



stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 8

8 November 2024

Working as one

I dread the first week or two back after October half term as we have to acclimatise to coming to and going home from work in the dark so I've been making the most of the drier days by being out and about with the children this week and it's been lovely.

Today on the playground, a group of boys volunteered to sweep and clear the leaves and busily worked at this for almost 40 minutes taking delight in making leaf piles and using our donated wheelbarrows to ferry their treasure to the compost area. Simple pleasures!

I had the pleasure of taking 15 children to the Army Air Museum on Tuesday for a 'photoshoot' for their new promotional materials. They were absolutely brilliant and learnt a lot along the way. If you haven't been for a look around there, there's so many interactive exhibits and interesting things as well as very knowledgeable volunteers giving you snippets of information you just wouldn't otherwise know.

It seems the book bag rule, which has been in place for a number of years, has proved contentious. I make no apologies for requesting we all use the smaller book bags as larger ones and rucksacks cause significant slip and trip hazards and clog up our cloakrooms more than is needed. Thanks to the many who have got on board with this.

In school we are working really hard to provide your child/ren with really rich learning experiences, some of which involve trips, some visitors, some dressing up, some immersive days and everything in between. We try to balance out the monetary demands too so that we don't overburden families – we don't always get this right but hope that it's right more than wrong! If providing feedback on this, please consider how and where this is done; it should NEVER be in front of children, who don't need to know of any tensions between home and school. We are their trusted adults for several hours of the day and want them to see us working in partnership.

Thanks for your continued support.
Mrs Emma Jefferies
Headteacher



Welly walk

We had a really lovely, if a bit chilly, welly walk today with all children completing the walk so sponsor money collection can now begin please!

It was great to have so many parents and grandparents along, thank you for coming if you managed to fit it in.

Please ensure monies are in to school by Mon 18th November, this can be cash or on Scopay; login and go to the trips and events tab and find welly walk sponsorship – there's a £0 balance on there which you can add your amount to.



Wellbeing & Mental Health

Get moving for mental health!

From the purple petal of our wellbeing flower, find ways to get active and get moving. It helps with better sleep, burn off the wiggles and gives everyone a top up of the remaining vitamin D from the last dregs of autumn. Free things to do to get active this weekend:

- Cycle along the Test Way
- Walk to your local church or war memorial on Sunday and support the remembrance service
- Wash the car and have a race to finish the quickest
- Dig over your beds and borders or veg patch – the sense of satisfaction is huge!



Clatford class

We have made a great appointment of an outstanding teacher who will join us permanently in Clatford Class in January.

As I'm sure you'll understand, in the very short timeframe we had between Mr Taylor's notice and the deadline for teacher's to hand in their notice last half term, we are still undergoing all of the safeguarding checks but, as soon as these are through, I will update you all with more details. The deadline for Mrs McClue's replacement is today and we will hopefully appoint next week having had a lot of interest.

Remembrance Day

We have been learning all about Remembrance Day in assemblies this week and joined Mr Melville in the Church for our first church assembly of the year also this week.

We have an established display outside my office of books and stories all about life in World War 1 and I've found little groups of children looking at the books over the course of the week.

It's a very challenging subject to get your head around if you're primary school age but many children are fascinated with the links to their ancestors. We've heard about some of them and their heroic deeds and it would be great to celebrate these.

Attached to this newsletter is a poppy outline. We'd like to make a display with your family stories on.

If you know them already, great. If not please do some research with your child/ren and see if you too have a fascinating family member. Get your child to record their family war stories on the poppy outline and return it to school – we'll display it and build a 'Stockbridge Remembrance' story on our wall for all to see.

Reading

Every child in the school should have 2 reading books that they bring home:

A LOVE to read book

This is a library book that your child has chosen because they're interested in it and may perhaps be outside their own reading level. It's one to share with them at bedtime or during a comfy sofa snuggle.



A LEARN to read book

If your child is in Year R, 1 or perhaps 2, this is a book from the reading scheme linked to Little Wandle and is one that they can decode completely. We'll have read it with them in school at least 3 times before it comes home and they need to read it each night until the following week please until they know it really, really well and can read it fluently. Years 3-6 and some Year 2 as the year goes on, will be reading from Big Cat or free reader books but this is still a learn to read book that is appropriate to their reading level.

REGULAR



UPDATES

Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

Sport

Trophies are at the engravers and our name will be up in lights on the awards shelf next week on the Girl's football and Cross Country trophies but we also have some rising Judo superstars in our midst too!



Well done to all in this photo for your huge efforts at your judo tournament last weekend.



We also heard today that Ava in Year 5 has been accepted by Chelsea Football Club for their youth programme and attended her first training last night – BRILLIANT news Ava – a future England superstar perhaps?

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is possibly the broadest topic in school! This week we're focusing on how you as parents can retain some control over what your child accesses online.

All internet safety agencies promote something very simple – **a regular conversation.**

Have you seen people posting images or words you don't like? What would you do if you did? Who would you talk to?

Share an image online. Talk about what this might tell us about the person or people in it? How truthful do they think it is?

This is my favourite emoji...what's yours? Do you think they make it easy or hard to communicate what you mean?



Children in Need - next Friday!

Bring £1 to raise money for Children in Need and in return, dress in yellow, pink or a combination of both! Cake sale too - cakes 50p

Welcome to Minibus Mick!



We are delighted to welcome Mick to our team here at Stockbridge. He'll become a familiar face around school and is a vital cog in our engine! He'll be out on Ziggy the minibus each morning and afternoon and also help us out with sports fixtures, short trips and much more! This week and next week Mrs Holdich or I will be out and about with him to show him the minibus routes and then he'll be on his own!

Diary Dates Autumn term 2024-25

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 11 th	All	11am	Whole school over to war memorial to mark Remembrance Day Wreath laid by eldest & youngest in school
Tues 12 th	Lower school Team TBC	All day 4pm	Milestones trip to the museum KS2 Boys football competition
Thurs 14 th	Year R & Lower school	9.00-9.30am	Sharing morning – parents invited into school to observe a phonics lesson and see handwriting in action!
Fri 15 th	All	All day	Children in Need day – wear spots, yellow or pink for £1 to support this brilliant charity Cake sale at break and pop up café – any cake donations gratefully received please!
Mon 18 th	KS1	4.00-5.30pm	KS1 New Age Kurling at Danebury
Tues 19 th	KS2	All day	Ufton Court workshop in school – letters will be sent out after October half term
Thurs 21 st	Upper Sch	9.00-9.30am	Sharing morning
Thurs 28 th	Y6 & YR	9.00-11.30	Height & Weight measurements with the School Nurse Team
Sat 30 th	All	9.00am-1.00pm	FOSS Xmas tree sale
DECEMBER			
Fri 6 th	All	3.30-4.00pm	Songs around the Christmas Tree
Fri 6 th	Y3 & Y4	5.45-6.15pm	Stockbridge light switch on. Y3 & Y4 to sing at the Church.
Mon 9 th	All		Last week of clubs
Fri 13 th	KS1	2.00-3.00pm 6.00-7.00pm	KS1 & Year R Nativity
Mon 16 th	ALL	1.00-3.00pm	Santa Dash with visit from Santa
Tues 17 th	All	12.00-1.00pm	Whole school Christmas lunch – all children will be ordered a meal unless they opt out
Wed 18 th		9.45-10.15am	Guitar concert
Thurs 19 th	Pre-school	9.30-11.30am	Pre-School party
Thurs 19 th	Whole School	9.30am-1.30pm	Pantomime – The Anvil, Basingstoke
Fri 20 th	Whole school	1.00pm	Finish for Christmas Holidays