



## Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2023-24/02

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2023

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

The new term is well underway and there is a great deal going on in school already! The sun has been shining so we can all enjoy the outdoor spaces for play, PE and after school clubs. Our new reception children are finding their feet and learning all about the way school routines work. It is a lot to take on board but they have all done a fantastic job. Well done! We have been appointing school council members as the older children take on more responsibility within our school family. This week also saw the start of our after-school and lunchtime clubs which the children enjoy very much. The term is officially in full swing!

### New School Councillors

This week our pupils elected their class representatives to stand on the school council. Congratulations go to the following pupils:

Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Jenson and Ruby	Erica and Aoife	Eric and Esmae	Eva and Albie	Seb and Delyth



The school council is a group of children who work together to make the school a better place. There are 2 children from each class from year 2 upwards. The school council are going to meet every few weeks to discuss our ideas and the thoughts of the children in our classes that we represent. We will work together with Mrs Coulthard, Miss Longland and the other adults in the school to make our shared spaces better. We look forward to making a difference.

**Congratulations to our other School Representatives**

### House Team Captains

**Gara Greens** - Gabby and Luke

**Slapton Scarlets** - Barney and Freya

**Lannacombe Yellows** - Zander and Faye

**Beesands Blues** - Rosie and Joseph L



### Joining the PTFA - a message from the team!

The Parent Teacher Friend Association will be holding their AGM on **Wednesday 20th September at 9am** at school. Please come along if you would like to know more about the PTFA, you will be warmly welcomed. We will briefly outline fundraising events planned for this year and review last year's achievements, allocate necessary roles, and get to know each other. We are planning to have 2 PTFA 'class reps' from every year group as this will really help us to reach out to other parents and promote our fundraising efforts.

Being a PTFA member requires only a little time, is a very sociable thing to be part of and helps to raise much needed funds which benefit the children in school directly. 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.

### Book Fair Next Week - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September

Our Scholastic Book fair will be next Thursday! If you would like to buy any of the scholastic books to read with your child at home then please come and have a look. The book fair will start at 3:30pm on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September. The fair helps to earn free books for our school! Pupils will be able to make any wish lists when visiting the fair with their class!



### Asking For Donations

The Reception class would be very grateful for any kind donations of the following: small world animals and people, baby dolls and accessories, pebbles, shells, log slices, acorns, conkers, sticks, metal kitchenware/jugs, funnels etc. Many thanks.

### Around the School this Week

On Wednesday, Year 6 had the opportunity to take part in a virtual school visit with SF Said, the author of our class reader Varjak Paw. He talked about his inspiration to write about a cat with special skills, which stemmed from all the way in his childhood. SF Said also shared some great advice about staying positive and believing in yourself, it took him nine years to write one of his novels and even admitted that his first draft was "rubbish!"



This week Year 4 have explored the wonder of creation in RE and created collages from natural found materials, been creative in Art exploring mark making with chalk and charcoal, and worked on their netball skills practising interception and throwing techniques.



This week, Year 2 have been budding scientists! They have started their new topic - 'Everyday materials' and enjoyed predicting and carrying out experiments to find out which was the most absorbent material.

To begin with they had to predict which material it would be than they had to carry out the investigation to find out if their prediction was correct.



The Reception class have had a super week exploring, learning and playing in the indoor and outdoor continuous provision and developing lovely friendships. They are enjoying learning the first letter sounds/phonemes in daily phonics sessions as they begin the exciting journey of learning to read.



### Dangerous driving

I am rather saddened to report that following our request in the newsletter last week for courteous and careful driving at the busiest times of the school day, there has unfortunately been reports of parents not adhering to road safety at drop off and pick up times. One incident involves a large pick-up truck which is parking outside the school entrance in the zig-zag yellow areas, **this is a no parking zone and also illegal**. Having collected their child/children the parent has by this time delayed the buses from leaving the premises but also and more dangerously, proceeded to reverse without 'sufficient care' before driving off. Several parents and children have seen this occur and have had to move out of the way quickly as they were concerned for their safety! This kind of driving and parking is completely inappropriate, unnecessary and dangerous. We all need to be more careful and more thoughtful around the school site please. No parking areas and zones are there for a reason and no one is above the law when it comes to child safety. I cannot emphasise enough the need for consideration and care towards each other and our neighbours along the school and in the wider area. Thank you.



**Clubs Timetable**  
**Two new clubs in bold**

<b>Monday</b>	Year 4 to 6 - After School Science Club Year 4 to 6 - After School Colouring and Mindfulness Club <b>Year 1 and Year 2 - Beginners Karate Club (Please contact Caroline direct for more details on <a href="mailto:carolinetolo786@gmail.com">carolinetolo786@gmail.com</a> -</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	Inset Staff Training - no after school clubs
<b>Wednesday</b>	Year 1 and Year 2 Lunchtime Recorder Club Years 3 to 6 Lunchtime Multi Skills Pot Luck Sports Club Years 3 to 6 After School Music and Choir Club (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 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>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Year 3 to 6 - Lunchtime Girls Football. Details on Parent Pay - starts Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> September</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.

**Attendance**

This week we have sent home our new attendance policy and some information regarding revised attendance procedures this year. Please see link for more details. [Stokenham Attendance](#)

We ask that you familiarise yourself with the policy. We want to work with you to improve attendance. If you require any support or are finding it difficult to get your child into school, please do not hesitate to contact us. If you would like more information about the government drive to secure attendance please click on the link below.

**Our school attendance is currently at 98.6%** for the year to date so a huge well done to everyone who is keeping us above our target of 97%!

[Working together to improve school attendance - GOV.UK](#)

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**