



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2023-24/07

Friday 20th October 2023

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is half term! What a great way to end the week with a Break the Rules Day! The children were very good at that - thank you parents and carers for supporting your children and Stokenham Primary School PTFA. It was a colourful and entertaining Friday.

This week we said goodbye to Mrs Page who commenced maternity leave yesterday. We wish her and her family a restful few weeks before her baby is born and we look forward to seeing her again very soon. Good luck Mrs Page!

On behalf of all the staff here at school we wish you all a restful, fun-filled half-term break with friends and family, and we look forward to seeing you on Monday 30th October for the second half of our Autumn term.

Reading Ambassador - Year 6

Faye from Year 6 read a beautiful and quite emotional poem for us in assembly today:

Breathe by Becky Hemsley.



*She sat at the back and they said she was shy,
She led from the front and they hated her pride,
They asked her advice and then questioned her guidance,
They branded her loud, then were shocked by her silence,
When she shared no ambition they said it was sad,
So she told them her dreams and they said she was mad,
They told her they'd listen, then covered their ears,
And gave her a hug while they laughed at her fears,
And she listened to all of it thinking she should,
Be the girl they told her to be best as she could,
But one day she asked what was best for herself,
Instead of trying to please everyone else,
So she walked to the forest and stood with the trees,
She heard the wind whisper and dance with the leaves,
She spoke to the willow, the elm and the pine,
And she told them what she'd been told time after time,
She told them she felt she was never enough,
She was either too little or far far too much*

*Too loud or too quiet, too fierce or too weak,
Too wise or too foolish, too bold or too meek,
Then she found a small clearing surrounded by firs,
And she stopped...and she heard what the trees said
to her,
And she sat there for hours not wanting to leave,
For the forest said nothing, it just let her
breathe`.*



Poetry is in the air as we also have Erica from Year 3 who wrote this wonderful poem herself called "Space in my Heart"

I need space for life,
I need space for fun,
I need space for happiness
I need space for friends
I need space for joy
I need space for family
But
I can't have space in my heart

Flu Immunisation Programme

The immunisation team will be visiting school on Monday 6th November 2023. In order to access the online consent form, please enter or click on the following link <https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu> The unique code for Stokenham School is: DV113223. Please submit your consent form by midday 2nd November 2023 to ensure your child receives their vaccination. If you experience any problems accessing the form please telephone 01392 342678 and the Immunization team will be happy to help.

Please note that as in previous years you must opt into the programme. If a consent form is not submitted your child will not be vaccinated. If your child becomes wheezy or has their asthma medication increased after you submit this form, please contact us on the numbers above. If you decide you do not want to vaccinate your child against flu, it would help us if you still complete and submit the consent form giving the reason. This will help us to plan and develop the service. Please tell us if you need this information in a different format.

KS2 Cross Country Festival at Malborough - Wednesday 8th November 2023

Letters have been sent out via email regarding our Federation Schools Cross Country Festival at Malborough Playing Fields on Wednesday 8th November 2023. Please consent via Parent Pay - If your child does not wish to take part - please let Mrs Lewis know ASAP so we can ask other pupils.

Important - Please ensure your child has:

- PE Kit
- Trainers/running boots
- A coat and tracksuit or similar to keep warm before and after their running
- Plenty of snacks and drink to give them extra energy

We would be grateful if you could complete the consent form via Parent Pay by Monday 6th November to confirm you are happy for your child to participate in the festival.

Rotary Club Swimarathon 2022 - Sponsorship Mon

What a truly fabulous Swimarathan we had last week! Team Stokenham were amazing! Can we keep hold of the "title" of the most sponsorship money raised as well? Please hand your sponsorship money and forms into the office after the half term break and by **Friday 3rd November** at the latest. Cash is acceptable but if you prefer to pay via cheque, please make payable to The Rotary Club of Kingsbridge Estuary Trust Fund. As you know, half the money raised by our swimmers comes back to the school and half goes to the various Rotary Club charities. Thank you.

