



Registered in England and Wales

Company number 07939655

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Stanton Harcourt School

March 2017 Newsletter

Dear Parents,

This is the month when spring begins, which is a wonderful time of the year. We can start to really look at the grounds and start thinking about what we are going to plant and then look forward, hopefully, to a warm summer.

There are a lot of activities this term with visits, visitors, Science Week, Book Day, an EPA art project - the Big Draw, Red Nose Day etc. to name but a few! For Red Nose Day, 24th March, we are asking the children to wear red, bring in a pound and a joke to share in classes and assembly.

The children surpassed themselves over half term with their wonderful writing. I have just finished reading all the stories and my goodness they were good. What a lot of effort, care and thought went into them - I thoroughly enjoyed reading them. It was so hard to choose winners, I wanted everyone to get a prize because it was almost impossible! I will be letting the children know this week and thank you also for your support.

May I also say a big thank you to FOSHS who continue to work hard to give the school extra resources. In this period of cuts this is so important and I cannot thank enough this group of extraordinary parents.

Tomorrow's trips: arrangements for meals and other details.

Bunnies will be in school as usual tomorrow.

Children in Reception to Year Six will, as you know, be out and about tomorrow on their World Book Day trips to the **Roald Dahl Gallery (leaving at 8.15 am)** or the Storytelling Museum, (leaving at 9.00 am). Please get your children to school in good time so that they will be ready to leave school at that time.

Reception children will be back at school at about 12 noon so they will be able to have their normal cooked lunch if this is already ordered or bring their packed lunch as usual.

No school packed lunches have been ordered for those on the trip so please make sure your child has a packed lunch and their usual water bottle with them if they are out all day.

Pupils will need to wear school uniform and be sure to wear a coat. Please could those parents whose children have inhalers in school ensure that they are in date as we will need to take them with us.

Children in years 1 - 6 will be back at school by the end of the day, so Ignite Sports Club will run as usual and there will be no need to worry about picking up children later than normal.

The story museum has informed us that BBC news will be filming at the story museum and they would like to talk to some Year 5/6 pupils about reading during their visit. **If you would not like your child to be part of this then please let the office or your child's teacher know.**

PE trips

We are lucky enough to be able to use the Comet minibus for several return journeys from Bartholomew PE sessions - this bus is used daily to drop adults and children at school or placement and we are only charged £5 for the journey as a result! We are very grateful to parents for dropping

children off in the mornings as the Comet bus is only available from 10:30 - 2:30. Please make sure you know when you will need to do this - the next dates are this Friday, March 3rd for Class Three and on Thursday 9th March, Class One will be going to Bartholomew for gymnastics. A letter regarding this will be with you soon.

Life Education Classroom visit on 7th March

Children will be visiting the Life Education Classroom (brought on to our school site) on Tuesday March 7th. The Parish Council have kindly agreed to subsidise the cost of this so we only need to ask for a small donation from parents. Parents are invited to come along to find out more between 8:50 and 9:05 am. Please indicate on the reply slip if you would like to attend.

Alternatively, please take a look at their website <http://lifeeducationwessex.org.uk/> to see what your children will be up to or look at the leaflet attached to this email.

Please complete the reply slip to make a voluntary contribution to cover the cost and return by next Monday, 6th March (each child's visit will cost the school £2.20 so please enable us to cover this).

Meet our new Headteacher - Wednesday 8th March 7.00 - 8.00 pm

Mrs Rachel Crouch will be starting as our new Headteacher after the Easter holiday. She is keen to get to know parents and governors and will be in school on the evening of Wednesday 8th March (next Wednesday!) from 7.00 - 8.00 pm. Please come along to meet her. Wine, juice and nibbles will be provided.

Help required

Early Years need some help to make a music wall. They also need help to empty the sand pit and jet wash it before putting sand back in otherwise it is going to rot and become useless. We are asking for volunteers - thank you so very, very much. See Mrs. Hardy or Mrs. Pascoe if you can spare any time at all or let the office know.

Class One could do with parents to come in to read with children. Please let the office know if you can spare a bit of time for this.

