



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2026-27/01

Friday 11th September 2026

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/p/South-Hams-Federation-61556768462697/>

<https://www.instagram.com/southhamsfederation2025/>



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school everyone! I hope you have all had a super Summer and feel rested and ready for a new school year. I would like to take this opportunity to warmly welcome our new Reception class and to say a big 'Hello' to all our new parents and carers joining our Stokenham School family. We would also like to welcome Mrs Veldhuis and Miss Collier to our school. Welcome one and all!

Curriculum letters have been sent home today detailing what each year group will be learning throughout the Autumn term, to let you know which subjects and topics the class teachers will be covering. Please take the time to read them so that you can understand what your child/children will be learning about at school. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or bring any questions with you to the 'Meet the Teacher' events next week.

Next week our club programme will start in earnest, along with the return of our peripatetic music teachers. Please read on to find out more about booking these for your child/children.

Our New Reception Class

The new Reception children have had a super first week at school and Mrs Veldhuis and Mrs Stevens are delighted at how quickly and happily they have settled. They have enjoyed making new friends, getting to know their teachers, playing and learning together indoors and outdoors in the different areas of the continuous provision. What a super start to school!

"Meet the Teacher"

We will be holding informal 'Meet the Teacher' sessions next week. These meetings will take place in your child's classroom from approx. 3.40pm on:

- **Monday 14th September for Years 1, 2 and 3 plus Reception**
- **Wednesday 16th September for Years 5 and 6**
- **Thursday 17th for Year 4**

Please come into school after pick up. Class teachers will outline the daily structure in your child's class, key themes for each year group and the things you can do as parents to support your child's learning. There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible.

Flu Immunisation Programme – 17th September

We would like to remind you that the Flu Immunisation Team will be on site next **Thursday 17th September all year groups**. Letters have gone out via email – please read the information provided and consent via the link on the letter as needed. Please can I remind you that it is the responsibility of the parent to 'consent or not' direct with the Flu team and not the school.

School code: DV113223

<https://www.kernowimmunisations.co.uk/Forms/Flu>



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Some Important Reminders for Everyone

Morning and Afternoon Routines

The gates will open at 8.50am for the children to come into school. Please make sure your child is in school by 8.55am ready for registration in class at 9.00am. Bus children are met by a member of staff when the bus arrives and taken into school. In the afternoon the gates will be opened at 3.20pm for pick-up. The school day ends at 3.30pm.

Please collect your child at the end of the school day from:

- * Reception class – the lower pathway outside their classroom/canopy gate
- * Year 1 and 2 – under the canopy and near their respective classroom door
- * Year 3 and 4 – from the terrace area near their corridor door
- * Year 5 and 6 – the pathway leading to and from the main school gates

Our **Bus Children** will be put on their respective buses by a staff member at the end of every school day.

NB. If your child is **NOT** to get the bus home, **please inform us by writing a note in the reading record** for the teacher's attention, **or emailing/contacting the school office**. Ideally this will be done the night before and we will follow any instructions. We cannot take instructions or changes to plans from the children themselves. In an emergency you can ring the school on the day and we can amend any arrangements given sufficient notice.

In the event that you do not inform us of any changed arrangements, bus children will be put on the bus as normal. If a parent or carer is not at the bus stop to collect them, they will be brought back to the school by the Tally-Ho driver.

For all our pupils, please let us know about any special collection arrangements in advance e.g. if someone other than a parent or carer is picking up on a particular day. The reading record is the best place to send messages to and from school as it is checked daily by the teaching staff. You can ring Mrs Lewis in the office or email if necessary.

Lunchtime and After-School Clubs

We are delighted to be able to offer a full range of lunchtime and after-school activities and we hope that your children will join in. The clubs are always very popular and we recommend that you complete the online consent form soonest. **This term all clubs MUST be booked via Bromcom** and **not** through the class teacher or Mrs Lewis in the office - invites will be sent to all Bromcom accounts from 4.30pm this afternoon. A letter has been sent out to all pupils in year 1 through to year 6.

Autumn Term 2026 Club Timetable

Monday	After-school Choir Club with Abi Tucker for Years 2-6 Please contact Abi direct by email for more details. abi.tucker1@outlook.com
Tuesday	Lunchtime Drawing Club with Mrs Cowling Years 1 and 2 <i>After School Karate – to be confirmed in due course</i>
Wednesday	Lunchtime Recorder Club with Mrs Prescott Years 1 and 2
Thursday	Lunchtime Times Table and Maths Club with Miss Pears Year 4 Lunchtime Cross Country Running Club with Mrs Taylor Years 3 to 6 After-school Art Club with Miss Woollard Years 3 to 6 After School Football with Stokenham Explorers - Please book direct https://eegu.org/book/stokenham-explorers-wraparound-care-with-stokenham-explorers-20225 <i>After School Dance Club – after half term</i>

PE Timetable

Monday	Year 1 and 2
Tuesday	Year 5 and 6
Wednesday	Reception and Year 4
Thursday	Year 3
Friday	Years 1 to 6

Music Lessons and Voice Coaching

It is wonderful that we are able to offer various music lessons with our external providers. If your child would like to learn to play an instrument or has an interest in singing we have several options available for private lessons.

