

**STICKLAND'S C.E. V.A.**

## **PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Summer Lane  
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Dorchester  
Dorset DT2 0JP

**Headteacher:**  
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May 18

Dear Parents and Carers,

**\*IMPORTANT DIARY DATE\***

This terms Parent's Information Evening will be on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> June at 6pm. We have arranged for a member of the Dorset Police Safe Schools and Communities Team to deliver an online safety session for parents. As their information suggests;

*'Internet safety can sometimes be a daunting subject for parents. This presentation will be tailored to the relevant age group and aims to support parents in finding out about the risks of the internet and how to reduce them for their children while at home or out and about on mobile devices.'*

A creche will be available and we hope that as many of you as possible will attend.

### **Online Payment and Consent System**

Thank you to everyone who has been using Sims Agora to pay and give consent for trips. The introduction of this system is in response to requests from parents and also due to an ever increasing workload in the office.

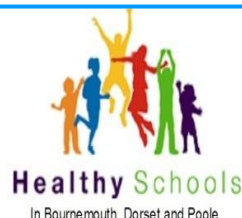
By using Sims Agora we are able to ensure that we can continue to offer clubs and trips whereas this was becoming increasingly difficult due to time constraints for all staff. The other difficulty we have is that we do not have a local bank therefore, a member of staff has to be released to drive to Yeovil or Dorchester to pay in any income.

We understand that some parents are worried about putting bank details online, I can reassure you that you do not have to do this. If you would like to pay for trips we can send home a barcode which you can then take to your local post office to pay for any school items that are on Sims Agora.

### **Important - Supervision After School**

Can I just remind you that outside of school hours you are responsible for ensuring your child is supervised whilst using the school play structure and that it is not the School's responsibility. We cannot guarantee that there will be a qualified first aider on site to help with children's injuries.

Could you also please ensure that your child is respecting school property. I have seen cases of children climbing and jumping on the benches and walls, and also the chain link fences. As you can imagine this is causing damage, and if we have to pay to repair these things, then money has to be moved from other, more desirable areas of the curriculum. I have also had cases of inappropriate language reported to me and obviously this is not acceptable on school premises.



### **Important – Parking at the start and end of the day**

To ensure the safety of all children and road users, and also out of respect for our neighbours, please DO NOT stop in the driveway of the house opposite school or on the Keep Clear signs outside the gate. Doing so presents a risk to the children due to lack of visibility and can cause traffic problems. We have again had some near misses recently and I am sure that no one would want to be responsible for a child being hurt. It may take you a little longer, but will avoid potential accidents and chaos at these busy times of day.

The school bus stop must also not be used for dropping off and picking children up between 8.25 and 8.45am and 2.45 to 3.15pm. The bus stop is to ensure the safety of the children who catch the school bus and must not be used by parents, as this could put the bus children in danger and also causes chaos in the road.

### **Important - Attendance**

Often children mention that they are not going to be in school but we have not been notified by their parents. Even if you are planning a holiday which you know the school will not authorise please could you let the office know. Teachers will have planned activities that may be altered to ensure that your child does not miss out if we are aware of the dates they will not be in school.

### **Summer Term Reading Challenge Reward**

The children all put forward suggestions and held a vote to decide the reward for this term. It was an almost unanimous decision to have a swimming pool party with games, followed by hot dogs and choc ices.

### **We have also agreed a target of 100% of children achieving the reward.**

The pool party is being held throughout the day on Tuesday, 17th July.

### **The deadline for the reading challenge tasks is Friday, 13th July.**

You have eight weeks left to complete four well-presented reading tasks (only one every two weeks).

Please support your child to help us achieve our whole school target and end our term with a splash!

If you have any questions about promoting reading or how best to support your child with reading, please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Low (a.low@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk).  
Happy Reading!

### **Means Tested Free School Meals**

**Due to the national roll out of Universal Credits, protection has been put in place for eligible children to continue to receive free school meals.** All children who receive free school meals will remain eligible until at least 31 March 2022. This also applies to any new children who are approved before this date. From 31 March 2022, any child receiving free school meals will remain eligible until they have graduated from that school phase (e.g. a child in reception on 31 March 2022 would remain eligible until they finished Primary School in 2028)

This means that between now and 31 March 2022, parents do not need to contact Dorset County Council to cancel free school meals, even if they feel that their child is no longer eligible.

More information about this and eligibility for free school meals can be found on [www.dorsetforyou.com](http://www.dorsetforyou.com)

**Please remember that if your child is currently in year 2, from September you will start paying for hot school meals unless you are eligible for Means Tested Free School Meals. If you think you may be eligible please apply as soon as possible so that your child does not miss out.**

**Christian Values**

This half term we have focussed on Respect as our Core Christian Value. This has been discussed and explored during our Collective Worship, and followed up by relating it to our everyday lives in the classrooms. Please find attached a leaflet with some activities and information for you.

**PE Kit**

We usually have a large supply of spare PE kit in school however, due to loaning the kit out to children and it not being returned we have very little left in school. If you do have any school kit at home then please could you return it as soon as possible. Also, we would be very grateful for any donations of PE Kit that your child has outgrown.

**Please** check the school calendar for details of inset days, school events and school holidays. These dates are usually set before the start of the new academic year and are generally available on the school diary from June onwards.

Yours sincerely,

Kathy McCann  
Headteacher