



Weekly Newsletter

Stoke Prior First School

5th October 2023

We have had strong links with our local church St Michael's for many years and we continue to build on these as I feel this is an important part of school life and ensures the school is part of the wider local community. For new parents and carers, tomorrow is the first opportunity for you to accompany your children as we walk to church as a school to celebrate our Harvest Festival. The service will be led by Reverend Paula and it is always a joyous occasion. There is still time to donate any non-perishable food items you can and these will be donated to New Starts Food Bank later in the day. You and your children are also invited to Paula's 20 is Plenty Sunday service this weekend. Again, this is a short service in which songs are sung, stories are told and there is an opportunity for tea, coffee, biscuits and community. Children and families that attend really enjoy it and talk of the value, so if you have an hour on Sunday morning then please come along - everyone is welcome! Refreshments are served from 10.00, service starts at 10.30am.



Each year a School Development Plan is created with staff and Governors which sets out improvements that will be worked towards during the year. As you are aware, we work hard to evaluate the effectiveness of all areas in school in a range of ways including being part of an effective learning partnership with Hanbury First School and Finstall First School. This partnership is a very important part of our continuous improvement because it ensures a thorough and rigorous evaluation of standards of education across all the schools. This in turn helps formulate our development priorities year on year. I have summarised, very briefly, this year's development plan and it is attached with the newsletter.

A priority this term is the recruitment of a new Headteacher. This process is well underway and the Governors are working hard to appoint someone before half term. The School Council will also be part of recruitment process as they will be interviewing the prospective candidates. Last week we met and started the process of selecting possible questions to ask. Interestingly, their first decision as Councillors was to give all children in school the chance to ask a question. A suggestion box is now outside my office for children to drop their questions in and the School Council will choose their favourites.

Sadly, we had some vandalism take place on the school grounds over the weekend. Fortunately, nothing was stolen or seriously damaged but it was very inconvenient for staff arriving on Monday morning. It highlighted to me how potentially vulnerable the school site is, particularly the boundary fence with the village park. We have had reports of children climbing the fence and entering on numerous occasions. As I know many families visit the park often, could I ask you to remain vigilant and if you see anything suspicious, please report it.

Mr L Satchwell

Well done! Rainbow Assembly



Well done to Dale Etheridge, Bonnie Lofthouse, Felicity Cotterill, Arthur Dealaselle, Edie Harper, Ethan Hughes, Payton Foster, Joshua Rogers, Sophie Sabel and James Webster.

The Rainbow Cup was awarded to Year R for doing so well joining the whole school assemblies.



Week at a glance

Monday 09/10	Art & Craft Club – 3:30-4:30pm
Tuesday 10/10	Multiskills Club – 3:30-4:30pm
Wednesday 11/10	Lego Club – 3:30-4:30pm Dance Club – 3:30-4:30pm
Thursday 12/10	Y3 and Y4 Violin lessons Football Club – 3:30-4:30pm Martial Arts Club – 3:30-4:30pm Year R parents Phonics workshop – 6:00-7:00pm
Friday 13/10	Year 1 Forest School Friday this week only Archery Club – 3:30-4:30pm Cheerleading Club – 3:30-4:30pm

Further Ahead:

Parents Evenings – 17/10 and 19/10 (see letter sent today)

School photos – 19/10

Reception News

The children are now coming to the end of their fifth week and they have made us all very proud with how well they have settled in!

They are enjoying learning about their new classroom and playing with all the activities on offer during COOL (Carrying On Our Learning). The Home Corner, Role Play and playing outside in our lovely outdoor area are by far the children's most popular choice during COOL. The children have loved the water play and obstacle course outside. They have enjoyed drawing who lives in their homes and talking to us about their 'Getting to know you' booklets.

They have started attending whole school assemblies and are doing wonderful sitting! At play and lunch time they have lots of fun on the big playground with the rest of the children in school.

This week we have been continuing our learning about Autumnal changes and animals that hibernate. We have also learnt about the Harvest Festival and will be walking to church to participate in our very first Harvest festival tomorrow.



Reminders

- Y4 to bring Fifes to school every Monday
- Y1 Forest School on Friday this week
- Y1 PE on Thursday
- Violin lesson – Thursday
- YR PE on Friday
- Wraparound and lunch bookings close at 1pm each Thursday for the following week.



Harvest Festival
Friday 6th October 2023
9:30am

St Michael's Church

Thank you for the food bank donations made so far. We are still collecting non-perishable food items until Friday morning, particularly canned goods, but there is no obligation to donate items.



Family Church Service

Sunday 8th October 2023 @ 10:30am

We'd love it if you could join us at St Michael's Church for the '20 is Plenty' family service – just 20 minutes of songs and participation from the children.



ParentsEvening

Autumn Term 2023

Our next Parents' Evenings are on Tuesday 17th & Thursday 19th October. Bookings will open at 6:30pm tomorrow (Friday 6th October).