



stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 1

2 September 2024

Welcome back!

I hope you have all managed to have a break with your family or great days out – hasn't the weather been fabulous this holiday? So much of a contrast to last year's wet 6 weeks!

A very special welcome to our new Year R families – you are all very welcome.

After the best part of last year was shared across two schools, I am very much looking forward to being back at Stockbridge full time and have lots of plans – not least to involve you as parents more in your children's learning.

We have re-established parent lunches, booked in dates for sharing sessions for the year and also for 'secrets to success' each year with your child's teacher. More on these next week. We've got the main dates for the Autumn term on the back of this newsletter but the whole year is now online on the school calendar which sits on the website. A [direct link is here](#)

We are still looking for a permanent new cook for lunchtimes and a minibus driver – adverts are out but if you know anyone, please do put them in touch with us, we want to get it right and will hold on for the right person.

This term promises to be a busy one with Calshot for Year 5 this week and in 3 weeks time, Wales with Year 6 as well as all the usual settling in activities.

This morning in assembly, we shared a story of Victor, the wolf with worries as I'm sure many of the children had a few worries about new classes, returning to routines and settling in again. We've talked about it throughout the day too so hopefully they're returning to you tonight with a few less than they had at the beginning of the day.

It's so good to be back!

Food in school

We want our children to be healthy & happy. Our school offers free fruit for all children at breaktime and milk for under 5s. All ages may bring a snack from home. This should NOT contain nuts or be crisps or chocolate. Items containing these will be handed back to you at the end of the day and your child will be offered fruit from the basket.



Snack options	Allergens – leave at home!
Fruit Veg sticks Fruit winder Carton drink Crackers Yoghurt	Sesame Tree nuts Peanuts Avocado



Water

Please ensure your child has their water bottle in school every day. These should be filled with water, not squash please. Bottled need to be NAMED.

Birthdays

We will be celebrating birthdays in school assemblies from hereon in. This should save every family money on sweets and treats usually provided at the end of the day (& allow more room for cake at home!).



Calshot & Wales

Quick reminder for Year 5 parents: Calshot is THIS Wed – Fri. We'll meet you at Calshot on Wed 6th from 10.30am (not before please) and see you there again for collection at 1.30pm on Friday. Children will need a packed lunch for the first day.

Wales is at the end of the month 30th Sept – 4th Oct. Medical forms are being sent home tonight – please complete and return asap as we need to collate these and send off to the mountain centre team.

Kit lists for both trips are coming home tonight by way of a reminder although some children are already packed I hear!

Community

The theme of the first few weeks of our half term collective worships, we are focusing on what it takes to make and build a community. This is largely to settle us back into term and working together but also in response to the shocking events of the summer which children will have witnessed on the news relating to the rioting and community discord that feels like it's becoming a thread through our society.

We have invested in a large number of books about racism, tolerance, refugees and settling into a new home. If you would like to borrow any, you would be very welcome – please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Next week, we will be exploring this issue of people movement further. I thought it would be helpful for you to have the definition that we're working with for these terms:

Refugee – people who, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group or political opinion is outside the country of his/her nationality and is unable or, owing to such fear, is unwilling to avail him/herself of the protection of that country. (from UN Refugee Agency Convention of 1951)

Asylum Seeker: someone who has applied for protection as a refugee and is waiting to hear if they have been granted refugee status.

Migrant: people who choose to move, not because of a direct threat of persecution or death, but mainly to improve their lives by finding work, or in some cases, education, family reunion or other reasons. They can, unlike refugees, return home without immediate danger.

REGULAR



UPDATES

Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

News from home

This section is all about your children and their achievements at home – not just sport! It should also help you link to clubs and things that your child might be interested in but not know about either! From Rainbows, Brownies, Cubs, sport, music, stage and singing – it can all be covered here.



Charlie had great success in his first piano exam just before the holidays, passing with a whopping 127/150, meaning a merit grade – well done Charlie!

Esme, now in Year 4 had an exhausting but exciting event just before the holidays, competing in a Triathlon where she swam 132m, cycled 2km and ran 1.2km – I feel tired just thinking about it!



Rose, now in Year 6, won a national competition writing her very own new Bagpuss and the Clangers story. She won a very special day out with Bagpuss creator and author and many goodies too (as well as a fish & chip supper on the way home!)

