

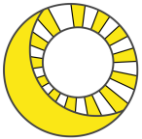


Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2021-22/24
18th March 2022

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

'Your mind is a garden. Your thoughts are the seeds. You can grow flowers or you can grow weeds.' Anonymous

Dear Parents and Carers,



This weekend we will enjoy a full moon and a vernal equinox! The March 'Worm Moon' is so called because it heralds the beginning of Spring. As the ground warms up the worms begin to surface for the birds to eat - which is why they are singing all day!

Here at school it makes us think about activities and learning that we can do by connecting with the outdoors - forest school, gardening club, the swimming pool, sports day and lots more! Let's hope the weather is with us, and the current wave of illness eases off over the next few weeks - it is such a fantastic time of year and we are keen to get the children and our staff teams outside into the fresh air.

It has been quite a week at Stokenham Primary and around our federation - in addition to poorly children we also have poorly staff and poorly parents. It has meant that we have all had to be super-flexible and super-helpful. The teamwork required to keep everything running to schedule under these circumstances is considerable and I would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding. All hands to the pump. Let us see what next week brings!

Red Nose Day - Friday 18th March

After what has felt like a very long and unpredictable week it was fabulous to be able to enjoy Red Nose Day! It was an explosion of 'Redness' in school today. Thank you to all for your generous donations. We have raised **£102** for the Red Nose Day Charities.



Elsewhere in School this week.....

Year 2 still enjoyed World Science Day last Friday despite the fact that the Explorer Dome had to be postponed. To link with our topic 'Animals including humans' the children had to find a way to make a human graph to show who was the tallest in their group. They had great fun organising themselves into height order to make their human graph then drew themselves to create a pictogram showing the same results. Later in the week the children enjoyed another science lesson outside on their 'Desert Island' deciding what animals need for basic essential survival and what non-essential items they would like to have as well.



In Year 3 during our PE session, we have been exploring a world of witches and wizards in our dance module. In the last two weeks pupils have been building their character as they go to wizarding school, creating motifs and a short choreography about turning themselves into a raging monster! This week they turned their magic on each other and turned their partners into feathers, using three movements over different levels.



Year 5 have been looking at the effects of natural disasters and in particular, flooding! In groups, we made some spectacular homes using a range of materials and then tested them by making it rain (quite a bit!)



Sports Fixtures and After School Sports Club cancelled this term Boo-Hoo!!

It has been such a hectic week due to pupil and staff illnesses across the federation, and we needed to cancel various clubs and events. We know that this was disappointing for you all but keeping our children and staff safe is always our top priority. Just a reminder:

- Thursday 24th March - after school Karate with Caroline is cancelled.
- Thursday's after school Sports Club is cancelled for the remainder of this term.
- All planned sports fixtures have been cancelled for this term. This includes the Swimathon, Rugby Tournaments, Throlf at Modbury and Rock Up & Run.

REMEMBER - Bags 2 School day - Monday 21st March 9am



Our Bag 2 School pick up will be at 9am on Monday 21st March. Please leave your bagged donations outside the school gates near the grit box. Everything **MUST** be bagged up securely please, and it must be here by 9am. Thank you.

PTFA Film Night - Thursday 24th March

The PTFA are delighted to announce that they will be running Film Night after school on Thursday of next week. A letter was sent out yesterday containing all the details and consent forms for each age group. It will cost £3 per child which includes snacks (Haribo & popcorn). Please bring your own water bottle. All monies and permission slips must be handed in at school as soon as possible. Schedule is as follows:

KS2 Children - Abominable
3.30pm until 5.10pm



KS2 Children - Shrek
5.20pm until 6.50pm



The PTFA thank everyone for their continuing support of the PTFA events. It was wonderful to see the children enjoying the disco recently and we are thoroughly looking forward to the movie night. Although fundraising is an important element of our work as a PTFA, creating memorable and fun experiences inclusive to all is also at the forefront of our ethos. Please note therefore that whilst the PTFA ask for certain monetary amounts to help raise money at PTFA events, it is a 'donation' and if you are struggling to afford these costs your child is still very welcome to attend.

Reception Vision Screening - Friday 25th March

Just a quick reminder that The Royal Eye Infirmary will be visiting Stokenham next Friday, 25th March to see our Reception children and conduct the annual Vision screening. Parents should have received an information letter regarding the vision screening programme direct from the Royal Eye Infirmary.

Year 6 Exeter Cathedral Trip - Thursday 31st March

We are delighted to be organising this trip to Exeter Cathedral for our Year 6 pupils. Letters were sent out recently with the details and timings. Please can we have all permission slips and monetary contributions in ASAP and by Friday 25th March at the latest. Thank you.

Parent Consultations Monday 4th and Tuesday 5th April

We plan to undertake parent consultations via Google Classrooms this term. In view of the number of Covid infections it seems the most pragmatic way forward for the moment. You will receive details next week on the process to book an appointment. Keep an eye out for updates by email and in this newsletter.

Residentials 2022

Please note below the various dates and deadlines for our residentials this year. If you haven't already done so, it's not too late to book for Years 3, 4 and 5. For those in Year 6, deposits and forms should have been handed in last November. If you have any concerns regarding our residentials, please do not hesitate to speak with either your class teacher, Mrs Lewis or myself. We would very much like all our pupils to attend their class residential, if at all possible; it is truly a memorable occasion.



Key Residential Dates

Year Group	Consent Slips & Deposit Deadline	Date of Residential	Full Payment Deadlines
Year 3	Friday 25 th March	Thursday 30 th June to Friday 1 st July	Friday 13 th May 2022
Year 4	Friday 25 th March	Thursday 12 th to Friday 13 th May	Friday 13 th May 2022
Year 5	Friday 18th March TODAY	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

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

Should you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Have a restful weekend. The weather looks amazing!

With best Wishes



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:

Bodhi
Harry
Ben
Dexter
Freddie
Alfie
Martha

Writer of the Week KS1 - Eric	Mealtime Award Delyth
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The Week Ahead - Menu Week 1

Monday 21 st March	Bags 2 School - See above Forest School Reception and Year 4 John Sipple Drum Lessons Holly Molyneux Music Lessons - cancelled this week After School Year 1 & 2 Mindfulness Colouring Club After School Tag Rugby Club After School Year 5 & 6 Arts & Crafts Club
Tuesday 22 nd March	Girls Self-defence with Caroline
Wednesday 23 rd March	Abi Tucker Singing Lessons Year 1 & 2 Lunchtime Recorder Club After School Year 1 & 2 Story Club After School KS2 Music and Choir Club After School Year 4, 5 & 6 Netball Club
Thursday 24 th March	PTFA Film Night -See above After School Year 5 & 6 Sports Club - Cancelled Karate with Caroline - Cancelled
Friday 25 th March	Royal Eye Infirmary Visit - see above

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Thursday 31 March	All Day	6	Visit to Exeter Cathedral - letters sent out
Monday 4 April	PM	ALL	Parent Online Consultations - details to follow
Tuesday 5 April	All Day PM PM	ALL KS2 ALL	Explorer Dome Science Day -TBC Rock Up & Run at Kingsbridge - cancelled Parent Online Consultations - details to follow
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