



Stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 25

28 April 2017

Dear Parents,

Can you believe it's the summer term already? We can't. Summer term brings with it early panic and stresses with SATs for Year 2 & Year 6 and ends up with a celebration of the whole child, as we say goodbye to our Year 6 children at the end of July and welcome new children into our classes ready for September. In between these 2 important events, we have a lot to squeeze in! Please do check out the diary for reminders of events and don't forget our new website with its calendar which is completely up to date.

This week, children have come back in and made a determined start to the new term which has been great. We are being very 'nit-picky' about all the things we usually nag them about; basic punctuation, reading habits, being prepared and organised for PE etc etc. We are definitely looking for a step up in their responsibility levels this term and as a result, are focusing on our newest whole school value of 'RESPONSIBILITY' each week in assembly, beginning on Tuesday.

More on that next week! However, for now, please do read the newsletter very carefully as it contains many important things and, if you're not sure about anything at all, remember that our doors are always open!

Kind regards,

Emma Jefferies
Headteacher

PE

Every child in the school does at least 2hrs of PE a week. In addition to this, we have VERY active lunchtimes with a lot of activities led by the Peer Mentors.

We also have trained Bronze ambassadors who help children be active and sporty during playtimes and lunchtimes and drive the sport focus in school.

Each term, children take an outdoor activity or game for 1hr of their PE provision as well as an indoor gym or dance session.

Please help your child remember their PE kit. They MUST HAVE IT EVERY DAY as we will be seizing the opportunity to get out in good weather and hopefully do more than our minimum 2hours.

prince Harry replies

Horsebridge have had a good start to their week. They received individual replies from Prince Harry following the letters they sent to him about the expedition he led in Antarctica.



Daily mile

Bronze Ambassadors have introduced, through their own assembly today, our new fitness scheme! The Daily Mile! This means that every child and member of staff will run or walk a mile 3 times a week – that's 5 times around the field per mile! We will be doing this after lunch with KS2 children going first at 12.50pm and KS1 children following on.

Children are going to need their trainers or daps to change into but, if they don't have them, this won't be a barrier and they'll be able to join in anyway. We are hoping for a sleeker, fitter, more awake school in the afternoons as a result! I may be found having a snooze though!!!

DIARY DATES

New dates are added each week in **bold**.

*means further details will be sent.

Date	Time	Event
May		
Tue 2 nd	Lunch 9am	The Daily Mile begins! School Council meeting
Fri 5 th	Am	Live Music Concert to inspire our young musicians
Mon 8 th – 11 th		SATs tests for Y6
Wed 10 th	15:00	Y5/6 e-safety briefing for parents
Thurs 11 th	13:30	Y6 treat – tea and cake!
Fri 19 th	All day	Targets home
Sun 21 st	14:00 & 16:30	Stockbridge Cinema presents Lego Batman movie for all children
Fri 26 th	All day	INSET day for school and pre-school
WHITSUN HOLIDAYS 29th May – 2nd June		
June		
Mon 5 th	08:50 14:30	Back to school and pre-school Talent show begins
Sat 10 th	All day	Stockbridge Fete on the football grounds
23 rd & 24 th	All day	Flower festival in St Peter's Church – children will be exhibiting their work
July		
Tues 4 th	All day	Year 6 Test Valley Transition day
Fri 7 th	15:15 18:00	Reports come home to parents Year 3 camp out on school field
Mon 24 th & Tues 25 th		Last 2 days of school in new classes for next year
Wed 26 th	All day	1 st day of holidays

School Council meeting update

Our school council met this week and had a very constructive meeting. It's an opportunity to put our British Value of democracy into action with children having a real say in how the school is run.

Issues they are sharing back with their classes and with relevant members of staff to lobby for change are:

Lunchtime reward systems for beautiful table manners. Last year children wrote their own rules for lunchtimes and this year's school council are keen to enforce these in a positive way.

Fundraising for huff and puff equipment.

Our playtime equipment takes a battering and the children are organising a fundraiser to enable them to purchase more equipment.

Friendship bench.

The councilors wanted to raise the issue with peer mentors to ensure that the bench was sited in a useful place where those who are looking for a friend to play with can be seen and helped quickly.

Cloakroom – solution finding

Children are keen to be responsible in line with our school value, but want to talk to their classes about ways to encourage people to look after the cloakroom a bit more, as it's crowded and messy.

We think they're going to have a very busy half term and they've already started to action some of these independently as well!

Talent Show

The Talent show will return on Mon 5th June – the first day back after May half term.

Miss Broadhead is running Glee club which will help give our younger children ideas for what they could perform perhaps? This time, children will be asked to sign up 2 weeks before the holidays with their act and after this point, will need to show great commitment and practice to enable them to perform to their best,

Thank you!

Our 4 baby chicks and the tiny seedlings sewn by Sprat & Winkle class in the polytunnel were wonderfully cared for by parents over half term. Thank you so much if you were one of the lovely people who helped us out – you are much appreciated!

e-safety

Year 5/6 parents were noticeably absent at the last workshop so we're running one just for you on Wed 10th May at 3pm.

All Y5/6 parents welcome. We will have an activity for Year 5/6 children to take part in whilst you're in the workshop.

Parent Forum Minutes

Please find attached to this newsletter the minutes from the last Parent Forum meeting. We have 18 reps and only 3 attended but it was a really useful meeting and we made good progress. The next meeting will be on Tues 20th June at 7pm – please keep the date in your diaries if you're a rep!

pre-School news

To save pre-school parents a bit of time trawling through the whole newsletter, each week will have a dedicated 'pre-school' section in. Please do read the rest of the newsletter though as it's what your child will hopefully be moving into and there will be bits that are relevant for you.

Sun cream & hats

With the better weather around the corner, please can we ask that children come into school with their eight hour sun cream applied, otherwise unfortunately they will not be allowed outside. Also they will need a hat clearly marked with their name, thank you.

New member of staff

We are delighted to announce that, at the end of last term, we appointed Mrs McInnes to be our new key worker in pre-school. She will join us after the May half term, but will do some induction days, to get to know the children and the setting in the run up to this. We will introduce you to her as she meets the children. Mrs McInnes is a very experienced pre-school key worker and joins us from a popular nursery in Salisbury – we can't wait to get to know her better!

A while back, we asked you to get in touch with your local MP and reply to the National Funding Formula's consultation. It seems that many of you did and I and the Governors are very grateful to you for taking time to do this, particularly when the consultation documents was so unwieldy. I received an email from the DfE this week thanking us for all our contributions. Its contents are published below:

Thank you for the correspondence regarding the schools national funding formula.

We received a number of letters from parents and teachers at Stockbridge Primary School about the national funding formula for schools. We are replying to you directly and would be grateful if you could share this response with all parents.

The government has protected the core schools budget in real terms overall. This year, it is the largest ever on record, totalling over £40 billion. This is set to increase to £42 billion by 2019-20 as pupil numbers rise over the next two years.

The current funding system is, however, based on data that is a decade or more out of date and does not support the government's ambition for all children to be able to fulfil their potential and succeed in adult life. Similar local areas and schools receive very different levels of funding, with little or no justification. The government is committed to introducing a national funding formula for schools in 2018-19 that will calculate schools' funding allocations consistently and transparently, using an up-to-date assessment of need.

Introducing a national funding formula is a major reform and the government has consulted widely on its proposals. The department has made available a significant amount of data to help schools, governors, local authorities and parents to understand the impact of the proposed formula, if it had been introduced in 2016-17. The illustrative figures can be found at: <https://consult.education.gov.uk/funding-policy-unit/schools-national-funding-formula2/>

We are grateful to everyone who has taken the time to highlight their views on school funding and the proposed formula as part of the formal consultation. The department has received a significant number of responses, which will be reviewed in detail. The government will publish its response to the consultation in the summer.

The introduction of a national funding formula will mean a fairer distribution of funding between schools. The government does know, however, that schools are facing increasing cost pressures. As in other public services, these pressures will include salary increases, the introduction of the National Living Wage, increases to employers' National Insurance and pension scheme contributions, and the apprenticeship levy.

The government will continue to provide advice and support to schools to help them use their funding in cost-effective ways, and improve the way they procure goods and services so that they get the best possible value for their pupils. The department has published a wide range of tools and support to help schools, and these are available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/schools-financial-health-and-efficiency>

Schools could save, on average, up to 10 per cent by making use of the government's national energy deal, and over 40 per cent by using the national deal for printers and photocopiers. There is also well-established evidence, from the Education Endowment Foundation, of significant scope for better deployment of staff in schools. The department has also launched a school buying strategy to support schools to save at least £1 billion by 2019-20 in non-staffing costs. The strategy can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/schools-buying-strategy>

On behalf of the minister thank you again for writing.

End note from Mrs Jefferies: With the recently announced General Election on June 8, the National Funding Formula is currently on hold. There will not, we think, be any further news on this until after the Election.