- ❖ Monica Chapman teaches guitar, electrical guitar, keyboard and piano. Her contact details are monkikachapman@hotmail.com
- ❖ Alan Inglis-Faulkner (IMS) can provide drum lessons and is contactable on the website www.imsmusic.co.uk.
- ❖ Vocal Coaching is offered by with Abi Tucker and she can be contacted via email on abi.tucker1@outlook.com

School Meals and Universal Infant Free School Meals



Please ensure school meals are paid in advance via Bromcom. Meals must be ordered in advance for your child via the app. The price of a school meal is:

- £2.75 per day
- £13.75 per week

If you experience any difficulties ordering or booking meals, please contact the School Office. If you are receiving Universal Credits and you feel that your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, due to your financial circumstances, please contact Devon County Council either by phone on 0345 155 1019 or by visiting their website portal at:

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE

If your child has moved up from Year 2 to Year 3, please note you will no longer qualify for Universal Infant free School Meals and will now need to pay for your child's meals, unless your child is entitled to Free School Meals as detailed above. Any queries, regarding the Free School meal entitlement, please see Mrs Lewis in the office.

Forest School

Mrs Moore started Forest School today with the Reception and Year 1 children. The Reception children will have Forest School sessions every Friday throughout the year, and our Year 1 pupils will have Fridays until half term. After October half term, it will be the turn of our Year 2 children to have their sessions on a Friday afternoon. **Please make sure your child brings appropriate clothing, wellie boots and waterproofs to school on Forest School Fridays!**

Our children in Years 3 to 6 will have the opportunity to do Forest Schools in the New Year. If any parents would like to help out at Forest School sessions we would love to hear from you. Please speak to the class teacher or let the office know and we can send out the relevant paperwork.

Our Weekly Newsletter

Each week you will receive a newsletter by email on Friday afternoon. The newsletter has a wealth of information in it. It tells you what the children have been doing in school for the week, what is happening next week in school, details about after-school clubs, peripatetic lessons, visits and trips, and lots more besides. It is important to read it to keep yourselves up to date with what is going on, so please check your inbox!

A copy of the newsletter will also be posted on the noticeboard at the school gate and attached to the website, where you will also find copies of various letters sent out to parents and carers each week.

The school website can be accessed at www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk. It contains a treasure trove of useful and relevant information. We will continue to develop it and make it a go-to place for reference. Take a regular look to keep yourself up to date with events, clubs, trips, letters and the school calendar. Each week the newsletter will be put on the website to keep everyone up to date.

Data Collection Information Reminder

As we begin the new school year, please take a few moments to check and update your child's information via MyChildAtSchool (MCAS). It is essential that we hold accurate contact details, emergency contacts, medical information, dietary requirements and parental permissions for every child. Up-to-date information helps us keep your child safe and ensures we can contact you quickly if needed. Please log into MCAS and review your child's details as soon as possible, even if you believe no changes are required. Accurate records are particularly important as we prepare for the annual School Census later this term. Thank you for your support in helping us maintain current and accurate pupil information.

Privacy Notices and Data Protection

As part of our commitment to protecting the personal information we hold about our pupils, parents and staff, our Privacy Notices are available to view on the school website. These notices explain what information we collect, why we collect it, how it is used, and who it may be shared with. We encourage all parents and carers to take a few moments to read these documents. We would also like to remind families that consent for the use of photographs, videos and certain types of information sharing can be reviewed and updated at any time. Parents can amend their preferences through MyChildAtSchool (MCAS) or by contacting the school office. Please ensure your contact details and your child's information are kept up to date so that we can communicate with you effectively and respond quickly in the event of an emergency. Thank you for your continued support in helping us keep our records accurate and our school community safe.

Emergency Consent

As part of our ongoing commitment to keeping every child safe, we would like to remind parents and carers about Benedict's Law, which strengthens allergy safety measures in schools. Named in memory of Benedict Blythe, this legislation aims to ensure that all schools have clear allergy policies, appropriate staff training, individual healthcare plans where needed, and access to emergency adrenaline auto-injectors for severe allergic reactions. **We also ask families to complete and return emergency consent and medical information forms promptly**, as up-to-date consent enables us to act quickly and appropriately in the event of a medical emergency. By working together and ensuring that all health information is accurate and current, we can help provide a safe and inclusive environment for every child. **Please note that this form is to be completed for every child and not just those children who have a known allergy.**

We need your help make our schools AMAZING places for our children to grow and to learn

Without volunteers, our schools simply cannot run and we **urgently need enthusiastic people** to join our governing body.

Absolutely **no education experience needed!** You do not need to be an education expert. We welcome diverse perspectives from all walks of life. If you have a passion for your community, **you have everything it takes to make a real difference.**

Governors work behind the scenes to support our four primary schools. You will focus on the big picture by planning long-term goals for our schools, checking how they are progressing, and ensuring school budgets are spent wisely to give children the best possible education.

- Time commitment: Just 5–10 hours a month (around 6 meetings a year, with online options available).

Who Do You Know? If this isn't right for you, **please pass this on!** Do you know a grandparent, a retiree, a friend or a neighbour who wants to give back to the community? We need people like them to keep our village schools thriving.

Get in Touch Today

To find out more please email clerk@southhamsfederation.org.uk. The governors next meet on Monday 21st September, if you would like to come along and observe the meeting, please let us know.

News from Merry Go Round

What an amazing start to the term we have had! We have welcomed 9 new families into MGR this week and everyone has settled in so well.

We have been busy getting to know our new friends, harvesting tomatoes in our veg patch, turn taking games, singing, painting, dancing and of course a very busy morning at Forest School.



News from Stokenham Explorers

Welcome back from Stokenham Explorers

What a fantastic start to the new term! It's been so lovely to see all the children again and welcome in our new club members. They've all settled in brilliantly - playing so well with each other and being as inventive and creative as ever...Well done Team!! ☀️

It's also been great to be back on the pitch, with after school football Club on Thursday. Brilliant to see the children return with such great energy, and passion for football. We kicked things off with some warm-up exercises, followed by a few fun drills to get everyone moving and practising their skills, before finishing with an exciting match. There was some fantastic teamwork, effort and plenty of smiles throughout!

A huge well done to our **Stars of the Week: Charlie and Jamie for KS1, and Monroe and George for KS2.** Fantastic effort, everyone — we're already looking forward for next week! ⚽

If you would like any further details regarding Thursday After School Football Club and/or the Wrap Around Care we offer – please contact us direct 07967 318 114 or e-mail us on stokenhamexplorers@outlook.com

For bookings please use this link <https://eegu.org/book/stokenham-explorers-wraparound-carewith-stokenham-explorers-20225>

Reminder: Bookings need to be made before 6pm the night before the session starts.

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

The Week Ahead

Monday 14 th Sept	Meet the Teacher - Years 1, 2 and 3 and Reception – see above After-school choir Club with Abi – see details above
Tuesday 15 th Sept	Lunchtime Drawing club INSET for teaching staff after school No after school clubs
Wednesday 16 th Sept	Lunchtime Recorder Club Year 5 and 6 Meet the teacher – see above
Thursday 17 th Sept	Flu Nasal Immunisation programme – see above Alan Inglis-Faulkner Music Lessons – see above Lunchtime Times Table and Maths Club Lunchtime Cross Country Running Club After-school Art Club After School Football with Stokenham Year 4 Meet the teacher – see above
Friday 18 th Sept	Monica Chapman Music lessons – see details above

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Friday 2 October	AM	All	Harvest Festival at Stokenham Church
Tuesday 6 October	AM	All	Tempest Photography at School
Friday 9 October	All Day	All	Wear something Green for Mental Health Day
Thursday 15 October	PM	KS2	Federation Cross Country at MWSH - tbc
Friday 16 October	PM	4 to 6	Swimarathan at Quayside – details to follow
Monday 19 October	PM	All	Parents Consultations - details to follow
Tuesday 20 October	PM	All	Parents Consultations - details to follow
Friday 23 October	AM	6	Junior Life Skills at Quayside – details to follow
Mon 26 to Fri 30 October		All	Half Term
Wednesday 11 November	PM	All	PTFA Film Night – details to follow
Friday 20 November	All Day	All	Children in Need Day
Friday 27 November	All Day	All	PTFA Pyjama Day
Friday 4 December	PM	All	PTFA Christmas Fair
Tuesday 8 December	PM		Nativity Play at South Hams Hospital - tbc
Monday 14 December	PM	3 & 4	Christmas Performances
Tuesday 15 December	All Day	R, 1 & 2	Christmas Performances
Wednesday 16 December	PM	5 & 6	Christmas Performances
Thursday 17 December	All Day	All	Christmas Jumper and Dinner Day
Friday 18 December	AM PM PM	All R, 1 & 2 All	Christmas Carol Service at Stokenham Church KS1 Party Autumn Term 2026 ends
		2027	
Tues 5 January 2027	AM	All	Spring Term 2027 starts
Wednesday 10 February	PM	All	PTFA Disco
Mon 15 to Fri 19 February		All	Half Term
Monday 1 March	All Day	5	Residential
Wednesday 3 March	PM	5	Back from Residential
Wednesday 24 March	AM	All	Tempest Photography
Thursday 25 March 2027	PM	All	Spring Term 2027 ends
Monday 12 April 2027	AM	All	Summer Term 2027 starts
Monday 3 May		All	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4 May	All Day	3	Residential Day
Mon 10 to Fri 14 May	All Day	6	SATs Week
Mon 31 May to Fri 4 June		All	Half Term
Wed 16 to Thurs 17 June	All Day	4	Residential
Friday 9 July	PM	All	PTFA Summer Fair
Mon 12 to Wed 14 July	All Day	6	Residential
Wed 21 July 2027		All	Summer Term 2027 ends