adequate. But don't let them scorch or dry out in the direct sunlight. Never let the compost fluctuate between wet and dry, keep them evenly watered with a fine hand sprayer.

When the seeds are large enough, prick them out into trays with individual cells and put 1 seedling in each cell. Again use multi-purpose compost for this stage. After pricking out the seedling should be kept out of direct sunlight and only water if needed.

When the transplanted seedlings are growing after they have recovered from the trauma are being pricked out, they will need to be hardened off before you can move them to the outside. To achieve this successfully, give them some ventilation now and then in an unheated room, before placing the trays outside against a sheltered wall on warmer days and brought in if the nights are cold. After about 16 days of being introduced to this new climate, the seedlings should be ready for planting out in the garden. But take care and keep an eye on the weather forecast for late frosts.

Spring has sprung, so get opening those seed packets and get gardening again.

Happy Gardening, STUART MABBUTT

ABINGDON LITTLE ANGELS

February has been another busy and productive month here at Little Angels. We have been busy buying new equipment and creating a new layout for our baby room, with a new physical area along with a cosy corner for the babies to sit in and read books, take time out and relax. The ceiling has been given a lift with new mobiles for the babies to look at when they are lying down and playing, we are very pleased with the finished room and the babies seem to enjoy being there.



The topic for February has been cooking and our Little Angels have been busy cooking a variety of food every day, they had fun making bread and kneading the dough, cheese straws, bread sticks, jam tarts etc. The sausage rolls were also a success although they were in a variety of shapes and sizes after the children had finished making them but the Little angels size and style sausage rolls still tasted great. A fun month for all.

We have also been purchasing toys and equipment for the older children, they have had great fun with a new bike and trailer riding it round and round the garden and in March we are looking forward to looking at Animals of the world.

For more information about the Angels Out of School Club please contact Helen or Kaye on 07516 474287 or at info@abingdonlittleangels.co.uk.