Easter service Wednesday 5th April 2:20 pm at St Michael's Church

All the children are going to be involved in learning songs to tell the story of Easter. For this reason we'd like you to add April 5th at 2:20 pm to your diary. This will also be Mrs Trigg's last service so we'd like as many parents as possible to come along as the time you can say farewell to her.

News from FOSHS

FOSHS are delighted to announce that they are now registered with easyfundraising.org.uk. This is a fantastically easy way to support our school and will take less than five minutes of your time to register (we promise, we've tested it!).

Simply register to support 'Friends of Stanton Harcourt School'. It won't cost you a penny but the difference it could make to our children is significant.

Once registered and when you want to shop online you simply log on to www.easyfundraising.org.uk first and search for your chosen retailer (Amazon, major supermarkets and all the usual online companies are covered) and then shop as normal. A donation of the total amount you spend will be sent to FOSHS at NO additional cost to yourself. Just like that!

Please register today and let's get raising money the easy way! And spread the word to family and friends....anyone and everyone is welcome to support our cause. Thank you so much!

The FOSHS Table Top Sale, 2-4pm at school on Saturday 1st April. Tables must be brought in advance (just £7 a table) to be filled with your goods and wears and preloved items. Setting up from 1.30pm. Refreshments will be served alongside sale. Come along and make some money or bag a bargain!

Rag Bag -We will be collecting your unwanted clothes on the last day of term, Friday 7th April, in the morning only so hopefully by then any outgrown winter clothes can be cheerfully donated to

FOSHS to make way for some summer wear! Please start building your pile of unwanted items now - even one or two items makes a difference.

Saturday 22nd April. FOSHS' **Easter Village Fun Run!** Details to follow....but chocolate is involved!

Saturday 29th April All proceeds from The Village Inn will be donated to FOSHS, so grab some friends, find a babysitter and enjoy a night out without having to worry about how to get home!

Money donated from our fundraising is being spent this term on literacy resources for FSU, hardwearing outdoor paint for new playground games for all, and sand to refill the FSU sandpit once the volunteers have cleaned it all out! The shed has arrived and will be erected soon, which will enable us to store FOSHS items at school instead of at home and free up storage space in school, too.

As always, thank you for your continued support.

FOSHS

School Council

School Council continue to meet regularly - we are having a working lunch meeting this Friday. Some of our older representatives will be attending the Governors' meeting on 16.3.17 to discuss our plans for developing the pond area into a reflection space. The children will be explaining their ideas and suggesting how we intend to fund raise towards these changes - see below!

Bring a Teddy and Cake Sale for our Reflection Area

On 7th April, School Council have suggested that children are invited to bring along a teddy (with a £1 donation) and bring and or buy a cake. This is to raise funds to helping with work we hope to do to bring our pond area up to scratch. Labels will be available for the cakes as we have to make sure allergens are identified.

Eco-committee

Following our successful fund-raising day we have purchased a camera trap and have records of animals which visit our pond area when no-one's around. Video clips will appear on the website soon!

Swimming

We had hoped to take Class One swimming later in the year but unfortunately the pool is too deep for them and the learner pool is not available at the time we have a swimming teacher booked, so it won't be possible this year. We will be trying to rearrange things so that the younger children can be given a chance to learn to swim next year. After Easter, children in years 4 and 5 will go swimming.

Next year's Yenworthy trip (for those currently in Year 4 and 5)

The highlight of your children's school life is in the planning stages at present but we have booked a place at Yenworthy Lodge Outdoor Centre for next year's Year 5 and 6 children from 18 - 22 Sept 2017. The cost is £320 per child which includes transport and board and lodging and all the fantastic activities and specialist teaching this excellent outdoor centre provides.

We will be sending home information about payment instalment plans soon but we wanted to give you as much notice as possible to allow you to budget for this once in a lifetime opportunity. As usual, if you would like to speak to the Headteacher about this, please get in touch.

Coping with Self Harm

[Coping with Self Harm brochure](#)

Please have a look at this document which we've added to the useful links section of our website.

