



STICKLAND'S C.E. V.A.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summer Lane
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Dorchester
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Dear Parents and Carers,

School Dates

Can I just remind you to check the school calendar for details of all inset days, school events and school holidays.

Achievements

Congratulations to our Cross Country Team who took part in the Beaminster Cross Country Event. The course was incredibly difficult due to recent weather however, everyone managed to complete the course with some exceptional performances. Well done Olly, Ben, Ella, Frankie, Alfie, Bella, Tabitha E, Jess, Izzy K, Tabitha B, Poppy R, Josh, Ruby R, Olly B, George H and Hayden!

Ravens and Woodpeckers – Staffing Arrangements

Unfortunately Miss Hancock is still unwell and at the present time we do not know when she will be able to return to school. As this is a crucial time for the Year 6 children with their upcoming SATs and the preparation for their move to secondary school Miss Stone has kindly agreed to continue to cover Ravens until the end of this academic year. Miss Stone is very experienced working with this age group and as such we are grateful for her agreeing to this move.

Mrs Hart will continue to teach in Woodpeckers and has increased her days to ensure continuity for Woodpeckers and I will a lot continue to cover in both classes as necessary.

I trust that you understand that we have taken all of the children into consideration when making these decisions and I can assure you that we will endeavour to ensure the children continue to receive excellent support at all times.

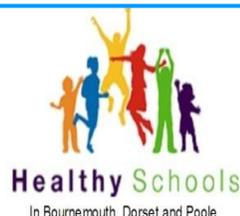
Parent Governor Needed!

Unfortunately, no one came forward to apply for the current vacancy for a Parent Governor. We would be extremely grateful if you could consider if this is something that you would be willing to do to help both your child/children and the school.

Governors help to determine if the school is heading in the right direction and have an opportunity to have an input into how the school can continue to improve. This is your chance to have a say!

Fossa Mothers' Day Tea

FOSSA are holding a Mother's Day tea on Friday 4th March at 3pm in the Discovery Centre - please come and join us for tea and cake - served by some of the children!



Clerk to the Governors - Vacancy

The Governing Body is seeking to appoint an experienced administrator as Clerk to Governors. We are seeking a reliable, well organised individual that is able to work under own initiative to deadlines whilst providing administrative support to the Governing Body.

The successful candidate will be required to:

- Prepare and distribute agendas and enclosures for full governing body and committee meetings
- Take accurate and concise minutes
- Co-ordinate the governing body in an efficient manner
- Advise the governing body on legal, constitutional and procedural matters (training will be provided)
- Attend Clerk's briefing sessions and liaise with Dorset County Council's Governor Services Department
- Demonstrate good verbal and written communication skills

Training and on-going support in all aspects of the role will be available to you from Dorset County Council Governor Services Department.

With the exception of actual meetings, the majority of the role could be carried out in school or from home at a time to suit the post holder as preferred. There are currently 6 full governing body meetings and approximately 12 committee meetings per academic year. The job holder will need to be flexible with regard to working hours and days as this is dependent on the prescribed meeting schedule of the Governing Body. The salary for the role has been calculated as an average of 4 hours per week term time only, however the majority of the hours would be worked on and around the dates of the meetings.

If you have any questions or would like any more information about the role please contact the school office.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people; this is a commitment which we expect all staff and volunteers to share. The successful candidate will be required to have a Disclosure and Barring Service check in line with the Governments safer recruitment guidelines.

This school values the diversity of our workforce and welcomes applications from all sectors of the community.

World Book Day – Dressing Up

Just a reminder that World Book Day is on Thursday 3rd March. Following our initial letter we have received some requests for children to be able to wear something that relates to one of their favourite books rather than dressing up for our theme of "Magic". We can confirm that as long as your child's costume relates to one of their favourite books then we are happy for them to come into school wearing a different costume.

Parents Information Evening - Times Tables and their importance within all areas of Maths

Unfortunately, due to the current staffing situation we have been unable to rearrange this at the moment. We will advise you of the new date as soon as we are able to.

Parents Evenings –14 & 15 March 2016

You are now able to book parents evening appointments using the Eschools platform and this will be available until Sunday 6 March 2016.

Parents' evenings are an opportunity for parents to meet with their child's teacher to discuss academic progress, behaviour and attitudes, as well as any other specific concerns or areas for celebration.

These appointments are for 10 minutes and it is important that we keep to this timeframe to ensure that other parents are not kept waiting. If you feel that you need a longer appointment then please contact your child's teacher directly. If you are making an appointment for more than one child could you please ensure that you leave a gap between appointments so that other parents are not delayed.

If you are unable to make either of these dates please contact your child's teacher directly to arrange an alternative appointment.

Please note, the only club that will be running on these 2 days will be the fencing club.

Last Day of the Term including the Easter Service & Achievements Assembly

You are invited to join the school for the Easter Service at 9.15 am on Thursday 24 March at St Osmund's church in Evershot. Ladybirds, Little Acorns and Barn Owls will also be invited to join us for a community celebration of Easter. Following the service the school will be providing tea/coffee and hot cross buns in the Discovery Centre.

We will not be holding an Achievements' Assembly as well as the Easter Assembly however, there will then be a house competition which will include parents, further details will be provided nearer the time.

Lunch will be set up in the Discovery Centre and children will be able to help themselves to a buffet style lunch and return to classrooms to eat. After all children have collected their food, parents will be invited to help themselves to anything left over.

We are asking each child to bring in a plate of food for this lunch and below are a list of foods we hope each child will be able to provide.

- Reception - Fruit and Crudités e.g. carrots, celery, cucumber, cherry tomatoes
- Year 1 - Savoury Snacks e.g. sausage rolls, pizza, cocktail sausages, quiche
- Year 2 - Crisps and Dips
- Year 3 - Sandwiches
- Year 4 - Sweet items e.g. cakes, biscuits
- Year 5 - Sandwiches
- Year 6 - Drinks e.g. fruit juice, flavoured water, squash

After lunch you are welcome to take your child home however, school will remain open until the end of the normal school day.

Yours sincerely,
Kathy McCann
Headteacher