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Stanton Harcourt CE
Primary School

March (and a half) newsletter 2015

Science week

Pip Cartwright brought in his massive collection of fossils and spent time with FSU, Class One and Two last week so Science week started a bit early!

We'd like to say a big thank you to Ms Renee Watson for her 'Teeth to Toilet' workshop on Monday. It was really good! That was a great start to the official science week.

KS2 have today used the viewing glasses provided for us to use to view the solar eclipse and we were very lucky to have a visit from two of our governors, Mr Tony Booer and Mr Richard Thomson, who came equipped with a telescope to show us the projected image of the eclipse and then stayed to answer the many questions posed by the highly inquisitive children. So we had a fabulous end to the week, too!

Here are some quotes from the children;

"I liked it when the special glasses made the sun look like the moon."

"It went really cold when the sun got blocked by the moon."

"I liked the bits when the birds got quieter, when it got colder and darker."

"I liked it when we saw the sunspot on the telescope, it was really fascinating."

"I liked how the telescope picked up the sunspot."

Trips – past and future

The class trips to the Oxford Natural History museum have both been very successful. The workshops were fun, interactive and the children were really excited and engaged. They loved the drama about how fossils were formed.

Also on Thursday Tag Rugby (Year 5 and 6) and on Friday PE Fundamentals for Class One meant that the two days were quite hectic with lots of coming and going from school. We're grateful to parents for their support, both financial and in collecting children to take them to Bartholomew for the tournaments we're involved in.

Next week, Class Two are involved in a Tennis tournament on Friday morning, also at Bartholomew. Letters were sent home yesterday and we need the permission slips back by Wednesday please.

Clubs

The **Ukulele club** will unfortunately not run next week as Rev. Tweedy is not available. We won't be continuing with this club next term but hope he will be able to run the club again for KS2 children in September. We will need a parent volunteer unless we can find someone on the staff who can be available to help out, so if you can already play the ukulele (or guitar) or would like to learn or would just like to help out with the club, please let us know. We have donated all the money given for the club to St Michael's Church and would like to say a big thank you to Rev. Tweedy for taking on this challenge!

The last session of **Eco-club** will run next Tuesday and children will be having a little treat – if you'd like to send your child with a small cake or savoury, please do so, but don't worry too much as Mrs Hemming and Mrs Archer will provide items for this.

Next term, some clubs will change. Mondays will see **Orchestra** restarting, Tuesday will be **Football for KS2** children, Wednesday will be **The Great Outdoors** (Art Club won't be running at the moment), Thursday will be **Ignite Sports Club** but we will have additional staff and be able to group the children into KS1 and KS2. Our popular **Drama Club** will continue on Fridays.

Please complete the grid to show which clubs your child would like to attend. All clubs will cost £3 per hour. This provides for staff and resources. As usual you will be invoiced for this and we would really appreciate payment being enclosed in an envelope with the child's name and reason for payment on the outside.

Reports and optional parents' consultations

Reports are being written and will be sent home during the week beginning 23rd March for Class One, Two and Three children. There will be the option to request a parent consultation by signing up in the class should you need to. There will be no reports for children in the Foundation Stage Unit until the summer term at which point there will also be an end of year report for KS1 and KS2 children. The covering letter with next week's reports will explain further.

Children who have extra support will need a review and our Special Needs Coordinator, Mrs Gray, will be sending out a letter to their parents inviting them to meet with her and the child's teachers.

Awards

In term 5 we will be presenting a "Writer of the Week" award on a Friday instead of a child of the week which will be based on the children's effort and progress, not simply ability.

Cooking for Classes One to Three

We are going to be running cookery sessions in terms 5 and 6 to support our new topic. Please could you provide a donation of 50p per child and consider whether you would be able to volunteer to help with this. Each child will cook once in the term.

Illness and absence

We have had a bad term as far as illness goes. We're hoping that with the warmer weather the incidence of sickness will decline. Please ensure you contact the school, either by speaking to Sarah in the office between 8:30 and 10:30 am or by emailing the office on the morning your child is absent for the first time. Just a reminder that a child suffering from sickness and/or diarrhoea should not return to school until 48 hours after symptoms have ceased. Thank you.

