



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2017/21
Friday 20th April 2018
www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to all our pupils and staff after a refreshing and restful Easter holiday. What a glorious start to the new school term we have had; the sun has been shining and we are all busy preparing for another term full of exciting learning journeys and adventures. Please remember to apply sun cream to your child before they come to school and for them to bring a sun hat when playing outside. Let's hope that the sun stays for a while.

Tag Rugby Tournament

Children from Years 3 and 4 had a fantastic afternoon of rugby at KCC on Thursday. Two teams of children from Stokenham took part in the Tag Rugby Festival. The children all worked extremely hard throughout the afternoon. There was some fantastic passing and running displayed by both teams and it was wonderful to watch the children learning from their games as they progressed through the afternoon. As always, the children showed a great team spirit and were competitive while being keen to learn and enjoy the experience. We had a fantastic afternoon and the children did us proud. We would like to thank all the parents that drove to the competition and to those that stayed to watch and support.



Meet the Lifeguards

We are so fortunate to have some wonderful beaches nearby, but as we know the sea can be dangerous. On Monday our children had a wonderful afternoon meeting the lifeguards from the RNLI. They learnt about all the equipment that is used, the role of a lifeguard, the various risks on the beach and in the water and what each flag on the beach means. The lifeguards were very impressed with how much knowledge the children knew about beach safety.



Year 3 Chocolate Day - Tuesday 24th April

Our Year 3 children are off to Salcombe Chocolate factory on Tuesday 24th April. They will learn all about chocolate and hopefully be able to taste a few samples of chocolate and possibly ice cream, if time allows. There are still a few permission slips to be handed into the office. Without a slip, your child will not be able to attend. We also ask that if any parents are able to help with driving to and/or from Salcombe, please let Charlotte in the office know.

Year 6 Residential to Grenville

Our year 6 children are due back later this afternoon from their residential at Grenville. We eagerly await their arrival and will have a full account in next week's newsletter. We know from previous years that the children will have had the most fantastic time, learning new and exciting skills, forming new friendships and making wonderful memories.

Forest School

Our Year 5 children started their forest school sessions afternoon, with our Foundation Stage children continuing in the morning. Please remember to wear appropriate clothing according to the weather. We also suggest trousers and not shorts as the children are running near the odd bramble or stinging nettles.

Swimming Lessons - Starting Tuesday 8th May

The pool is being cleaned and prepared for the children to start their swimming lessons on Tuesday 8th May. A full time table will be sent out in due course. Please ensure that your child brings their swimming kit and towel into school, on the day their class is swimming. If your child has long hair, can we ask that they wear a swimming hat.

Year 6 SATS Week - Week Commencing Monday 14th May

We would just like to remind the Year 6 parents of the importance of your child's attendance at school during SATs week. Please ensure that they are present in school and on time, during this period. Many thanks for your support. We are extremely proud of how hard the children have been working and look forward to seeing this pay off as they leave primary school with the results they deserve!

Year 3 and 4 Residentials

With only a few weeks to go, planning for our residentials are in full swing. Letter 1 came home before the Easter holiday and a second letter along with a health consent form and kit list will go out early next week. Please return the completed health consent form and volunteer driver form to the office ASAP. Payments are due by 11th May. As always, if you have any queries, please contact Charlotte in the office.



Year 5 - Bikeability

Year 5 pupils will be involved in their Bikeability training week beginning Tuesday 8th May. The children do not need to wear uniform on the days that they are doing Bikeability (more details to follow) and additionally, they will be allowed to keep their bikes at school overnight in the school hall. It is a fantastic experience for all the children to take part in. Please return you completed form to the school office ASAP and as always, any queries, please let the office know.

After School Clubs

Our After School Clubs restart next week on Monday 23rd April with our After School Football Club, KS2 Art Club and Musical Theatre Club. All the after school clubs are very popular, so please submit you slips as soon as possible.

School Gardening Day



Despite the damp wet weather, our gardening club with the help of Mrs Hutchinson, Miss Burner and other parents planted our new Cherry Tree on the last day of term in March. It will be lovely to see the tree flourish, blossom and grow. We hope that it lasts as long as the original tree planted in 1968 which we lost in the wind, snow and rain back in January.

Free School Meals

All children in Foundation Stage, Year 1 and Year 2 automatically get free school meals. However, we encourage all our parents and carers to apply for free school meals every year, as this can help our school attract additional Pupil Premium funding to support learning. So if you feel you may be eligible please do apply.

You can apply for Free School Meals through the [Citizen Portal](#). This is the quickest and easiest way to apply and will result in you getting an instant decision. Alternatively, call the Education Helpline on 0345 155 1019.

There have been some recent changes in Free School Meals legislation. One of the biggest changes is the introduction of a new qualifying benefit. Universal Credit (UC) is now a qualifying benefit.

Please note that from 1 April 2018, all children currently getting free school meals will continue to do so while Universal Credit is rolled out. This will apply even if their parents' earnings rise above the new threshold during that time. In addition, any child who becomes eligible for free school meals after 1 April 2018 will be protected against losing these during the Universal Credit rollout period.

Once Universal Credit is fully rolled out, any existing claimants that no longer meet the eligibility criteria at that point (because their earnings are above the threshold or are no longer a recipient of Universal Credit) will continue to receive free school meals until the end of their current phase of education. The Universal Credit rollout is currently expected to complete in March 2022.

Devon County Council has updated its website to reflect the new qualifying benefits and this can be viewed here:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school-information/school-meals>

Attendance

Below is a table showing the attendance rates for each class, since last September. It is really important we accurately record our attendance data so if your child is unable to come to school for any reason, please ring the office on the first day of their absence to let us know. Can we please remind parents that if your child has suffered from vomiting and/or diarrhoea caused by a virus, then they must stay off from school until 48 hours after the vomiting/diarrhoea has settled.

Attendance Data 04.09.17 to 15.04.18	
Foundation Stage	95.9%
Year 1	95.8%
Year 2	94.5%
Year 3	96.0%
Year 4	97.0%
Year 5	97.1%
Year 6	97.0%
Total	96.2%

Should you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Sue Jezard
Executive Headteacher

Congratulations

Every Friday we hold a special assembly when we celebrate the children's achievements in school and share successes in their interests and activities outside school.

Our theme this term is:

The Blue Planet

Children receive an picture representing caring for the environment, sustainability and being part of a family at school.

Awards this week go to:



Barney
Mia
Olivia S
Rosie
Olivia M
Rafe



Mealtime Assistant Award

Callum H

The Week Ahead - Week 2

Monday 23 rd April	After School Years 4 to 6 Football Clubs starts After School KS2 Art Club starts After School Years 3 & 4 Musical Theatre Club starts
Tuesday 24 th April	Year 3 Trip to Chocolate Factory - letter sent out After School KS2 Gymnastics Club Starts
Wednesday 25 th April	After School Years 1 & 2 Art Club starts After School Years 1 & 2 Athletics Club starts After School Year 6 SATs club starts
Thursday 26 th April	Lunchtime KS1 Recorder Club After School KS2 Athletics Club starts After School Year 2 & 3 Tag Rugby starts After School Little Dragons starts After School Ukulele Club starts
Friday 27 th April	Foundation Stage and Year 5 Forest School After School Junior Taekwondo starts

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Monday 7 May		ALL	Bank Holiday Monday
Tuesday 8 May		5	Bikeability Week
Monday 14 May		6	SATs Week
Thursday 17 May	AM	4	East Soar Farm Residential
Friday 18 May	PM	4	Return from East Soar Farm
Thursday 24 May	PM	KS2	Dementia Awareness Presentation
Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June		ALL	Half Term Week
Thursday 7 June	AM	3	Forest & Beach Residential
Friday 8 June	PM	3	Return from Forest & Beach
Monday 2 July	AM	5	Heatree Residential
Wednesday 4 July	PM	5	Return from Heatree Residential
Friday 20 July	PM	ALL	Last day of Summer Term