



Stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 2

22 September 2023

Autumn days

This last fortnight seems to have flown by and yet it seems a while since the last newsletter.

We've wasted no time at all in getting on with new learning in school; phonics lessons have begun in earnest, I've heard several times tables lessons as I've been up and down the corridor and topics are well underway. So that you know what your child will be learning this term (until October half term), accompanying this letter is the topic map for your child's class. This spells out the general direction of learning for foundation subjects and the general 'topic' of the term.

This year, we've moved the October parent's evenings to a little earlier in the term so that we can catch up with you earlier about your child's start to school and any personal targets we really would appreciate your support with at home. They will continue to be a hybrid of face to face and online meetings as we know that many of you prefer the online ones to fit them in around work commitments. We will run some parent's meetings on Monday 9th October during the day and the remainder on Tuesday 10th October from 3.30pm – 6.30pm. **Please watch out next week in your email inboxes for the link to book your chosen slot.**

If you wish to catch your child's teacher to discuss anything, please make a time with them – often grabbing them at the beginning or end of day for an 'in the moment' chat is tricky if they're dismissing children or settling someone in so they may not be able to see you immediately.

Dojo is for learning messages only so any communication from them will come through the school office.

Kind regards,

Mrs Emma Jefferies
Headteacher

Conkers

It's that time of year! A recent walk in the forest where I live got me all excited – the conkers have started to drop and that can mean only one thing – it's conker competition time!

Bronze Ambassadors will take this on as their first competition in their new role and will plan and risk assess with me to ensure everyone's safety. The official competition in school will be on Monday 9th October when we return from Wales. It will run until the half term and we should have a conker champion of 2023!

The leaflet attached to this newsletter gives further details.



STOCKBRIDGE SAVERS

Travelling Food Pantry

We are delighted to announce a new permanent arrangement with Unity Andover who are able to provide a new travelling food pantry which will visit our school every Friday morning from 9.30am.

The pantry exists to support families in these challenging financial times. It costs £5 each week and you are able to select goods to the value of £15. We will be able to offer fruit, vegetables and dry goods which will hopefully help out a little bit as heating needs switching back on and fires need to be lit which will all take a toll on family finances.

It's taken a lot of effort on Unity's part and in liaison with us, to get this up and running so please do pass tis on to anyone else in the community who may need access to it – it's not just for school families.



Sports

This week, there were a lot of children who didn't have their PE kit in with them. We are in the swing of PE on Mondays again plus other sessions during the week when we can fit them in so it's important your child has their PE kit every day of the week please.

Summer PE kit still applies so children need:

- Navy or black shorts (not with logos on)
- Red logo PE t-shirt
- Spare jumper or hoody in case of chilly mornings
- Socks
- Trainers – ideally for all children but certainly for those in Year 4 and above.

If your child has their ears pierced, they will need to cover their piercing with micropore tape or a plaster – please supply these. This is for their own safety. Similarly, children with shoulder length hair or longer should have a hair bobble to tie their hair back. Thanks for your support in this.

Music

We are resurrecting the musician of the half term as a great way to introduce our children to a wide range of music and encourage them to find something they love.

This half term, we are focusing on the music by 90s band

OASIS

Although controversial in their behaviour, their music was iconic and made many references to bygone generations of famous and talented musicians.

Children are enjoying the tracks and at the moment are focusing on the musical concept of pitch when listening to Oasis tracks.

REGULAR



UPDATES

Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

Wider personal development

Our school goes above and beyond to develop the 'whole' child – looking beyond just English and Maths to support children's wider understanding and experiences of the world.

In the last fortnight;

Year 5 have been to Calshot on a 2 night residential and had a blast, even in the hot sunshine of the first week back. Where has that gone?!

Upper school have visited the University of Reading and been privileged to handle artefacts from the Ancient Greek period – what an absolute honour. They were also inspired by the size and scope of the University campus with some very special awe and wonder moments throughout the day.

Lower school took their learning about Deadly 60 into the real world at Longleat where, despite the rain, they battled on to touch tarantulas and other deadly beasts.

Pre-School children also went wandering this week and visited the local shops and playpark in a small group on Friday afternoon. I love getting their walkie talkie messages through to tell me that they've got to the park safely!

What a great start to school!



Bags2School

Please start bagging up any old textiles or clothing (see below) for our next Bags2School drop which will be on Tuesday 17th October.

Donations can include:

- Clothes
- Bags
- Jewellery
- Belts
- Shoes
- Soft toys
- Household linens
- Curtains

Donations can be left under the station from Thursday 12th October ready for weighing and collection on Tuesday 17th October. You can also drop them off on Saturday 14th October from 9am – 1pm whilst we are doing the grounds working party. This is a FREE way to earn money for FOSS and also a great way to clear your cupboards ready for winter clothes & Christmas.

Financial support for your child

We are coming up to the annual census (first Thursday in October) and this is a crucial date for all schools as our budgets are set for the following year depending on the number of children on roll.