Things to do at the weekend:

Witney Mountain Bike Club

Please see the link below for information about a really good offer for those interested in learning to ride a bike safely.

[Ride Guide and Calendar](#)

FUNomusica Family Concert – 5 March 2017

Oxford Town Hall, 3pm

Most suitable for ages 4-8

Celebrating dance from all round the world, Alasdair Malloy and the Oxford Philharmonic spin us off our feet on a joyous journey round the globe, discovering just how the whole world loves to dance. Leaping from ballroom to barn dance, salsa to samba, this concert will certainly get more than your toes tapping! Come in your favourite international dress and be prepared to learn a very unusual dance: Mr Mozart's Macarena!

Pre-concert craft activities at 2pm

The March Newsletter will be in your email inbox

Dates for your diaries

Parents are invited to items in bold - ensure you also check the website calendar for future dates that are added!

<http://stantonharcourtschool.org.uk/calendar/>

March

01.03.17 2:40 Church Service

03.03.17 9:00 - 11:00 Year 5 and 6 Gymnastics at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back

06.03.17 Reception and Year 6 Heights and Weights measurements

07.03.17 Life Education Bus visit to school (note change of date)

08.03.17 7:00 - 8:00 pm New Headteacher, Rachel Crouch meeting for Parents and Governors

09.03.17 9:00 - 11:00 Year 1 and 2 Gymnastics Festival at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back

16.03.17 Year 6 at Bartholomew for Transition Day

6 pm Governors' Resources Committee 7:30 pm Full Governors meeting

24.03.17 Reception children will have vision screened

Red Nose Day - children wear red, bring a £1, tell jokes!

27.03.17 Morning only - EPA swimming gala

31.03.17 9:00 - 11:00 Year 5 Gymnastics at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back

April

05.04.17 Easter Service - Parents invited 2:20 - 3:00

07.04.17 Spring Term ends at 1:15 pm

Reports for Years 1 - 6 will be sent out (Bunnies and Reception children's reports will be done in late summer)

24.04.17 INSET day - no children in school

25.04.17 Children return to school

26.04.17 3:30 - 6:00 Parents' Consultation Evening for all children and Book Fair 3:15 - 3:45

27.04.17 3:30 - 6:00 Parents' Consultation Evening for all children and Book Fair 3:15 - 3:45

May

02.05.17 Years 4 and 5 swimming lessons start

08.05.17 - 11.05.17 SATs week

08.05.17 Year 2 PE fundamentals festival at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back

18.05.17 Year 5 Cricket at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back

6 pm Governors' Resources Committee 7:30 pm Full Governors meeting

26.05.17 Half term break starts at 3:15 pm

June

05.06.17 Children return to school

08.06.17 9:00 - 11:00 Year 3 and 4 Tennis at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back

12 - 16.06.17 Phonics screening check week for Year 1
 22.06.17 9:00 - 11:00 Year 1 Ultra Olympics at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back
 28.06.17 Some Class Three pupils - Cycle Training Bike check day
 29.06.17 Year 6 at Bartholomew for Transition Day.
 Moving Up Morning for the rest of the school. Next year's new Bunnies taster session.
 6 pm Governors' Resources Committee 7:30 pm Full Governors meeting
 30.06.17 Class One Gymnastics at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back
July
 Cycle training for some Class Three children 1:00 - 3:00 pm on 3,4,5,6,7 and 10th. Test on 14th at 9:00 am
 10.07.17 Bunnies Sports Morning
13.07.17 Sports Afternoon for Reception to Year Six
 14.07.17 9:00 - 11:00 Cycle training Test
 9:00 - 11:00 Class One Gymnastics at Bartholomew - Parents to take there, minibus back
 21.07.17 School year ends at 1:15 pm

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 the 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.

Reply slip

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Life Education Classroom visit - Tuesday 7th March - Year R - 6 only

Please return slip by Monday 6th March

I understand my child named below will be taking part in this activity.

.....Year

.....Year

.....Year

.....Year

I enclose a voluntary contribution of £..... (The activity will cost the school £2.20 per pupil)

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

Please include me in the parents' introductory session. 8:50 - 9:05 am.

Print name.....