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Headteacher Mrs Karen Jupp



Stanton Harcourt CE
Primary School

Dear Parents,

Newsletter October 2014

The first month of the 2014-15 school year has sailed by and we have welcomed several new children, not only in The Foundation Stage Unit but in other classes too. We hope they will all be happy learning with us.

Lunch times

Our new system of two sittings is now firmly in place and the benefits to the children and staff of having more space and less noise in the dining hall are great. It is good that so many of the Reception and Class One children have taken up the offer of a free hot meal at lunch times. If your child would like to be added to this list please let us know. New menus will arrive soon, to start on Nov 3rd, so you might like to review your dinner orders then. Please note you must choose a standard weekly pattern.

Clubs

These have all been enthusiastically attended. We have one extra club which will start after half term – Rev Drew Tweedy has volunteered to start to teach pupils to play the Ukulele on Wednesday lunchtimes from 12:30 – 1:00. The amounts we collect towards this will be donated to St Michael's Church. The usual cost for a lunchtime club, £1.50, will be invoiced to you so please complete the attached form to sign up.

Your child(ren) will need to own a Ukulele and this is what Rev Tweedy suggests:

The best size for a child to start with is soprano. The Music Stand shop in Witney has some by Brunswick which cost £35 and are quite nice. They also have some brightly coloured ukes for £20 but I wouldn't recommend those. Other essentials are a tuner and a bag or case. Clip on tuners are 6 pounds on Amazon or you can even download a free tuner app onto your phone. Amazon also has a good selection of ukes available, with decent quality beginner instruments by Mahalo, Stagg and Vintage, all for around £20, some including a case. I'm sure you can get good deals on ebay too. Larger music shops like Professional Music Technology on Cowley Road, Vintage Guitars in Thame or Southern Ukulele Centre in Bournemouth have wider ranges and can help you choose a uke for any budget. I hope that helps and look forward to having ukulele fun with some of the children and staff at the school.

Family Learning morning – Eco-event on Saturday 11th October 10 – 12 am

In order for us to cater for all those hardworking parents and children who will turn up, please let us know if you are coming along. A slip is provided. Come and join in the fun creating a reflective space around our pond for your children to work in.

Author visit for Children's Reading week

On Monday 6th October a local children's author, John Foster, will be coming to share his books with all the children. He will be here in the afternoon and will stay on after school to sell his books – they will be priced from around £3.50 - £8.00. Please come along and meet him after school and you may get a signed copy of one of his books!

Phonics and Literacy – back to school for parents!

All parents and carers from Bunnies to Year 6 are invited to school on Wednesday 15th October at 6:30 pm. We will be explaining how phonics and reading are taught across the school and this is an opportunity for you to find out what you can do to support your child's learning. Please let us know if you'll be coming along on the attached slip.

Class Three trip to Chedworth Roman villa – Friday 21st November

To coincide with their topic on Romans, Class Three will be visiting Chedworth Roman Villa for the day. The cost to school is likely to be in the region of £11 to include admission and coach. More details will be sent out soon.

Pantomime visit on Tuesday 25th November

We have booked for all the children to go to see Mother Goose at The Theatre, Chipping Norton. The performance will start at 1:45 pm so we will be picked up at 12:45 after a slightly early lunch (no swimming session that day) and return to school by about 4:45 pm. The cost of this trip to school is £14 per child. Please complete the reply slip attached to ensure the trip goes ahead and return it with your contribution by Friday 10th October.

Funding for our many educational activities

We are aware of the large number of educational activities we are offering and whilst we make every effort, with your help, to reduce costs, we also recognise that additional activities may place an increased financial burden on families. If you find it difficult to pay for your child to take part please get in touch with Mrs Gill Gray (01865 880130), who administers a fund which may be able to help. The school is only allowed to ask parents to contribute to their child's place on the trip, so no-one is asked to make a payment to cover a shortfall. However, trips which do not cover costs may be cancelled as the school has no funding to allocate to these.

Real Advent Calendars

The Advent calendar order has been placed. There may be a few available once they are delivered. We will let those who ordered one know when they arrive and invoice you for them.

Reply slips have been sent home with your child.

FOSHS News

At the AGM on 30th Sept, the following members of the committee were appointed; Chairperson, Gemma Barry, Vice-chair Natalie Lawrence, Treasurer Diane Axford and Secretary Jo Kavanagh. Lots of others have volunteered to help on the committee and several events have been planned (please see the diary). Thanks to Suzy Miller, outgoing Chair and Leonie Newman, outgoing Treasurer for all they have done to support the school.

Harvest Festival

It was lovely to see so many parents attending our Harvest Festival and thank you for the contributions to the display which will be donated to Besom. I'm sure you'll agree the children behaved beautifully and performed exceedingly well. We received lots of positive comments from parents about how much they enjoyed the service.