We have had notice that some of our children have contracted threadworms and would encourage you to make it clear to children how important it is to wash their hands thoroughly after using the toilet and before eating.

Please keep an eye out for Scarlet fever symptoms, too. You can find more information online. Schools have been advised on actions to take should there be an outbreak.

Childminder possibilities

We are very sad to learn that our friendly neighbourhood childminder, Sue Harrison, will no longer be providing our parents with this support due to a move to Singapore. She has written a letter of encouragement to anyone considering becoming a childminder. She is

an important part of our local provision and anyone who was willing to take on her role would help the school provide for the needs of working parents. Please read the letter she has written (attached to the email) and get in touch with school or Sue for more information.

Support for childminders is available from the team in the Orchard Centre at Eynsham who run a weekly networking meeting and playtime on a Wednesday. See attached flyer.

Information from other providers:

Tomorrow! Science Week continues with a Science Bazaar at Brookes University Headington Campus on Gypsy Lane. This family event is free - see <http://www.hls.brookes.ac.uk/brookes-science-bazaar> for more information or print off the flyer attached.

Easter Holiday ideas:

In the village: Toddlers (and older or younger siblings) are welcome at the Family Fun Day at Stanton Harcourt Village Hall on Thursday 9th April from 10 - 1 pm. This free event include a free Picnic Lunch!

Further afield: Wondering what to do with the kids during the holiday? Award-winning blog Muddy Stilettos (<http://bucksoxon.muddystilettos.co.uk>) has curated a special half-term 'Muddy Guide' to the best things to do with (or without) your kids in Oxfordshire & Bucks every week. It's free for readers, and breaks down activities day by day, so you can plan your week ahead. Follow the link here to the What's On section <http://bucksoxon.muddystilettos.co.uk/?p=21961>

Happy Easter from all the staff

The school Easter Service is on Wednesday 25th at 1:15 pm at St Michael's Church when we will also be presenting "Child of the Term" awards. Please come along to share in our Easter celebration. The service will include items from the children.

School ends at 1:15 Friday 27th March and restarts on Tuesday 14th April.

We look forward to seeing all your children after a well-deserved break. Teaching staff are in school on the Monday so don't be concerned if you see cars and wonder if the children should have been at school. Class Two will be going swimming on the first day back and clubs will start that day.

Enjoy the break.

The latest newsletter will be in your email inbox today.

Return these slips by Thursday 26th March please to ensure your child has a place.

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Cookery sessions – term 5 and 6

Name of child.....Class.....

Name of child.....Class.....

Name of child.....Class.....

I enclose a donation of 50p per child to cover cost of ingredients.

I have notified the school of all allergies (please add any further notification overleaf)

I would be available to help with cookery sessions as follows (please ring sessions available)

Name	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	am pm	am pm	am pm	am pm	am pm

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Clubs for Terms 5 and 6 2015 – insert name(s) of child(ren) please

Club	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Before School Club 8:00 – 9:00 Billed for each term					
Lunchtime Club 12:30 – 1:00 Billed for two terms	Spanish		Choir		Construction
After School Club 3:15 – 4:15 Billed for two terms	Orchestra	KS2 Football	The Great Outdoors	Sports	Drama

I am happy to pay £3 per hour for these clubs and understand this will be invoiced as above.

My child will be collected at the end of the day unless otherwise indicated.

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

Print name.....

Contact email/phone.....

Dates for your diary - updated

March

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

23rd Visit of the Life Education Bus

Reports will be sent home sometime this week

25th **1:15 Easter Service at St Michael's – child of the term awards**

27th Class Two Tennis Festival morning at Bartholomew

End of term 4 1:15 pm

April

13th INSET day – no children in school

14th Start of term 5 – swimming for Class Two as usual

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

16th **Optional Parents evening for any parents wishing to discuss reports**

20th Alice in Wonderland workshops

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**

15th 2pm Choir leave for **Festival of Voices, concert at 6:30 pm Dorchester Abbey**

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 Moving up day: Bartholomew Transfer Day for Year Six

6:30 Resources meeting

7:30 Budget Ratification meeting for Full Governing Body

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)

1:00 – 3:00 Race for Life – whole school and parents

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