



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2021-22/25

25th March 2022

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week the warm Spring weather has given us all a spring in our step! This is a lovely time of year, when the days and nights are of equal length, when the sun shines at 7am and when we get home after work and it is still daylight!



We are all working with change most of the time. It is a feature of our lives 'post pandemic' as everything opens up again and we create the 'new normal'. There are some big changes happening in the way we administer certain things at school - ParentPay and online Parent Consultations being just two of them. We are all learning fast how to work with new technologies. We realise that sometimes things do not always run smoothly first time round but we are always here to help you with any queries. In return we ask for your patience and understanding while we get to grips with the changes we will have to make. Together we can move with the times and make it work!

PTFA Film Night

Film night was a roaring success! Although I did hear there were technical issues with the DVD! Always popular, the hall was full of happy children watching Shrek. Thank you, as ever, to the PTFA for organising it all. Thank you to parents and carers for acting as taxi so that your child/children could enjoy the evening. Well done Everyone!



Year 6 Exeter Cathedral Trip - Thursday 31st March

We are looking forward to our trip to Exeter cathedral next week. Please, if you haven't handed in your consent slip and payment do so on Monday. Tally Ho! Coaches will be leaving school **promptly at 9.15 am** and in order for us to have a worthwhile and slightly longer day at the cathedral, we will be **returning to school at 4.00pm**. Don't forget to bring a packed lunch and plenty to drink. The children all need to wear school uniform with proper footwear and bring a coat.

Parent Consultations week commencing Monday 4th March

Parent Consultations will take place during the week starting Monday 4th April. A letter has been sent out by email today regarding the rationale and it explains how to book your appointment via Google calendar with your child's class teacher. You will need to ensure that you have your child's Google Classroom login details. If you are unsure of them, please ask your teacher and child to put the details in their reading records.



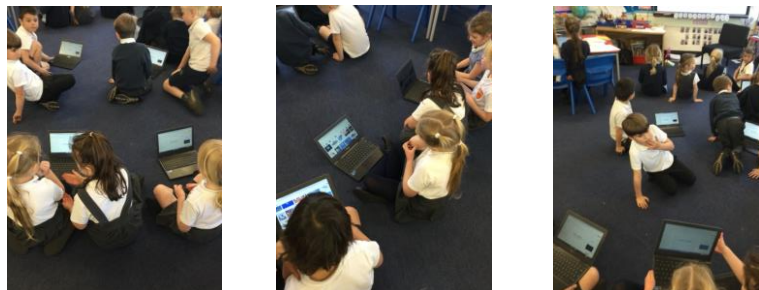
We are also planning a series of Open School Class dates and the first on these will be with Reception class next Friday 1st April. Parents of Reception children are welcome to come into school from 3pm and meet under the canopy. This will give the children the opportunity to sit with their parents and carers to share their learning and books. After the Easter break we will announce further dates for our other classes.

Around the school this week...

The Reception children have had a super week in the spring sunshine learning about, planting and watering wildflower seeds in their kindly donated tractor tyre and compost. They also enjoyed singing a range of songs linked to their topic on growing and *Jack and the Beanstalk* with fabulous accompanying actions. They are looking forward to further developing the extended nature area by planting a range of flowers, plants and vegetables over the coming weeks and enhancing the outdoor learning environment.



In year 1 this week, we have been practicing using Powerpoint on the computers. We took images from the internet and practiced pasting them onto google slides. The children were able to open google themselves and choose their favourite fish photo to copy.



Year 2 are enjoying their gymnastics sessions in PE this term. We have been finding different ways to roll, jump and balance using the floor and small apparatus. The children have been putting together short sequences to link their movements together, understanding the importance of warming up their bodies before exercising and practising being like a 'Championship gymnast!'



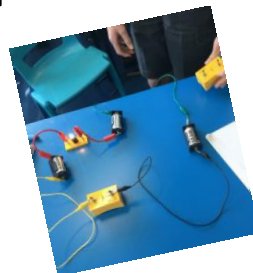
In science this week, Year 3 have been combining their science learning on light and their geography knowledge on lines of latitude/longitude to create a working sundial. We found the degrees our gnomon needed to be from our line of latitude using a protractor, we used a compass to point it north and then observed the shadow as it moved between hours.



Year 4 enjoyed forest schools this week making wrap pizzas on the fire, den building, fire lighting, playing in the mud kitchen and making charcoal pencils. In science we have been creating our own branch databases classifying sweets and in music we are now on our fourth song on the ukuleles!