Yours sincerely,

Karen Jupp
Headteacher

~Dates for your diary and reply slips follow

Dates for your diary – updated on 01.10.14

October

2nd All schools in EPA closing at 12:00 for joint INSET

3rd All EPA primary schools closed for INSET

6th Deadline for the return of Firework Posters

John Foster, visiting author, selling his books after school

9th 6:30 Governors' Curriculum and Communication Committee

11th **10:00 – 12:00 Eco-event - Family Learning morning – fun working in the grounds for all the family!**

15th **6:30 Phonics and Reading open evening**

16th **8:00 pm FOSHS meeting at The Harcourt Arms**

23rd 6:30 Governors' Resources Committee

24th Term 1 ends 3:10 pm

31st 5:00 – 7:00 pm FOSHS Hallowe'en event (FOSHS) Village Hall

November

3rd Term 2 begins

5th Lunchtime Ukulele club starts

5th **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**

6th 6:30 Governors' Curriculum and Communication Committee

12th Individual photographs

18th 8:00 FOSHS Committee meeting

20th 6:30 Governors' Resources Committee, 7:30 Full Governing Body meeting

21st Class Three Trip to Chedworth Roman Villa

25th Afternoon Whole school visit to Pantomime at Chipping Norton

26th – 28th **Book Fair**

December

3rd **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**

3:30 – 6:00 Parents evening for all school except Bunnies

4th **3:30 – 6:00 Parents evening for Years 1 – 6**

5th **FOSHS Christmas Fayre (early evening - time to be confirmed)**

17th **9:00 – 10:00 Bunnies, FS and Year 1 and 2 Nativity play at the Village Hall**

18th **6:30 – 7:30 KS2 Carol Service at St Michael's Church**

19th No hot dinners; Bring and Share party food

End of term 2 1:15 pm

January

5th INSET day – no children in school

6th Term 3 starts

7th **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**

8th 6:30 Governors' Curriculum and Communication Committee

22nd 6:30 Governors' Resources Committee, 7:30 Full Governing Body meeting

30th 9:30 – 12:15 Class Two and Three trip to School's Concert at Sheldonian

February

4th **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**

13th End of term 3 3:10 pm

23rd Start of term 4

26th 6:30 Governors' Resources Committee

March

4th **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**

5th 6:30 Governors' Resources Committee

12th 6:30 Governors' Curriculum and Communication Committee

14th **FOSHS Mothering Saturday event – more later!**

21st **FOSHS Jumble Sale 2 – 4 pm Village Hall**

23rd Reports will be sent home

26th 7:30 Full Governing Body meeting
27th End of term 4 1:15 pm

April

13th INSET day – no children in school
14th Start of term 5
15th **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**
16th **Optional Parents evening for any parents wishing to discuss reports**
23rd 6:30 Governors' Resources Committee

May

6th **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**
7th 6:30 Governors' Curriculum and Communication Committee
11th – 15th SATs week
21st 6:30 Governors' Resources Committee, 7:30 Full Governing Body meeting
22nd End of term 5

June

1st Start of term 6
3rd **1:15 Church Service at St Michael's**
11th 6:30 Governors' Curriculum and Communication Committee
7:30 Governors' Resources Committee
23rd 9:30 – 11:00 Cycle training Year 5 and 6
24th **11:00 – 12:00 Sports morning for Bunnies**
1:30 – 3:10 Sports Afternoon for FS to Year 6
25th 7:30 Full Governing Body meeting
30th 9:30 – 11:00 Cycle training Year 5 and 6

July

1st 9:30 – 11:00 Cycle training Year 5 and 6
1:15 Church Service at St Michael's
6th 9:30 – 11:00 Cycle training Year 5 and 6
7th 9:30 – 11:00 Cycle training Year 5 and 6
8th 9:30 – 11:00 Cycle training Year 5 and 6 (extra lesson if needed)
3:30 – 6:00 Parents evening for all school except Bunnies
9th 9:30 – 11:00 Cycle Test Year 5 and 6
3:30 – 6:00 Parents evening for Years 1 – 6
6:30 Governors' Resources Committee, 7:30 Full Governing Body meeting
16th **2:00 pm End of Year Celebrations at the Village Hall**
17th School year ends 1:15

~Reply slips on next page!

The October Newsletter should be in your email inbox, please advise the office if it is not! It will also be on the school website: <http://www.stantonharcourtschool.org.uk/>

Reply slips:

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Whole school trip to Mother Goose Pantomime Tuesday 25th November 2014

Reply by Friday 10th October

I give permission for the child(ren) named below to take part in this activity.

.....Year

.....Year

.....Year

I enclose a voluntary contribution of £..... (The trip will cost the school £14 per pupil)

.....will collect my child(ren) at 4:45pm.

Signed.....Date.....

Print name.....

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Ukulele Club – starting Wednesday November 5th 12:30 – 1:00

Reply by Friday 10th October

I give permission for the child(ren) named below to take part in Ukulele Club.

.....Year

.....Year

.....Year

.....will collect my child at 4:45pm.

I agree to pay £1.50 per child per session which will be donated to St Michael's Church.

I will provide my child(ren) with a ukulele.

Signed.....Date.....

Print name.....

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Family Learning Day – Saturday 11th October 10 – 12

Reply by Friday 10th October

The following will be attending: (please print names)

Adults:.....

Children.....

.....

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Phonics and Literacy parents' event – 15th October 6:30 pm

Reply by Friday 10th October

The following will be attending: (please print names)

Adults:.....

(parents of.....Class.....)