



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2023-24/01

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

[www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk)

**WELCOME BACK  
TO SCHOOL**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school Everyone! I hope you have all had a super summer and feel rested and ready for a new school year. It has been a wonderful start to the new school year and the weather has been fantastic!

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new Reception class and to say a big 'Hello' to new parents and carers joining our Stokenham School family. We would also like to welcome Honor, Fraser, Nelly, Marlowe and Juniper and their families who join us in Year 3, Isadora and Gil and their families who join us in Year 4 and Emilia and her family who join us in Year 6. We also welcome a new TA to our team. Miss Vicci Camp will be working alongside Mrs Searle, Miss Ryder and Mrs Jeffery in Year 1. Welcome one and all to our school family!

Curriculum letters have been sent home today detailing what each year group will be learning throughout the Autumn term, to let you know which subjects and topics the class teachers will be covering. Please take a little time to read them so that you can understand what your child/children will be learning about at school. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or bring any questions with you to the 'Meet the Teacher' events next week.

### **"Meet the Teacher"**

We will be holding informal 'Meet the Teacher' meetings next week. These meetings will take place on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September from 3.45pm for Reception, Years 2, 5 and 6 and on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September for Years 1, 3 and 4. Please come into school after pick up. Class teachers will be outlining the daily structure in your child's class, key themes for each year group and the things you can do as parents to support your child's learning. This will be an opportunity to ask questions. We look forward to seeing you.

### **Around the School this Week**

The new Reception children have had a super first week at school and Mrs Cowling and Mrs Newman are delighted at how quickly and happily they have settled. They have enjoyed making new friends, getting to know their teachers and playing and learning together indoors and outdoors in the different



areas of the continuous provision. They also enjoyed their tour around the school grounds and classrooms, meeting lots of cheerful staff and happy children who welcomed them into our school family. What a super start to school Reception!

A great start in Year 1! We have been extremely impressed with how the children have quickly settled into the Year 1 class routines. This week in PE we have been moving our bodies in different ways and playing different games that involve jumping, hopping and running.



Year 2 have started their new school year really well and we have all settled nicely into our new school routines again. This week in Geography they have started their new Geography topic 'Weather and Seasons' by thinking about the different types of weather we experience and looking at some weather symbols to show the different types of weather. In our lesson this week the children enjoyed going outside to draw images of the weather.



We have had a lovely first week in Year 3. In PE, the children are learning to play tag rugby. The first lesson was spent learning to pass correctly and score a try. We had a lot of fun!





Year 5 have settled in so well to our Upper KS2 unit. They have already completed some brilliant Maths work, had two great P.E sessions in the sunshine and been role models to our younger children. Well done Year 5!



### Morning and Afternoon Routines

The gates will open at 8.50am for the children to come into school. Bus children are met by a member of staff when the bus arrives and taken into school. In the afternoon the gates will be opened at 3.20pm for pick-up. The school day ends at 3.30pm.

Please collect your child at the end of the school day from:

- Reception class - the lower pathway outside their classroom
- Year 1 and 2 - lined up near the parked staff cars in front of the reception classroom/main entrance to school
- Year 3 and 4 - down, along the pathway near the infant playground
- Year 5 and 6 - lined up on the pathway near the school gates

Our **Bus Children** will be put on their respective buses by a staff member at the end of every school day. If they are NOT to get the bus home **please inform us by writing a note in the reading record** for the teacher's attention, **or emailing/contacting the school office**. Ideally this will be done the night before and we will follow any instructions. We cannot take instructions or changes to plans from the children themselves. In an emergency you can ring the school on the day and we can amend any arrangements given sufficient notice.



**In the event that you do not inform us of any changed arrangements, bus children will be put on the bus as normal. If a parent or carer is not at the bus stop to collect them, they will be brought back to the school by the Tally-Ho driver.**

For all our pupils, please let us know about any special collection arrangements in advance e.g. if someone other than a parent or carer is picking up on a particular day. The reading record is the best place to send messages to and from school as it is checked daily by the teaching staff. You can ring Mrs Lewis in the office or email if necessary.

### Traffic and Parking



We recognise that the beginning and the end of the school day can be busy and rushed. We ask everyone to be aware that Kiln Lane is being used as a crossing to and from school, and the pre-schools, by a lot of people, among them small children. Please be courteous, patient and understanding when parking your vehicle - not just to other school site users but also to our neighbours around the school. Please do not park on the zig-zag yellow lines, verges, pavements or across driveways. If you park in nearby streets please be aware you allow access for emergency vehicles, so do not park on both sides of the road or on pavements. Pavement users may require space for wheelchairs or buggies.