We are putting out a call to all families to see if you are eligible for the Pupil Premium.

If you are eligible, the school receives over £1300 to be spent on your child through the Pupil Premium. You are likely to meet this criteria if you receive Universal credit, are on income support, bring £16,190 into the household each year or meet some of the other criteria.

Either Mrs Spayes or Mrs Jefferies would be happy to go through this application with you or talk more about how we use this money to benefit your child.

Please check your status on this free, quick online check:

<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants>

OCTOBER & DECEMBER HOLIDAY CLUBS HERE!

Our summer holiday club day with Bigfoot arts was a success and so we're offering provision for both October and Christmas holiday clubs, here at Stockbridge Primary & Pre-School – book now to get planned ahead and avoid any disappointment.

<https://eequ.org/experience/4670>

Grounds

Intermittently throughout the year, we put on a grounds working party where lots of families come on a Saturday morning and help us for a couple of hours (9am – 11am) to clear the grounds and keep on top of beds, borders and a few other projects which are ongoing.

This 2hr period with 20 pairs of hands makes light work of what would take our caretaker Mrs Gilligan literally weeks to complete. **By doing this, we are able to divert literally thousands of pounds from costly contractors into resources and staffing for your child in school.**

We will be running our autumn working party on Saturday 14th October 9am – 11am.

Please do come and join us!

There'll be bacon and sausage buns and cake too plus children are welcome to bring scooters and play on the field whilst we knuckle down to clearing beds and borders ready for winter. No skills are needed although if you have a pair of gloves, they're usually helpful as is a spade, fork, trowel or rake!

Calling all cake bakers!

It's that time of year again, Macmillan coffee morning is NEXT WEEK! Friday 29th October we'll all be getting together and you are invited! Bring a friend, a neighbor, anyone who you think would like coffee, a chat and a bit of cake.

Even better if you can bring or bake a cake for either adults or children – we're setting a challenge for each class (see separate letter). Staff are having a bake off challenge too!

We'll be holding the coffee morning in the hall again this year and the more the merrier. Take time out of your Friday to come and support this very worthy cause and enjoy a cake or two along the way!



Diary Dates Autumn term 2023-24

These are diary dates for parents for the next fortnight until the next newsletter is out.

Our website is also updated with all of these new dates and will now be up to date as we've bravely moved to an online diary for all staff!

Date	Who does it apply to?	Time	Notes
Mon 25 th	Year R	Mornings	Bikeability will begin for Year R children – 1hr each day, Mon – Thurs this week
Tues 26 th	Team (TBC)	4pm	Cross Country event @ Wallop
Fri 29 th	All	9am	Macmillan Coffee morning
OCTOBER			
w/b 2 nd Oct	Year 6	All week	Wales residential
Mon 9 th	All	Daytime	Parent teacher meetings
Tues 10 th	Bronze Amba All USch team	9am – 3pm Evening pm	Bronze Ambassador training here in school with cluster children Parent teacher meetings Girl's football festival
Wed 11 th	All Parent forum reps	Throughout the week 6pm	School council nominations open Parent forum
Thurs 12 th	Year R parents	2.30pm & 7pm	Year R parent workshop on Maths
Sat 14 th	All	9am – 11am 9am – 1pm	Grounds working party – all hands on deck much appreciated Bags2School drop off
Tues 17 th	All Team (TBC)	9am 4pm – 5.30pm	Bags2School being taken and weighed to raise funds for FOSS Girls football tournament
Fri 20 th	All	3.15pm	Last day of school before October Half term holidays
OCTOBER HALF TERM			
Mon 30 th	All	8.50am	Return to school and pre-school
Sat 4 th	All welcome	9am	Family photo shoot – get images ready for Christmas!
Wed 8 th	Year 1, 2 & 3 parents	9am	Sharing morning – will end at 9.45am – parents welcome to come in and see their child's work and do a bit of learning alongside them!
Fri 10 th	Year 4, 5 & 6 parents All	9am morning	Sharing morning as above Flu immunisations for all children – you have received a separate letter about this from the school nursing service.
Mon 13 th	All	All day	INSET day – no pre-school or school
Wed 15 th	Upper school	1pm	INFilm event in the town hall

Reminder of INSET dates for next year so you can book holidays around these:

Day 2	Monday 13 th November
Day 3	Monday 19 th February
Day 4	Monday 22 nd July
Day 5	Tuesday 23 rd July

Congratulations!

Mrs Whittington had another early surprise when she gave birth to a beautiful daughter, Flora Whittington on Monday this week, 2 weeks ahead of schedule! Just like her big brother before her, Flora arrived on day 1 of Mrs Whittington's maternity leave!

Mrs Hurn, who provided excellent cover for teachers last year has also given birth this week to a gorgeous baby daughter Sienna who arrived a little later than planned! Congratulations to them both, we can't wait for cuddles.

