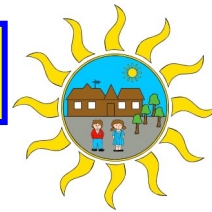


# Stedham Primary Newsletter 3

16 November 2016



Dear Parents,

First of all, huge apologies for the gap between newsletters. Time just seems to have got away with me.

## Rotary Music Evening

I wanted to say well done to the 15 children in Key Stage 2 who represented Stedham Primary at the Midhurst and Petworth Rotary Music Festival last Wednesday evening. The children were amazing and did us proud. So many people have commented to me how well they did (and not just our parents!) We are buoyed by our success and the choir is now working on some Christmas material, with the hope that we can put on a mini concert at the end of term—details to follow when we have finalised our ideas.

## Start of the School Day

Thank you to everyone for co-operating with the new start of the day arrangements. The few extra minutes in the morning is making a big difference and means the children are sat and ready to learn at 9am as they should be.

We are still evaluating our procedures in conjunction with the use of the new security gate and we will communicate with you nearer the end of term about a few final tweaks we would like to make from January.

## Phonics and Reading Evening

It was lovely to see many of the Rabbits and Owls parents at this curriculum information evening. As a follow up, I am in the process of writing a summary of what we covered to send out to all parents so everyone has the same information and knows about the changes we have made to reading.

## Parking

Yet again, I am afraid I have to remind you about safe and considerate parking following an email I received from the parish council. An aggrieved resident of School Lane has written to them to raise their concerns about the situation. The email is as follows:

*Recently the inconsiderate parking by school parents has frequently blocked access to our drive, meaning we have been unable to get our car out. They are also parking directly opposite the junction with Common View.*

*Perhaps the Parish Council could refer the school and parents to the highway code:*

*The Highway Code (para 217) covers this situation.*

*“DO NOT park your vehicle...where it would inconvenience or obstruct other road users or pedestrians. For example do not stop [among other places] in front of an entrance to a property.”*

*This situation is affecting everyone on School Lane between Common View and the school.*

I obviously endeavour to maintain good relationships with our neighbours but despite my regular reminders it seems there is still inconsiderate parking going on. There should be **no more than 5 cars parked down from the school going towards the Common View junction** because any more than this means the junction starts to be obstructed. If there are cars parked on one side of the road it is not safe to park on the other side; the road is not wide enough. Please show consideration for our neighbours but also our school community—it is our children you are putting at risk.

## Birthday non uniform

I had a sudden 3am thought (sadly I get a lot of them in this job) that I have not told our new parents that on a child's birthday they can wear non uniform as a treat. If a birthday falls in the weekend or a school holiday they can wear non uniform on the nearest school day as long as it is a good day to do so (i.e. not school photo day!) For the children with birthdays within the summer holiday (a lot of them as 56% of our school is summer born), we have a special non uniform day in July, to be set nearer the time.



### Parent Governor

I would like to welcome Mrs Julie Clabby as our new parent governor. We are looking forward to working with Julie as one of your representatives on the Governing Body.

### Children In Need

Further to my letter last week, just a reminder that this Friday, 18th November, is Children in Need Day and we will be fundraising with a cake sale after school. Please bring any cake donations into school on that morning.

### Christmas

The FOSS committee and I met this week and preparations are well underway for Christmas. There is also a letter from them today but as a reminder, next Wednesday, 23rd November, is non uniform day in exchange for a donation to the Christmas Fair—details are in the letter. FOSS are always looking for help for the actual event (3rd December) so if you are able to do this, please let a committee member know.

FOSS have also sprung a huge surprise on us. They have managed to get us tickets and transport for the whole school to go and see a pantomime in Southsea on 6th December. Details will follow in a separate letter.

I will also be sending home a letter soon about all the Christmas arrangements so you have everything in once place.

### Head lice

We sent a letter about head lice home on 9th November but already we have parents telling us that their child is infected and keeps on being re-infected. Can I please stress the importance of regular checking for both lice and eggs. Ideally this should be done several times a week. Regular combing also helps to get rid of any eggs and break the cycle. If you find any lice or eggs, please treat as soon as possible. Can I suggest that long hair is tied back to reduce the chance of cross infection when heads touch. The only way we are going to get on top of this is if we all actively follow this advice.



### Parent Forum

I am sorry but I am going to have to move the date of the Parent Forum from Thursday 8th December to Thursday 12th January. It will still be at 7pm.

To finish, as I have a space to fill I am sharing a photo of some of Foxes hard at work carrying out a science investigation!



Regards,

*Sally Dieckman*

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Friday 18 November**—Individual School Photos and Children in Need Cake Sale 3.30pm
- Tuesday 22 November**—Foxes' class assembly to parents 3pm
- Wednesday 23 November**—FOSS Non Uniform Day in exchange for tombola donations
- Tuesday 29 November**—Owls' class assembly to parents 3pm
- Saturday 3 December** Christmas Fair 2-4pm
- Tuesday 6 December**—whole school trip to the Pantomime—letter to follow
- Wednesday 7 December**—Welcome Wednesday 3pm (School Nurse will be in attendance to talk to anyone that wishes to)
- Monday 12 December**—Carols and Cakes for Grandparents and Villagers at 2pm
- Tuesday 13 December**—Nativity Service at the church 2pm
- Friday 16 December**—End of term
- Tuesday 3 January 2017**—Spring Term starts