If we all work together with kindness and tolerance then it will make our experience of coming to school and going home all the more pleasant. Thank you.

### An important message from the School Kitchen

For this half term we will continue with our Summer Menu. The menu operates on a two-week cycle. We attach a copy for your information. Next week will be Week 2. A copy of the menu can be found on the noticeboard at the school gate and on the school website.

Please ensure you have activated your Parent Pay account even if you do not usually pay for school dinners. We use Parent Pay for trips, visits, lunch/after school run clubs and other things besides, so you will need to ensure you have set up your child's account to have access to all of these features. **Please pre-order your child's meal the night before** to help with the kitchen routines and ordering of food. By doing this we ensure that ordering is accurate and waste is limited. Please remember that the system cannot operate if your child's account is in debt and you will need to provide a packed lunch instead. You can pre-order your child's food for the whole week as this will save you time.

### School Meals and Universal Infant Free School Meals



School meals **MUST** be ordered and paid for in advance via Parent Pay. Everyone has been sent their login details. Prices are as follows:

- £2.40 per day
- £12.00 per week
- £81.60 for this half term

If you experience any difficulties ordering or booking meals please speak to Mrs Lewis in the office. If you feel that your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, due to your financial circumstances, please contact Devon County Council either by phone on 0345 155 1019 or by visiting their website portal at: [https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal\\_LIVE](https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE)

### Our Weekly Newsletter

Each week you will receive a newsletter by email on Friday afternoon. The newsletter has a wealth of information in it. It tells you what the children have been doing in school for the week, what is happening next week in school, details about after-school clubs, peripatetic lessons, visits and trips, and lots more besides. It is important to read it to keep yourselves up to date with what is going on, so please check your inbox!

A copy of the newsletter will also be posted on the noticeboard at the school gate and attached to the website, where you will also find copies of letters sent out to parents and carers each week.

The school website can be accessed at [www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk). It contains a treasure trove of useful and relevant information. We will continue to develop it and make it a go-to place for reference. Take a regular look to keep yourself up to date with events, clubs, trips, letters and the school calendar. Each week the newsletter will be put on the website to keep everyone up to date.

### Lunchtime and After-School Clubs

We are delighted to be able to offer a full range of lunchtime and after-school activities and we hope that your children will join in. The clubs are always very popular and we recommend that you complete the online consent form soonest. This term all clubs **MUST** be booked via Parent Pay and **NOT** through the class teacher or Mrs Lewis in the office. - invites will be sent to all Parent pay accounts from 4pm this afternoon.

## Clubs Timetable - Please Note Start Dates for Each Club

<b>Monday</b>	Year 4 to 6 - After School Science Club - starts Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> Year 4 to 6 - After School Colouring and Mindfulness Club - starts Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Inset Staff Training - no after school clubs
<b>Wednesday</b>	Year 1 and Year 2 Lunchtime Recorder Club - starts Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Years 3 to 6 Lunchtime Multi Skills Pot Luck Sports Club - starts Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Years 3 to 6 After School Music and Choir Club - starts Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> (please contact Abi Tucker direct for more details on <a href="mailto:abi.tucker@outlook.com">abi.tucker@outlook.com</a> ) Year 6 Maths Club - details to follow
<b>Thursday</b>	Year 1 and 2 After School Book Club - starts Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> Plymouth Argyle (External provider) After School Football Club - book direct at: <a href="https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/pl-stokenham-after-school-club-102.html">https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/pl-stokenham-after-school-club-102.html</a> After School Karate with Caroline (Please contact Caroline direct for more details on <a href="mailto:carolinetolo786@gmail.com">carolinetolo786@gmail.com</a> ) - starts Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Friday</b>	Years 3 to 6 Achieve4All will run Multi Sports Club - book direct with provider. Go to <a href="http://www.achieve4all.co.uk">www.achieve4all.co.uk</a> scrolling down to click BOOK NOW to sign in or create new registration.

### Forest School

Mrs Moore will start Forest School next Friday with the Reception and Year 1 children. The Reception children will have Forest School sessions every Friday morning throughout the year, and our Year 1 pupils will have Friday afternoons until half term. After half term, it will be the turn of our Year 2 children to have their sessions on a Friday afternoon. Please make sure your child brings appropriate clothing, wellie boots and waterproofs to school on Forest School Fridays!

Our children in Years 3 to 6 will have the opportunity to do Forest Schools in the New Year. If any parents would like to help out at Forest School sessions we would love to hear from you. Please speak to the class teacher or let the office know and we can send out the relevant paperwork.

