



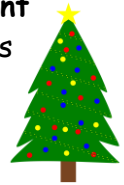
Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2023-24/12
Friday 1st December 2023

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk



Dear Parents and Carers,

Suddenly it is December and we have only 2 weeks of term left in 2023! The Christmas tree is up in the school hall and the Christmas Fair took place this afternoon! Everything feels very sparkly and bright! It is a very busy time in school as we begin our Christmas performance rehearsals and prepare for the festive season ahead. We have repeated all the important dates in this newsletter so you can be up to date with what is happening in and around school. **Please remember that for concerts and performances you need to book tickets on Parent Pay so that we can accommodate everyone.** A very special thank you to Mr & Mrs Powell & Ed who once again donated our beautiful Christmas tree. It looks gorgeous! Thank you also to Gemma and Mr Elliot who delivered it to our door! We are very grateful to you all for your kindness and generosity.



Father Christmas came to the PTFA Christmas Fair!



It was fantastic to have the school full of festive cheer, laughter and Christmas sparkle today! Santa's Grotto was looking truly spectacular and the various raffle prizes and stalls were wonderful. We owe a huge thank you to the PTFA who have worked hard co-ordinating raffle prizes, distributing tickets, organising plates of food and inviting Father Christmas to our School. We would also like to thank our staff and all the children for their collective efforts and of course parents, family and friends for their generosity and contributions.

Our winners for the various raffle prizes are:

Hamilton family	Mal Church	Waldock family	M Titterton
I Simpson	A Abramzcuk	J Mottram	D Collin
T Stevens	Dunham Family	S Sutton	H Jennings
L Watson	C Titterton	Waldock Family	J Geikie
S Lethbridge	Davies Family	Rendell family	Julie A
H Barton	L Gilmour	Pieterse Family	Waldock Family
Lonsdale Family	L Norman	F Pryke	



Netball Tournament at Ivybridge - Tuesday 5th December 2023

Letters have been sent out via email regarding the South Hams and West Devon Netball Tournament at Ivybridge. Please consent via Parent Pay. If your child does not wish to take part - please let Mrs Lewis know on Monday so we can ask other pupils.

Important - Please ensure your child has:

- PE Kit
- Trainers
- A coat and tracksuit or similar to keep warm before and after each match
- Packed lunch and plenty of snacks and drink to give them extra energy

We would be grateful if you could complete the consent form via Parent Pay to confirm you are happy for your child to participate in the tournament.

Bulbs and Trees

The school has once again been gifted a large number of spring flowering bulbs and additionally 7 fruiting trees. We are so very grateful for such a generous donation, and for the efforts of Alexa McGuffie in overseeing the planting of them, and for giving us a whole day of her time to support Stokenham Primary School. The children in Years 5 and 6 along with the Eco-council representatives were very busy on Wednesday of this week planting them all. We have been waiting for dry weather for the last few weeks so that the ground would dry out a little by the old orchard so that the planting project could go ahead. The bulbs at the front of the school has been such a success, we all enjoyed the daffodils this spring. We look forward to more flowers at the back of the school next Spring!

After School Choir Concert - Wednesday 6th December



We are hoping for dry weather when our after school choir host their Concert next Wednesday. Everyone is welcome to attend from 4.20pm until approximately 5.00pm. The children who have been attending our Choir and Music Club after school are preparing some beautiful songs to entertain us and for us to join in with! **Please see the Parent Pay entry regarding consent,**

who will be attending and the end of school arrangements for your children. We do not want to put your child on a school bus when they should be in after school choir or vice versa! We hope that you will come along wrapped up warm, with your torches, a little tinsel on your Christmas hats and ready to sing!

Christmas Choir Concert - Heron Valley Friday 8th December



The **lunchtime choir club** will be taking part the Christmas Choir Concert to be held at Heron Valley on Friday 8th December. If you have not given permission yet for your child to attend, please complete details on parent pay.

Attendance Poster Competition

A huge thank you to all of the children who entered our Attendance poster competition. We appreciate the time and huge effort that the pupils put into creating such superb designs. The winning designs will be made into posters to be displayed in our schools. After a difficult deliberation between the Heads of School we are delighted to announce the winners are: Alec (Year 1) and Honor (Year 3). Their prizes are on their way to them!

Parking

We understand that the weather is cold and damp and that parents need to get children to school on time **but**..... every now and again we need to draw your attention to the busy traffic on Kiln Lane at the beginning and the end of each school day, the importance of careful and considerate parking and the crossing of Kiln Lane while it is busy! **Please do not park on the yellow zig-zags, this is actually against the law. Please do not park on the pavements, on grass verges or across driveways.** Our neighbours along Kiln Lane, and beyond, do not appreciate it.



Whilst we are highlighting parking

With all our performances, afternoon and evening, we ask that when parking, please remain respectful towards our neighbours and park considerately. Please do not block access to the Village Hall, private drive ways or park illegally at road junctions, especially on the roundabout and the lane up towards Coleridge. Please be mindful that although you may only be leaving your car for 5 minutes whilst you drop off or collect your child, in that time a neighbour of the school may need ambulance access or need to get out of their drive/entrance to go to work or for an emergency.

Christmas Week Menu Monday 11th to Friday 15th December

Monday - Penne Pasta with Choice of Carbonara Sauce, Tomato and Basil Sauce or Vegan Pesto
Garlic Bread and Salad
Jacket Potato with fillings

Tuesday - Hunters Chicken
Vegetarian Brunch
Jacket Potato

Wednesday - Sausages and Pomme Noisettes
Halloumi Wraps
Jacket Potato

Thursday - **Christmas Dinner Don't forget to order on parent pay by Monday 4th December**

Friday - Fish and Chips
Vegetarian Pasty
Ham & Cheese Panini

Important reminders:

- School starts at 9.00am sharp. Please ensure your child is in school by 8.55am so that teaching can start on time.
- 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 had a super day celebrating their class teddy's birthday this week as a reward for filling their 'warm and fuzzies' jar. Moonlight the Owl felt very special as the children sang, danced and made birthday cards for him. They carefully iced and decorated cupcakes and then enjoyed eating them outdoors accompanied with delicious milkshake kindly donated by the Darke family at Coleridge Dairy. What a fun and special day!



This term in Design Technology, the children have been designing and making a fruit salad. They have looked at different fruits and tasted fruits they may not have tried before. They looked at the textures of the different fruits and discussed the different skins and flesh of the different fruits. The children used a variety of techniques to cut, chop, slice and grate the fruits before making their own fruit salad and then they enjoyed eating it!! Yummy!!



We need Governors!

Governors are key to running schools that have good outcomes for **all** pupils. They help us set strategic direction, hold our leadership to account and check our schools are doing well.

If you can attend **six** meetings a **year** and spend some time getting to know our schools then we would love to hear from you.

You **don't** need to have any experience of the education system or specialist qualifications to be a governor but we are ideally looking for a person who has human resources or people management experience and would be willing to visit Malborough with South Huish Primary School at least once or twice per term, and keep up good communication with the head of school.

We offer plentiful training and personal development opportunities.

If you are interested in becoming a governor or are a parent or carer who would like to know what governors do and why they are so important to our schools please contact

clerk@southhamsfederation.org.uk

Teacher Training
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Have a restful and peaceful weekend

With best Wishes

T. Coulthard

Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher