



# Stockbridge

## Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 10

2 February 2018

Dear Parents,

This is an overdue newsletter this week, but we wanted to wait to write to you with the outcomes of our admin assistant interviews, as well as share some of the exciting things we've been up to this week and last.

In school, we know we've got the curriculum right when children become so interested in what they're learning that it transfers to home or to other children in another class – the Key Stage 1 topic on recycling and becoming a 'waste warrior' has certainly had a huge impact, as children are talking about being wasteful and looking at ways to reduce our waste across the school, but interestingly at home too. Even though their topic will finish next week, we will have a further focus on the recycling and reusing aspect when we begin composting in earnest after half term, keeping the topic alive for the children long into the future.

Key Stage 2 children are also entering into fascinating debates and information gathering about heroes and villains over time; one class looking at racial segregation and how characters both past and present have been perceived whilst another class are looking at monarchs over time and whether their actions may be classed as being heroic or villainous. Controversial but high level debates ensue!

Kind regards,

Emma Jefferies  
Headteacher



### Music in school

We're in the Andover Advertiser this week with a write up and photo from our guitar concert at the end of last term. We also have our first pianist being entered for a grade exam in March and children learning recorder are doing brilliantly, even teaching the younger group some of the techniques and songs.

Mrs Waters, who teaches piano on a Wednesday, has the patience of a saint (she has to, she teaches me!) and has got room for a couple of new pupils. If you would like your child to learn piano, please contact Mrs Waters directly on 01794 388403.

Similarly, Sarah Wilson comes in to teach 2 children violin in school.. She too is endlessly patient and keen to have another few pupils to teach. If you would like your child to take up violin, please contact Sarah directly on 07401 112 558.

Guitar and Ukiele with Kev Rees are continuing as usual and recorders with Mrs McClue likewise.

### Parents evening

These are happening next week!

Tues 6<sup>th</sup> Feb  
and  
Wed 7<sup>th</sup> Feb

Mrs Spayes and I will be on hand to answer any questions about other aspects of school and you should have your own personal time for your slot by now.

Please do bear in mind that we allocate 10 mins per child and stick to this so that everyone can be seen. Teachers are more than willing to meet with you outside these times if they need a little longer with you.

### Bikeability

Next week is bikeability for Years 5 & 6. This is such a great opportunity for all the children, bike riders or not! By the end of the week, children who cannot yet ride a bike will be almost on their way to doing so, if not already there and children who can ride a bike will have mastered road skills and be safer out and about when on a bike ride.

This is separately funded from Government and something we have to apply for each year.

Please ensure bikes are kept either on site or returned each day so that we don't miss out on a moment's training. We do know those children who need to borrow a bike and helmet so don't worry there either!

# Dates for diary

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

Date	Time	Event
<b>February</b>		
Fri 2 <sup>nd</sup>	All day	Mrs Goode's last day
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup>	15:00	New targets home with children Bikeability starts for Year 5 & 6 children – all week
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	15:30 – 17:45	Parent's evening #1
Wed 7 <sup>th</sup>	16:00 17:00 – 19:45	Girl's football at TVS Parent's evening #2
<b>February half term</b>		
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	08:55 14:40	Back to school Talent show runs all week
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	14:45	Talent show finale
<b>March</b>		
Thurs 1 <sup>st</sup>	All day	World book day
Tues 6 <sup>th</sup>	16:00	Netball tournament at TVS
Sun 11 <sup>th</sup>	All day	Mother's Day
Fri 16 <sup>th</sup>	15:15	Targets home #6
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	All week	Last week of clubs this half term
Thurs 22 <sup>nd</sup>	16:00	Football at TVS
Mon 26 <sup>th</sup>	15:15 & 19:00	SATs evening Y6 & Y2
Wed 28 <sup>th</sup>	10:00	Y4 at Tile Barn
Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup>	14:00	Y4 home from Tile Barn Whole school finish for Easter holidays

## Farewell and hello!

A contradiction I know, but today is the last day with Mrs Goode at the helm on the front office desk. I know she'll be missed by many and thank you to those parents who bought gifts and went out of your way to say goodbye and thanks, I know this meant a lot to her.

We had 31, yes 31, applications for her post! We've never had so many applications and certainly not so many with such experience; we found it difficult to whittle them down to a shortlist. We did and on last Friday, spent the whole day putting 8 candidates through their paces to select the right person for the job and for our team.

I am delighted to announce that Mrs Jane Penfound will join our team after half term and be your first port of call for all things admin. You may have already met her as she's been in this week doing a handover with Mrs Goode and Mrs Spayes.

This does mean Mrs Spayes is on her own next week so please do take it easy on her!! Payments made online and reply slips and payments put in the outside postbox will help a lot!

## Daily fit

Today I was in awe of our bronze ambassadors who are doing a great job of keeping everybody fit and well whilst the field is too wet for the daily mile. We've been keen not to drop this daily exercise so they are leading daily 'fit' sessions for the whole school after each lunch. Brilliant!

## Talent Show guidance

Our annual 'Stockbridge has got talent' show is being rolled out over the next few weeks to continue to keep the profile of our 'proud' value high. We introduced this last year and it's proved a successful way to discover children's hidden talents and link home and school.

EVERY child has a talent.  
EVERY child has something to share with others.  
EVERY child is welcome to join in.

This year, we would like to increase the number of talents we see from outside of the usual 'singing/dancing remit. Although I'm not 'banning' these, I would like to see the variety of what we see broadened.

Perhaps your child can share:

- How they look after their pet
- Their swimming/cubs/beavers badges (choosing one that's special would be great)
- Read a poem
- Put forward a viewpoint on something that matters to them
- Show off their maths skills by modelling how to answer a question or how fast they can do their times tables.
- Share a love of reading by talking about their favourite book
- Show off their martial arts skills from a club they do outside of school.

We will be talking to the children about this wider variety of talents they can show off today and throughout next week.

We have a week of school before the holidays to answer any questions about the talent show and then the rehearsals and practice to take place either next week or during the holidays.

Children will sign up for their act by Wednesday of next week so that we can plan out when things will happen and I'll write next week with a definitive timetable.

## New equipment

School councilors have been playing a really active role in the development of the school recently. Issues from the children in the school about lack of playground equipment were brought forward by councilors as class reps who then took the lead by involving the bronze ambassadors in the selection and procurement of new equipment. Armed with a £500 budget, the ambassadors chose equipment, checked it off against the delivery note, labelled it and are busy teaching people to play with it! Brilliant student voice.

## Class attendance

Kingfishers 92%

Clatford 96.25%

Mottisfont 94.29%

Sprat & Winkle 98.57%

Redbridge 96.13%

Horsebridge 95.71%

WHOLE SCHOOL = 95.78%