### Music Lessons and Voice Coaching

It is wonderful that we are able to offer various music lessons with our external providers. If your child would like to learn to play an instrument or has an interest in singing we have several options available for private lessons.



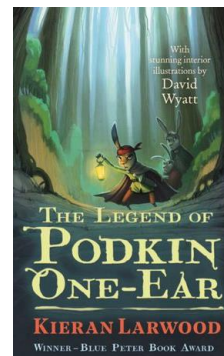
- Monica Chapman teaches guitar, electrical guitar, keyboard and piano. Her contact details are [monkikachapman@hotmail.com](mailto:monkikachapman@hotmail.com)
- John Sipple (IMS) can provide drum lessons and is contactable by email [john.ims@talktalk.net](mailto:john.ims@talktalk.net) or on the website [www.imsmusic.co.uk](http://www.imsmusic.co.uk).
- Holly Molyneux teaches violin, cello and piano and can be contacted via email: [hollymolyneux@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:hollymolyneux@yahoo.co.uk)
- Vocal Coaching is offered by with Abi Tucker and she can be contacted via email on [abi.tucker1@outlook.com](mailto:abi.tucker1@outlook.com)
- Rose Sage is a music teacher offering woodwind lessons. She can be contacted via her website at <https://rosesage.mymusicstaff.com/>

## Reading Ambassadors

Dillion and Lily from Year 5 have our first recommendation for this academic year...**"The Legend of Podkin One Ear" by Kieran Larwood**

It's all about a group of rabbits turned are potentially turned into "evil creatures". It's very intriguing, suspenseful and there are lots of cliff hanger moments!

*Podkin is the son of a warrior chieftain. He knows that one day it will be up to him to lead his warren and guard it in times of danger. But for now, he's quite happy to laze around annoying his older sister Paz, and playing with his baby brother Pook. Then Podkin's home is brutally attacked, and the young rabbits are forced to flee. The terrifying Gorm are on the rampage, and no one and nowhere is safe. With danger all around them, Podkin must protect his family, uncover his destiny, and attempt to defeat the most horrifying enemy rabbit kind has ever known.*



## News from the PTFA

PTFA AGM Wednesday 20th September 9am at school. Please come along if you would like to join the PTFA. We will briefly outline events planned for this year and review last year's efforts as well as allocating the various necessary roles (and drinking some coffee). We are hoping to have a PTFA class rep from every year group.

If you would like to join but are unable to attend the meeting please contact Anna Weir 07932 501 187 or Louise Stone 07891 803 110 who can add you to the WhatsApp group.

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the sunshine!

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best Wishes

**Tess Coulthard**  
**Executive Headteacher**

## The Week Ahead

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Holly Molyneux Music Lessons start Meet the Teacher - Reception and Years 2, 5 and 6
Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Rose Sage Music Lessons start
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Lunchtime Year 1 and 2 Recorder Club Lunchtime Year 1 and 2 Multi Skills Pot Luck Sports Club After School Music and Choir Club Meet the Teacher - Years 1, 3 and 4
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> Sept	After School Karate Club with Caroline After School Football with Plymouth Argyle
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> Sept	Monica Chapman Music lessons

## Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Thursday 5 October	PM	5 & 6	Separate trips to Plymouth - TBC
Friday 6 October	AM	ALL	Harvest Festival
Thursday 12 October	AM	ALL	Tempest Photography
Friday 13 October	AM PM	6 4-6	Junior Life Skills at Quayside Swimarathan at Quayside
Mon 23 to Fri 27 October		ALL	Half Term
Monday 6 November	All Day	ALL	Flu Immunisation Team in School - TBC
Friday 10 November	AM	ALL	Remembrance Assembly
Friday 17 November	All Day	ALL	Children in Need Day
Monday 11 December	PM & EVE	3 & 4	Christmas Performances - TBC
Tuesday 12 December	AM & PM	KS1	Christmas Performances - TBC
Wednesday 13 December	PM & EVE	5 & 6	Christmas Performances - TBC
Thursday 14 December	All Day	ALL	Christmas Jumper Day Christmas Dinner Day
Friday 15 December	AM PM PM	ALL KS1 ALL	Christmas Carol Service KS1 Christmas Party - TBC Last Day of Autumn Term 2023

## 2024

Tuesday 2 January			Non-Pupil day
Wednesday 3 January	AM	ALL	First Day of Spring Term
Mon 12- Fri 16 Feb			HALF TERM
Thursday 28 March			Last Day of Spring Term

Monday 15 April	AM	ALL	First Day of Summer Term
Mon 27- Fri 31 May			HALF TERM
Thursday 19 July			Last Day of Summer Term