Integr8, our after school street dance crew won the 'most creative' award for their performance at The Lights in Andover in July and Albert won star dancer for his leg spinning



Music

We've dived straight in to our musician of the half term already today and Mrs Cooper has chosen an all time great – we're sure you'll have a favourite! Just a reminder that you too can listen to our school playlist which will build across the year.

This half term, we're listening to

STEVIE WONDER

Superstition – Happy Birthday – Isn't she lovely
I just called... – Signed, sealed, delivered – For once on my life

Did you know...?

1. He doesn't just sing! He plays piano, harmonica, drums and bass, all by age 11!
2. He has 9 children!
3. After a car accident, he lost his sense of taste and smell but recovered them soon afterwards
4. He developed a musical style of his own incorporating rhythm and blues, soul, funk, rock and jazz!
5. Because of his massive contribution to American music, he was awarded the Presidential medal of freedom, the highest honor a civilian can get from the US Government!

Parking

We all know that this is a recurring theme so, by way of reminder:

- ✓ Please use all the parking available to us to avoid congestion on Old London Road; the pub car park, layby on the A30, High Street and Trafalgar Way are all accessible and a short walk away
- ✓ Avoid parking across neighbour's driveways – this is the single most frustrating thing for them and is impolite on our behalf
- ✓ Park and stop away from the zig zags.
- ✓ Scoot or cycle in – we have 2 huge cycle and scooter pods to use and paths to our school from the pub, High St and layby
- ✓ Come straight onto the school grounds rather than waiting by the gate – this congestion forces people onto the road which isn't safe.

Parent Governor

Many thanks to Miriam White, Jack's mum, who has stepped down from her role as Chair of Governors after many years of very dedicated service. We will miss your calm, analytical thinking Miriam and challenges over pupil outcomes, budget and more.

Could you be the new Miriam?

Miriam was a parent governor, elected by you as a parent body and we need a replacement. Can you help? There will be further information next week on what the role entails and what skills we're looking for – our Governing Body are an important factor in the continued success of our school and this means everyone around the table bringing skill sets to complement each other's and a drive for a strong community.

We are also searching for co-opted Governors who are not parents. Do you have a neighbor or colleague who could help us look strategically at the future of the school? If so, please pass on my email:

headteacher@stockbridge.hants.sch.uk



Dates for the year

Mrs Spayes and I spent a very sunny afternoon at my garden table planning out all the dates for the year! They are now uploaded onto our website calendar which updates in real time.

WEBSITE CALENDAR

Next week, we will publish a list for the autumn term on the last page of this newsletter but, for now, please do check them out on the calendar and get them in your diaries too!

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

Day 1	Fri 27 th Sept
Day 2	Mon 4 th Nov
Day 3	Mon 4 th Feb
Day 4	Mon 21 st July
Day 5	Tues 22 nd July

Dentaid

Whilst not a replacement for an NHS dentist, we know that getting hold of one is extremely tricky. That's why we're delighted to be working with Unity in Andover who have secured funding for a mobile Dentaid Unit situated outside the Unity office in Andover bus station.

It'll be there on the following dates and we can refer you in to the service if you are a non-NHS patient. Contact either Mrs Jefferies, Mrs Spayes or the Unity link, Hayley Alexander on 03304 004116 if you'd like an appointment.

They'll be in Andover on:

Monday 23rd September
Friday 25th October
Monday 18th November
Friday 20th December



PE Kit consists of:

Summer kit	Winter kit
March – October	November – end February
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black or navy blue shorts – lycra shorts also allowed• Red logo t-shirt• An unlabelled t-shirt in their family colour• Socks• Trainers – no plimsolls please	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Black or navy jogging bottoms – plain• Red logo t-shirt• An unlabelled t-shirt in their family colour• Spare logo red jumper• Gloves, hat, scarf – we are out in all weathers and temperatures!• Socks + a spare pair• Trainers – no plimsolls please

PE Kit should be brought into school on a **Monday morning** in a **small** named bag and hung from your child's coat peg. It should remain in school until **Friday afternoon** to return home for washing.

Please remember to clearly label all of your child's clothing.