



Stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 12

28 February 2018

Snow!

Although changeable, we are almost certain to have snow in the next two days which brings excitement and loathing in equal measure for adults and a rarely seen pure excitement in children! They've been talking non-stop about it in school! We have many new families and I thought it would be useful to outline our snow plan just in case.

Thursday

We will do our very best to open tomorrow morning – you should expect school to happen as normal. We're hoping that the worst we'll have to do is limit entrances to just Old London Road with all pedestrians entering through the top gate and down the steps. This has always been sufficient and safe in previous years. If the weather worsens over the course of the day and you are concerned about getting children home, please do feel free to come and pick them up so you are not putting yourselves at risk. If we are concerned about getting children and staff home safely, we will make a decision to close the school and notify you by email and text. Should we need to close the school on either Thursday or Friday before school begins, we will make the decision early morning, about 7.30am via the methods below.



Friday

Depending on the snowfall on Thursday, we will notify you as early as possible on Friday morning if we intend to close the school – you should assume that it's on as normal though until you hear otherwise. Notification will come via Parentmail (email, text and the Parentmail App) and also be displayed on our school website www.stockbridgeprimary.co.uk and www.hants.gov.uk/schoolclosures and local radio (see below). It may be that we decide to go with a later opening to ensure people get to school in the light and as safely as possible – we'll let you know about this in the same way.

If school is open, please do send your child/ren in appropriately dressed so that we can go out and enjoy what snow may be available – waterproof and warm coat, waterproof trousers if you have some, wellies or snow shoes and of course, the bobble hat, scarf and gloves.

Kind regards,

Emma Jefferies
Headteacher

SpireFM 102FM Andover Sound 106.4FM BBC Radio Solent 96.1-103.8FM Wave 105.2FM



OFSTED

Thank you to so many of you who took the trouble to log your views on parentmail or speak to the inspector on our inspection day last week. It was an affirming experience and Mrs Moles, our inspector, was as rigorous and thorough as you would expect her to be. The children were impeccably behaved and enjoyed showing their learning off too. What the process did highlight, not that we didn't already know, was just how absolutely fabulous our staff team are at Stockbridge – many stayed late the night before to ensure everything was up together and they were all here early the next day to ensure we were best prepared. We are so lucky to have such a great team! Outcome published in a few weeks. Thankyou.

Dates for diary

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

Date	Time	Event
March		
Thurs 1 st	All day	World book day
Tues 6 th	16:00	Netball tournament at TVS
Sun 11 th	All day	Mother's Day
Fri 16 th	15:15	Targets home #6
Mon 19 th	All week	Last week of clubs this half term
Thurs 22 nd	16:00	Football at TVS
Mon 26 th	15:15 & 19:00	SATs evening Y6 & Y2
Wed 28 th	10:00	Y4 at Tile Barn
Thurs 29 th	14:00	Y4 home from Tile Barn Whole school finish for Easter holidays

Payments

We need to finalise accounts for the 2017-18 financial year at the end of March and are in the process of doing this now.

Please could we ask that all residential payments, trip monies and outstanding pre-school and dinner monies are paid into the office by Monday 26th March.

This includes monies for:

- Brecon Beacons residential (Year 6 Nov 17)
- Calshot residential (Year 5 Sept 17)
- Tile Barn (old Year 4s April 17)
- Tile Barn (Year 4 April 18)

Straight after Easter we will be issuing payment cards for next year's residential trips for Calshot and Wales so it would be great to start the new financial year afresh.

Some of you received a letter from Mrs Spayes last week inviting you to sign up to online payments, she was trying to catch everyone who hasn't yet signed up as this is a really easy and quick way to pay. Please do sign up if you haven't already.

Grounds working party

You might have noticed on Monday morning that the grounds were looking a bit smarter and things outside a little tidier. That's thanks to the help of a number of parents, children and governors (and Miss T and myself!) who came into school on Sunday morning and spent a happy few hours clearing the borders of the emerging weeds, digging over hard soil, moving the children's new playhouse and clearing out the polytunnel ready for spring.

Thank you so much to those who took part – many hands make light work and it's always a great feeling to look back and see what you've cleared. By doing this, we can divert much needed funds back into support and resources for children in school.

Talent Show

A massive thankyou to you all as parents for supporting and encouraging your children to take part in the talent show – we were overwhelmed by entries and had a very tough final with joint winners:

Elliott (Y6)
with his poetry rendition
and

Florence (Y5)
who played 2 beautifully confident flute pieces.

The final saw a real mix of interests, talents and skills; kickboxing, piano playing, art work, gymnastics and cheerleading. All talent show competitors really showed huge courage to get up and perform in front of so many people and they have every right to feel very proud of themselves and their achievements.

What does a governor actually do?

I was heading off to a governors' meeting when my daughter asked me, "but what do you actually do?" Fair question. They see glimpses. I occasionally head to school, bizarrely, at bedtime. And they sometimes spot me there during the day. And that pretty much sums up what we "actually do".

At those evening meetings we set the wider vision and strategy for the school, agree the policies and monitor how Mrs Jefferies and her team delivers (she does this outstandingly well, in my view; of course, we all want even more for our children.) At school visits we check it's all feeding through to the children: so far, I've looked through literacy books to see if children are getting the chance to write at greater length (they are); I've interviewed staff to check they know everything there is to know about (they do); and I've talked to children to try and ensure that the school values (they're working on)



I told my daughter that we have the most dedicated and talented staff, a thoroughly committed group of governors and the most wonderful children you could imagine. So what do governors actually do? Try to ensure that Stockbridge gives those children every chance to thrive.

James McConnachie

Thank you FOSS!

Thanks to all FOSS team members who created a great atmosphere for 2 very, very busy discos on Friday evening. The disco lights were fab, children had a great time and we hopefully tired them out for the weekend! Well done Rachel and team.