Around the School this Week

The Reception class explored the work of Irish designer Orla Kiely and described the autumnal colours, patterns and shapes. They then created a super leaf collage using rubbings of leaves gathered on their autumn walk last week. Super collaborative artwork Reception!



New School Menu

When we return after half term there will be a new menu for the autumn/winter term which will continue through to March 2024. Please see attached menu. **Remember all lunches must be booked and paid for in advance via the Parent pay system. Please check your accounts over half term and pay for any outstanding balances as soon as possible.**

Clubs Timetable After Half Term

Monday	Year 4 to 6 - After School Science Club Year 4 to 6 - After School Colouring and Mindfulness Club
Tuesday	Inset Staff Training - no after school clubs
Wednesday	Year 1 and Year 2 Lunchtime Recorder Club Years 3 to 6 After School Music and Choir Club (please contact Abi Tucker direct for more details on abi.tucker@outlook.com) Year 6 Maths Club - Miss Longland to coordinate
Thursday	Year 3 to 6 Lunchtime Choir - see below Year 1 and 2 After School Book Club Plymouth Argyle (External provider) After School Football Club - book direct at: https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/pl-stokenham-after-school-club-103.html After School Karate with Caroline (Please contact Caroline direct for more details on carolinetolo786@gmail.com)
Friday	Years 3 to 6 Achieve4All will run Multi Sports Club - book direct with provider. Go to www.achieve4all.co.uk scrolling down to click BOOK NOW to sign in or create new registration.

Christmas Choir Club - after half term

Christmas choir club will begin with Miss Carter after half term on Thursday lunch times. We will be learning a few festive songs together that we will perform at a concert alongside other children within South Hams Federation. This club is open to all children in Key Stage 2 with the understanding that they will be available to attend our Christmas Carol concert at Heron Valley near Loddiswell on Friday 8th December at 4pm.

Plymouth Argyle after-school Club after half term

Please find below the link for next term after school football club with Plymouth Argyle.

<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/pl-stokenham-after-school-club-103.html>

Transfer to Secondary School

The application process for secondary schools is now open on the Devon County Council website. Please see link below. The closing date is 31st October. Any queries should be directed to Devon County Council on 0345 155 1019.

<https://www.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/apply-for-a-school-place/apply-for-a-secondary-school-place/>

Attendance Poster Competition

Here at the South Hams Federation schools, we want to work with both our pupils and their parents to do our best to prevent poor attendance from hampering attainment and development of social skills. We want to instill a positive attitude to school attendance as early as possible to ensure that all of our pupils go on to thrive throughout their school and future careers.

In every other aspect of life, if someone achieved 90% of their goal, they would be celebrating! However, when it comes to school attendance, a percentage of 90% can leave a child falling behind their peers in their education. 90% is the equivalent of almost 4 weeks of school missed in an academic year.

Good attendance not only gives a child a better education, but also encourages positive social interactions. Children get to spend time with their friends, which in turn improves their social skills. It also provides a routine and safe space for children who really need this.

We would like all our children to take part in a competition to design the best poster to promote attendance and prompt arrival. Poster designs will need to be A4 in size and will need to clearly promote the importance of regular school attendance. Posters could include attendance slogans, drawn images or fun facts. The posters will need to be visually appealing, clear and concise.

Winners will be selected from each year group across the federation and will each receive a goody bag including a book, stationery and a fidget toy. Posters will be used to promote attendance across all our schools, in classrooms, on our websites and in our newsletters.

**** Please clearly put your child's name and Year group on the back of the poster ****

**** The competition will close on 17th November ****

**** Please hand in your entries to your school office by this date ****

**** Winners will be announced via a federation assembly online on the 24th November ****

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

Have a lovely half term break.

See you all on Monday 30th October

With best Wishes

T. Coulthard

**Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher**

