



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2023-24/20

Friday 9th February 2024

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers,

Half-term is here! This week we had Polar Explorer Day on Wednesday for Reception, a Gym and Dance Festival also on Wednesday, PTFA School Disco on Thursday, and a Cake Sale on Friday. It's all been go-go-go!

After such a busy week, all that remains is for me to do is wish you all a restful half-term break. I am sure you will join me in wishing the same to our hard-working staff team. We all look forward to the second half of the Spring term and lots of new activities to share.

Polar Explorer Day

Wow, what an exciting 'Polar Explorers Day' the Reception children had this week! They had a wonderful day listening to polar stories, singing polar songs and creating polar masks and artwork. They also loved being young scientists, thrilled to see a huge block of glittering ice with polar animals trapped inside. They worked together to solve the problem and release the animals, using warm hands, tools and warm water to melt the ice. A highlight of the day was the superb polar-themed cake created by clever Mrs Stevens, which the children (and Mrs Cowling) thoroughly enjoyed eating after a busy day exploring. What wonderful memories!



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



Gym and Dance Festival

We sent five entries to the South Hams Federation Gym and Dance Show on Wednesday, held at Malborough Village Hall. Faye, Millie and Rosie got us all in the dancing mood with their energetic and inspiring routine to Let's Get Loud, followed by a skilled and beautiful tap performance by Gabby. Evie G, Esmee, Hope, Jemima and Lottie continued to create the party atmosphere with a lively gym/dance routine to Timber, which included lots of dazzling gymnastic moves. Our Year 3 children then performed the dance they have created and choreographed themselves over the last half term in PE - it was full of drama and emotion with some gymnastic movements included. Our final entry was our duo of Orla and Bluebell, who created a joyful, inspiring routine to Try Everything by Shakira. We are so proud of you all and are already looking forward to next year's show!



PTFA School Disco!

Everyone gave their all at the school disco last evening! Lights, music, action! I hope your children slept well last night - they helped to raise over £500! A massive thank you to the PTFA and to the parents who dropped off/picked up etc. Everyone had a fantastic time!

Year 6 Exeter Cathedral Wednesday 21st February

Year 6 will be taking a trip to Exeter Cathedral after half-term. They will be given a guided tour to learn about its history, and its role through the ages. They will take part in a variety of special workshops and related activities. This is part of the Religious Education curriculum. The trip is now live on Parent Pay - please sign up as soon as possible and complete consent forms etc.



What a lovely afternoon to end this half term! Year 4 celebrated their 'Warm and Fuzzy@ afternoon by watching Wind in the Willows, playing Board Games and having scrumptious treats. Well Done year 4

A Poet-tree for Benjamin Zephaniah

The Year 6 Reading Ambassadors created part of their legacy by planting a tree in memory of Benjamin Zephaniah, poet and author (1958-2021). This "Poet-tree" was donated by Devon Wildlife Trust and the Woodland Trust, and is a native Rowan tree that will, in the future, provide food and shelter for many species with its white spring blossom and red berries.

Benjamin Zephaniah wrote a dub poem in praise of trees:

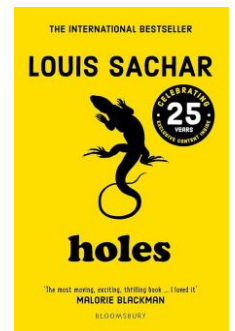
Trees Please

*Leave de trees please
Cause de trees
Work wid de breeze
To put all living tings at ease,
So leave de trees please.
Yu see
Down in Somerset, England,
I know a tree
Dat is one thousand
An five hundred years old.
Dat is a wise tree
Dat is a tree I need
To talk to,
Dat is a tree
We animals should listen to.*



*For millions of animals
Trees are a home,
Trees can help shelter yu home,
So leave de trees alone.
Trees mek oxygen.
Let me say dat again:
Trees mek oxygen,
So mek a tree yu fren.
Leave de trees please
Cause de trees
Work wid de breeze
To put all living tings at ease,
An they help de birds and bees
Old an wise are all of these,
So leave de trees please
Juss
Leave de trees please.*

Faye and Maurice - Year 6 reading ambassadors, celebrated the Year 6 book which they are reading: **Holes by Lois Sachar**. It is about a boy who accidentally stole a celebrity's shoe and got the choice of either going to jail or to a camp called Camp Green Lake. It's not a camp! There he met other boys and they all discover many things about the camp's past. The class all like the book because it is very descriptive. It's also very interesting and in some places very intense! They recommend that it's for Year 4 upwards.



Arts Council - Artist of the Week - Banksy

Our Year 6 Arts Council Hugo and ben told us today all about the Artist of the week - Banksy.

As we all know, Banksy is a mysterious Street Artist who no one has met or knows. He is famous for many pictures and artwork which can be seen all over Britain, mainly in Bristol. One of his most famous is 'Famous Girl with a Balloon'

More Art this week from Year 2 have been focusing on 'Expressive painting' in their art lessons. They have looked at the work of two artists to inspire their art work, Charlie French, (a British artist) and Vincent Van Gogh (a Dutch artist) and compared their work. The children have been experimenting with colour mixing and using different brush strokes. They have enjoyed drawing and creating collages of still life and observing shapes and colour.



7th March World Book Day

World Book Day is approaching quickly! Our Reading Ambassadors would like you to dress up as your favourite book characters. They will then choose from each class their favourite characters! We would also like to welcome all parents to come into school during pick up time to share a favourite book with your child. We will be celebrating a 'love of reading throughout the day!' The PTFA will also be carrying out a fundraiser with chocolates and books! Who will receive the golden tickets?



After School Clubs After Half Term

Plymouth Argyle Football Club After-School Club

Please find below the link to follow if you wish to book your child into the PAFC after-school club next half term. Please note that 20 spaces are available and these will be allocated by PAFC on a first come, first served basis.

<https://officialsoccerschools.co.uk/argyle/pl-stokenham-after-school-club-4.html>

Achieve 4 All after-school club Dodgeball

Achieve 4 All after-school club Dodgeball for Spring Term (2nd Half) is on the booking system and ready for bookings. The club can be booked by going to <https://achieve4all.co.uk/> you will then need to click on 'Book Now', log in to your account or if you have not booked before you will need to complete a short registration. The club will be a Dodgeball and Sports Club for KS1 and KS2. The club will run from Friday 23rd February - Cost £20.00

Our proud winners this week of Dusty Bin
Reception Class



If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Have a relaxing half term break.

With best Wishes

T. Coulthard

Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher

The Week Ahead - Menu Week 1

Monday 19th February	After School Karate with Caroline - Years 1 and 2 Music Lessons with Holly Singing Lessons with Abi
Tuesday 20th February	Singing Lessons with Abi Music Lessons with Rose
Wednesday 21st February	Year 1 & 2 Lunchtime Recorder Club Ri Physics at KCC After School KS2 Music and Choir Club Year 6 Trip to Exeter -see above
Thursday 22nd February	Drum Lessons with Alan After School Karate Year 3 to 6 with Caroline After School Plymouth Argyle Football Club
Friday 23rd February	Forest School Reception and Year 4 National Weigh and Measuring Nursing Team at School Music Lessons with Monica Year 1 & 2 Lunchtime Mindfulness Colouring Club Achieve 4 All After School Club

Diary Dates

7 March	World Book Day - see above
15 March	Sport Relief Day - details to follow
22 March	Scholastic Book Fair - TBC
25 March	Parent Consultations
26 March	Parent Consultations
27 March	Year 2 Theatre Trip - details to follow
28 March	Last day of Spring Term