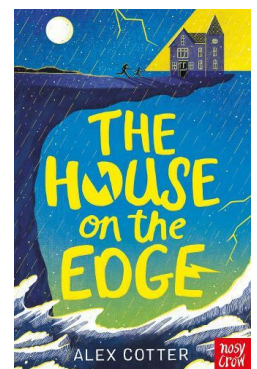


This week Year 6 have been investigating what factors affect the brightness of a bulb. Some children decided to vary their power source whilst other children added more components to the circuit to see if this changed the brightness in anyway. They enjoyed discussing their results and thinking of ways to further explore this.



Our Patron of Reading!

We are very excited to announce that author Alex Cotter has agreed to become our Patron of Reading. Alex wrote "The House on the Edge" which was inspired by a holiday in Hallsands. We were also very lucky as a school as she visited our year 6 class last year to launch her book. Now we have officially "adopted" her we will be reading pen-pals, informing her about our reading adventures and asking questions we might have about reading or being an author. We are really looking forward to working with her and finding out all about her work in progress, her reading recommendations and encouraging reading for pleasure in our school!



Statutory Multiplications Table Check

In June this year, all children in Year 4 will be participating in the statutory multiplications table check (MTC). It is an on-screen check consisting of 25 times table questions. On average, the check should take no longer than 5 minutes to complete. The purpose of the MTC is determine whether children can fluently recall their times tables up to 12, which is essential for future success in mathematics. It will also help schools to identify pupils who have not yet mastered their times tables, so that additional support can be provided. Schools will have a 3-week check window starting on June 6th 2022 to administer the MTC. Teachers will have the flexibility to administer the check to individual pupils, small groups or a whole class at the same time.

Residentials 2022

Key Residential Dates

Year Group	Consent Slips & Deposit Deadline	Date of Residential	Full Payment Deadlines
Year 3	Friday 25 th March TODAY	Thursday 30 th June to Friday 1 st July	Friday 13 th May 2022
Year 4	Friday 25 th March TODAY	Thursday 12 th to Friday 13 th May	Friday 13 th May 2022
Year 5	Already in	Tuesday 19 th to Wednesday 20 th July	Friday 24 th June 2022
Year 6	Already in	Wednesday 22 nd to Friday 24 th June	Friday 29 th April 2022

A letter has come home today to our Year 4 class regarding their residential. Please can we ask that all the completed forms and replies are handed in to the office by **Thursday 7th April at the latest**. As always, any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak with Mrs Taylor, Miss Carter, myself or Mrs Lewis in the office.

Please Pay Before the end of Term - REMINDER

All outstanding payments for your child's school lunches need to be paid to Charlotte in the office by **Monday 28th March**, in order to clear all accounts outstanding by the end of term. Payments can easily be made online using Tucasi. If you are unsure about how to do this please do not hesitate to contact us. We can also accept cash or a cheque but we are trying to minimise the use of this form of payment.

ParentPay - New Online Payment Service.....Coming next Term!

We are pleased to announce that we will shortly be moving from Tucasi/SCO to ParentPay as our new online payment system. With this system you will be able to make secure payments online for items such as dinner money, school trips and uniform. You will be able pay online using your credit/debit card or continue to make cash payments at PayPoint stores. More information will be sent out over the next few weeks but in the meantime please see below the benefits of this exciting new system!



What are the benefits to parents & pupils?	What are the benefits to our school?
ParentPay is easy-to-use and will offer you the freedom to make online payments whenever and wherever you like, 24/7	You can help us reduce workloads for all staff as no more counting cash, chasing debt and stop cash collection services
The technology used is of the highest internet security available ensuring that your money will reach school safely - offering you peace of mind	Creates more time to lend to educational support and the smooth running of the school
Payments can be made by credit/debit card or also through PayPoint	Improves school security
Full payment histories, balance alerts and statements are available to you securely online at anytime	Using ParentPay also ensures that all financial transactions are safe and secure - helping us to remove costs associated with us having to manage cash securely on the school premises
	The more parents that use ParentPay, the greater the benefit is to our school.

Remember that the clocks change this weekend and that it is Mothering Sunday as well. I hope you all enjoy a weekend of fresh air, sunshine and 'Mum-spoiling'.

With best Wishes

T. Coulthard

Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher



Congratulations

Every Friday we hold a special assembly when we celebrate the children's achievements in school and share successes in their interests and activities outside school.

Awards this week go to:

Jenson
Marley
Sam
Amelie
Hailey-Rose
Lydia
Felicity

Mealtime Award
Chloe - Y5

The Week Ahead - Menu Week 2

LAST WEEK FOR ALL AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Monday 28 th March	Deadline for any outstanding school dinner money payments Forest School Reception and Year 4 John Sipple Drum Lessons Holly Molyneux Music Lessons After School Year 1 & 2 Mindfulness Colouring Club - last session After School Tag Rugby Club - last session After School Year 5 & 6 Arts & Crafts Club - last session
Tuesday 29 th March	Girls Self-defence with Caroline
Wednesday 30 th March	Whole School RNLi Afternoon Abi Tucker Singing Lessons Year 1 & 2 Lunchtime Recorder Club - last session After School Year 1 & 2 Story Club - last session After School KS2 Music and Choir Club - last session After School Year 4, 5 & 6 Netball Club - last session
Thursday 31 st March	Year 6 Visit to Exeter Cathedral - See above Karate with Caroline - last session
Friday 1 st April	3pm - Open After Noon Reception Class - see above

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Monday 4 April	PM	ALL	Parent Online Consultations - letter sent out today
Tuesday 5 April	All Day PM	ALL ALL	Explorer Dome Science Day Parent Online Consultations - letter sent out
Wednesday 6 April	PM	ALL	Parent Online Consultations - letter sent out
Thursday 7 April	PM	ALL	Last Day of Term
Friday 8 April			Non-Pupil Day

Easter Holidays

Monday 25 April	AM	ALL	First Day of Summer Term
Wednesday 27 April	AM	Recp & 6	Tempest Photography - Group Photographs
Monday 2 May	All Day	ALL	Bank Holiday - No School
Thursday 12 to Friday 13 May	All Day	4	Residential Trip
Monday 16 to Friday 20 May	All Day	5	Bikeability Course - details to follow
Monday 30 to Friday 3 May	All day	All	HALF TERM
Monday 6 June	AM	All	Back to School
Wednesday 22 to Friday 24 June	All Day	6	Residential
Thursday 30 June to Friday 1 July	All day	3	Residential
Tuesday 19 to Wednesday 20 July	All Day	5	Residential
Friday 20 July	PM	All	Last Day of Term

PE Time Table

Monday	Year 2
Tuesday	Year 5
Wednesday	Reception and Year 1
Thursday	Years 1 through to 6
Friday	Year 3 and 4

Clerk to Governors' Vacancy

Organisation	South Hams Federation
Occupational group	Admin, Secretarial & Office Support
Salary details	NJC Grade D - £10.60 - £11.70 per hour
Job term	Permanent
Appointment type	Term Time Only
Hours	9 hours per week, 38 weeks per annum
Closing Date	Noon, Friday, 1 st April 2022
Interview date	To be Confirmed.

An exciting opportunity has arisen to join the team of the South Hams Federation as the Clerk to Governors. We are seeking to appoint a dynamic and flexible clerk with excellent organisation skills and with proven administrative experience to support our governing body. As Clerk, you will oversee the organisation of governor meetings and record accurate minutes and advise on changes in legislation, policy and governance issues. You must be able to work under your own initiative, manage deadlines and keep accurate records. The ability to remain impartial, comply with data protection legislation and maintain confidentiality is essential.

The main purpose of the job is:

- To provide advice to the Board of Governors and its individual members on governance, constitutional and procedural matters, ensuring the board meets its statutory requirements.
- To provide administrative support to the Board of Governors to facilitate effective and efficient meetings and strategic governance.
- To make a key contribution to ensuring a strong evidence base is provided for Ofsted/Audit by an accurate record of governing board challenge, actions and decisions via concise and accurate minutes.
- To manage information effectively and in accordance with legal requirements, observing confidentiality.
- To facilitate and co-ordinate the induction process for new governors and promote governor training, succession planning and recruitment based on the skills required to fulfil the governing boards' key roles.

The successful applicant should:

- Have a high standard of grammar.
- Be able to record and transcribe minutes.
- Have excellent ICT skills.
- Have good communication and organisational skills and a confident telephone manner.
- Be willing to work as part of the federation team to provide efficient administration support.
- Be adaptable and able to work under pressure.

The South Hams Federation is a successful forward-thinking dynamic Federation based in the South Hams region of Devon comprising Kingsbridge, Loddiswell, Malborough with South Huish C of E, Modbury and Stokenham Area Primary Schools; all of which are Devon Council maintained primary schools.

Closing date is noon on Friday, 1st April 2022. Interview date to be arranged.

An application form and job description are available on request from

hleather@southhamsfederation.org.uk

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults, and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This role requires an enhanced DBS disclosure and the ability to fulfil all spoken aspects of the role with confidence and fluency in English.