



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2023-24/10

Friday 17th November 2023

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been another busy week in school as we begin preparations for the Christmas Fair, Film Night, Pyjama Day, the Book Fair and enjoy spotty day for Children in Need! All these events are great fun for the children and they bring our school family together as a community - they are also about fundraising and promoting awareness of important issues and the concept of giving and sharing. We appreciate that they all require some additional effort as we ask for donations of various kinds and for your time and ideas - but they are all extremely worthwhile and they make us all think about others as well as ourselves. We thank you all for your support for the school and for the PTFA.



Tag Rugby Festival at Loddiswell

Our Year 4 players performed brilliantly in this mini tournament against Modbury and Loddiswell Primary Schools. We had a shaky start resulting in a narrow defeat to Loddiswell but after time to reflect and discuss match tactics, we went on to beat Modbury. We made it into the final where we played Modbury again, in what was a nail-biting game. We emerged victorious, 3-2 to Stokenham! Well done and congratulations to our year 4 team - Go Stokenham!



Children in Need



Spots and stripes abound. What a lovely day we have all had supporting Pudsey and the BBC Children in Need Day. Thank you to everyone who dressed up and donated. Also thank you to our wonderful kitchen staff for creating scrumptious Pudsey cookies for us all to enjoy. Stokenham School raised £160 toward this wonderful cause - thank you



PTFA Film Night - Thursday 23rd November

Don't forget to sign up for film night next week. Further details are on parent pay for you to consent to your child attending the event. The films will start straight after school and there will also be Stokeley Hot Dogs available to buy. Please see parent pay for more details. If your child is not attending please indicate this on the Parent Pay system. It is imperative that we know your child's arrangements. We do not want to be putting children on buses when they should be watching the film and vice versa.



Pyjama Day - Friday 24th November



Next Friday 24th November is Pyjama Day! The School Council are organising this in readiness for their Christmas Fair stall which will raise funds to revamp our shared library spaces. In exchange for wearing pyjamas we would like the children to bring in a donation in the form of 'the gifts that are not quite your style'. Every Christmas most adults are given something that isn't quite their thing'. It might be a scarf, a book, a pair of Christmas socks or maybe a scented candle for example. We are looking for 'as good as new' gifts from home that might be sitting in your bottom drawer. Please don't buy anything new. The children are hoping for gifts suitable for both men and women. Bring these in on Friday 24th November.

PTFA Christmas Fair Friday 1st December



The annual Christmas Fair plans are definitely taking shape. The PTFA are working hard to make sure there is something for everyone to enjoy, especially the children. Please keep an eye on newsletters and the year group WhatsApp chats for updates. Raffle books have come home and already people are asking for more tickets which is brilliant! Don't forget to hand in your donations of festive items of food, drink or gift of your child's class colour. All gifts gratefully received.



Reception children to bring in chocolate confectionery for a children's tombola.

Year 1 Green items

Year 2 Red items

Year 3 gold/yellow items

Year 4 silver/white items

Year 5 purple/blue items

Year 6 to bring in a 'boozy' bottle for a grown-up's tombola.

All donations to be brought in to school by Tuesday 22nd November please. The PTFA can then create the wonderful raffle prize boxes, wrapped and ready for the fair - Thank you.

School Book Fair - Friday 1st December

To promote reading for pleasure and to encourage our pupils to read more broadly, we are having a school book fair on **Friday 1st December 2023**. See poster sent out with this newsletter.



Christmas Choir Concert - Heron Valley Friday 8th December

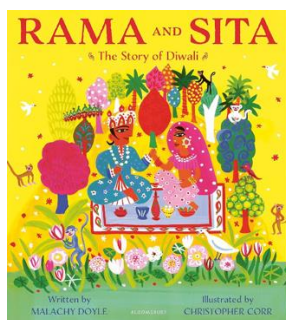


A letter has been sent out via email and details are on parent pay regarding the Christmas Choir Concert to be held at Heron Valley on Friday 8th December. We ask that parents' consent via Parent Pay by **Monday 13th November**. We need to confirm numbers to Heron Valley by Tuesday.

A few REMINDERS regarding school

- Please send your child to school EVERY day with a clean, freshly filled water bottle.
- Please make sure your child has PE kit in school EVERY day.
- Please make sure your child has a warm coat in school EVERY day, and that it is NAMED.
- Please pre-book your child's school lunch by 8am every day. If you then decide that your child would like a packed lunch - you must cancel the lunch or you will be charged for it. Additionally, if you have pre-booked lunches and your child is ill, you again need to cancel the lunch booking. Please email the office by 9am if this is the case. Thank you.

Around the school this week



The Reception children are thoroughly enjoying learning about the Hindu celebration of Diwali, and have been listening to and acting out the story of Rama and Sita with much enthusiasm! They have also been singing Diwali songs, creating rangoli patterns and diva lamps and exploring a range of non-fiction texts and visual aids.

We have a KS2 Reading Shed!

We were very excited to open our brand-new Reading Shed for Key Stage 2, an outdoor reading space that we can use at break and lunchtimes. If you are having a pre-Christmas clear out we would love donations to fill our lovely shed with comics, children's magazines, colouring or activity books, chapter and picture books. We would also love donations of clean picnic blankets, mats or cushions so that our children have somewhere to sit when it's a bit damp, or that can be used on the grass in the summer. Please send any donations to the school office for the attention of Mrs Louise Cross.



Talking books; our Year 5 reading ambassadors Lily and Dillon have picked a beautiful poetry book as their reading recommendation this week. "I am the Seed that Grew the Trees" by Fiona Waters illustrated by Frann Preston Gannon. The book has a poem dedicated for everyday of the week and the illustrations are amazing and really pretty. They think that the book is for all age groups because of the pictures and there is a poem dedicated to your birthday! One of their favourite poems is "In Beauty May I Walk" which has been translated from a Navajo Prayer.

*In beauty may I walk
All day long may I walk
Through the returning seasons may I walk
Beautifully will I possess again
Beautifully birds,
Beautifully butterflies
On the trail marked with pollen may I walk
With grasshoppers about my feet may I walk
With dew about my feet may I walk
With beauty may I walk
With beauty before me may I walk
With beauty behind me may I walk
With beauty above me may I walk
With beauty all around me may I walk
In old age, wandering on a trail of beauty, lively, may I walk
In old age, wandering on a trail of beauty, living again, may I walk
It is finished in beauty.
It is finished in beauty.*

Community Congratulations

We would very much like to congratulate the Darke family for their recent awards. Jack and Isla very proudly showed them off this morning in assembly. They explained that it is very much a family farm with all the generations of Darkes' joining in working tremendously hard. Well done and thank you Darke family for the delicious milk you supply to the school along with the lovely milk shakes, I'm sure numerous pupils have enjoyed!

**South West Farmer of the year -The Darke Family
Family Run Farm of the year - The Darke Family**



Have a restful and peaceful weekend

With best Wishes

T. Coulthard

**Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher**