



Stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 5

3 November 2017

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the new term – it feels like we’ve been back several weeks already, but it’s noticeably darker earlier after school and the mornings will soon start drawing in. Our Junior Road Safety Officers will be preparing a pop up shop for all things practical to encourage children to be ‘safe and seen’. They’ll write to you when this is happening.

School this week has been exceptionally busy and the pumpkin party was the crowning glory of a great week – thank you so much to Mrs Bishop for organising and overseeing it all and to all parents, grandparents and staff who helped out and made it a great success. I was unavoidably called away that day but heard all about it from staff and children the following morning! The success of the PTA depends entirely on you as parents, along with the staff to do things for the good of and benefit of the children and you all do support them massively at events. Thank you! Learning has begun in earnest this term with Year 4, 5 & 6 children learning about Macbeth and undertaking great dramatical sketches from the play.

Years 1, 2, and 3 have also begun their ‘Chalk and Cheese’ topic looking at how schools are different now, compared to previous periods of history and will be going right back to our school in Victorian times in the coming weeks. Dressing up boxes at the ready!! Reception have been busy writing to another class in America, asking great questions and being very inquisitive! My favourite question in their letters; ‘do you wear blue shoes?’!!

Kind regards,

Emma Jefferies
Headteacher



In this week's newsletter:

- Parent Governor
- Perfect PE
- Marvellous maths workshops
- FOSS Quiz night
- Times table testing
- New dates
- Garden working group with Tesco grant

Attached:

pencil cases and rucksacks

Before half term, parents should have received a note asking children not to bring in rucksacks but to put their things in a book bag, I do understand that this might either not have come home or you haven't had the opportunity to get one sorted yet.

We didn't take this decision lightly. The cloakrooms are full – 90 children's belongings are squashed in there each day. With the onset of wintry weather hats, scarves, gloves, thick coats and wellies clutter it even more.

I have ordered a stock of bookbags from Skoolkit which will be available to buy for £6 in school next Friday – if you haven't got one sorted by this point in time, please do come and take advantage of not having to pay the p&p by buying directly.

We work really hard to reduce unnecessary risks to your child and we don't want a serious accident to occur in the cloakrooms needlessly.

In their second meeting of the year last term, the school council also requested that we ask people to take pencil cases home as they were a major cause of distraction in class. We have asked children to do this and can already provide all the resources they need in school (and more!),

Assembly theme this term

As we are a largely monocultural school in a similar area, we have to work that little bit harder than others at ensuring our children have access to and understanding of the world around them. This term, in line with the British Values of individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of others as well as our school value of Respectfulness, we will be exploring different cultures, faiths and beliefs with the general theme of:

‘we’re different but the same’

You will notice that children will have a growing awareness of other's needs, cultures, faiths and beliefs as the term goes on and we'd love to hear any observations or reflections they make on this at home – please keep your child's class teacher in the loop if there's anything notable!

Dates for diary

New dates are added each week in **bold**.
*means further details will be sent.

Date	Time	Event
November		
Mon 6th	AM	Year R – Year 4 Flu Nasal Spray Permission only
Tues 7 th	9am - 12	Mottisfont and Clatford visit to Salisbury Playhouse
Sun 12 th	10:00	Remembrance Day Service in Church
Thurs 16th	AM	Individual Photographs
Tues 21st	13:30	Yr 3-6 InFilm at Town Hall
w/b 20th	Year 6 trip to Wales with Mrs Jefferies and Miss Caws	
Wed 23rd	All day	Year R height and weight monitoring
December		
Fri 1st	15:15 17:00	Decorate the school for Christmas Xmas on the High Street – Christingle Service
Sun 3 rd	15:00	Stockbridge Cinema Despicable Me 3
Fri 15 th	18:15	KS1 Nativity Performance in church
Mon 18th	18:30	KS2 Carol Service
Tues 19th	12:00	Christmas School Lunch
Thurs 21st	Last day of school – PANTOMIME IN SALISBURY IN THE AFTERNOON	
Fri 22 nd Dec – Thurs 4 th Jan	Christmas School Holidays	
January		
Thurs 4 th	INSET DAY (School and Pre-School)	
Fri 5 th	INSET DAY (School and Pre-School)	

Phonics videos

We have just published onto our website, phonics videos for Year R parents so that you know how to make the pure sound for each phoneme your child is learning as well as the action for each sound so that you know what your child is doing when they make funny moves with their hands and fingers!!

They can be found in the 'our learning' section under Sprat & Winkle class page and on the 'our learning' section under reading, spelling and phonics.

Topic maps

Want to know in a bit more detail what your child is learning this term? Their topic map is coming home on Monday next week – please keep an eye out for it.

Our next parents evening isn't until February officially but if you would like to know the progress your child is making in the meantime, please do catch up with their class teacher at the beginning or end of each day to make an appointment to do this.

Individual photos

Want photos ready for Christmas? We will be having individual photos on Thursday 16th November from 8.30am. If you have younger children who you'd like in a sibling photo, please bring them in at this time.

Poppies for sale

We have a stock of poppies available to buy next week in school. School Councillors will be taking them to each class after lunch to see if anyone would like to purchase them. For the first time in many years, we will not be at school on the 11th November so will not all be going over to the war memorial. Instead, the school will be represented by Year 6 children who will be reading in Church and laying a wreath as part of the village service of remembrance.

Massive thanks to Reuben, Rafe and their mum Lisa for making some very beautiful Hamma bead poppy pins which are also for sale. They are available to purchase from the school office as are usual poppies if adults would like to access them here.

New Year R in September 2018?

If you have a child who is due to start school in September 2018 in Year R or know anyone who has moved in near you with a child who may need to start in our school mid-way through this year, the window for them to apply is now open.

We are not holding open days this year but prefer to meet with parents individually so that we can spend time talking about your child and addressing your personal queries rather than trying to do it 'en masse'.

Please contact the school for an appointment to come and have a look around.

We do still have some pre-school places available – if interested, please see the school office.

Lunch change

There will be a menu change on Friday next week as we have been given an extra stock of beef burgers so these will replace fish on that day only. Hampshire beef burgers are made from locally sourced meat and available only rarely on our menus!

Parent questionnaire feedback

Thank you to all who completed the questionnaire on parents evenings. We had some great feedback and a really positive picture overall.

100% of you felt their child was safe at school and well looked after. 100% felt the school was well led and managed and would recommend us to another parent.

Although numbers were few (4% and 6% of overall returns), we will be focusing this year on how to communicate the progress your child is making with you more clearly and more frequently, especially linked to the target cards.

Spotty day – Children in Need

Did you receive the note from School Council about dressing up in spots for Children in Need in exchange for £1? It's on November 17th

