

STICKLAND'S C.E. V.A.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher:
Mrs Kathy McCann BSc NPQH

Summer Lane
Evershot
Dorchester
Dorset DT2 0JP

Tel/Fax: 01935 83287
office@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk

October 17

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance

Our whole school attendance so far this term is 97.6%. Whilst this is currently a good figure, we know that during the winter months, there tend to be a greater number of germs and bugs about. Whilst we appreciate that sickness causes unavoidable absence, if your child just has a sniffle or cold, please send them in. If they are too ill to be at school, we will call you.

Inset Day

Just a reminder that after half term Monday 30 October is an inset day therefore, the children do not return to school until Tuesday 31 October 2017.

Start of the Day

The gate shuts promptly at 8.40am in the mornings to enable the children to be in school and ready to start their school day at 8.45am. We would very much appreciate it if parents could ensure that their children arrive before the gate closes so that they are ready with the rest of their class to participate in the first lesson.

Buses

Please can you let the office know by midday if your child is not on the bus on any particular day. I am sure that you can appreciate that it causes unnecessary upset to the children if at the end of the day if we have not been told that a child is going home with a parent or other nominated adult. Also, if you email the office an acknowledgement email will be sent to you reassuring you that the message has been received.

Football Club

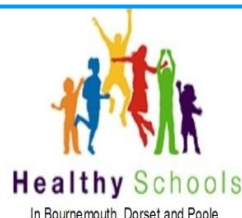
As most of you will know Jack Harvey was no longer able to continue with the Key Stage 2 Football Club this year. We wondered if there were any parents that would be willing to run a lunchtime football club for the older children after half term. If you are able to help then please contact the office (any volunteers would need to have a DBS check).

Wessex FM

A group of our Year 3 children will be featured as 'school of the week' on Wessex FM this week. Tune in to the breakfast show to hear them! (96 and 97.2FM)

Harvest Service

Thank you to everyone who attended the Harvest Service and for all the food donations that were received. The Church will be distributing the food locally and any remaining items will be donated to the Evershot/Sherborne Food Banks.



Swimming

The swimming pool is now closed for the winter and we would like to thank all of the volunteers who managed both the upkeep of the pool and also the after school swimming sessions. Without these volunteers the school would not be able to keep the swimming pool running so we hope that everyone appreciates the time that they give up to ensure our children can enjoy this great resource.

Bags2Schools Monday

I am really pleased to say that Bags2Schools raised £100 which will be used to purchase new books for the library and our reading schemes. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this collection. We will be looking to hold another collection in the Spring ready for those winter wardrobe clear outs.

Red, White & Blue Day

We managed to raise £63 for Red, White and Blue Day which is run jointly by ABF The Soldiers' Charity, The RAF Benevolent Fund and The Royal Navy and Royal Marines Charity. Each of these three charities are responsible for the welfare of soldiers, sailors and airmen and their families. Thank you

Clubs

Clubs start again after half term. The clubs will finish the week ending 1 December 2017, with the exception of Basketball which finishes on Tuesday 31 October and Relax Kids that finishes on Wednesday 6 December.

Individual School Photos

Ashley Woods Studios will be coming to school on the afternoon of Wednesday 22 November to take the children's individual photos. We have been advised that the photos will be back in time for Christmas!

Office Closed 6 – 10 November

Lisa will not be in the office the week commencing 6 November. If possible please could all queries be emailed to the office email address as Mrs Straughan and myself will be monitoring the emails during the day.

If you have an urgent matter then please ring the office and leave a message, the answerphone will be checked at regular intervals.

Antibullying Week including Blue Monday

Monday 13 to Friday 17 November is Antibullying Week and during the week, the children will take part in a range of activities to highlight bullying and how we will put a stop to it.

We will begin the week by taking part in Blue Monday (**Monday 13 November**) and we would like all children to wear blue, in order to take a united stand against bullying. (There is no cost for the children to wear blue on this day.)

Children in Need – Week beginning 13 November

During the week beginning the 13 November we will be selling Children in Need glow in the dark key rings and wristbands as well as Pudsey or Blush pin badges for £1 each. Initially the children will be limited to a maximum of 2 items however, if we still have some items remaining on Thursday then they will be allowed to buy more.

We will also be holding a cake sale on Wednesday 8 November with the cakes being provided by the children in Ravens class. All profits from this will go towards Children in Need.

Finally, for a voluntary donation of £1 the children are allowed to wear home school clothes on Friday 17 November **provided they have a spotty theme!**

Key Stage Two Melbury House Concert – 4th and 5th December

The Key Stage Two children will be performing a concert of lessons and carols in the library at Melbury House, with the Melbury Team Choir and local musicians. This promises to be a very special event once again.

All of the children have been practicing very hard for the concert, and whilst we appreciate that it is an after school event, we do expect to see as many children as possible there. This is a fantastic event and opportunity to sing with an adult choir in a magical setting. The concert will be from 6.30pm to approximately 8.00pm and is a ticketed event, £2.50 for adults, children are free. Refreshments will be available and there will be a luxurious hamper raffle on both nights. All proceeds will go towards FOSSA funds which contributes to many of the extra special activities that the children do throughout the year. Tickets will be available from the school office from Monday 20th November 2017.

Non-school Uniform for Hamper Items

As mentioned above Fossa would like to run a Luxury Hamper Raffle as part of the Melbury House Concerts. We are holding a non-school uniform day on Friday 24 November in exchange for donations of **luxury** items for the hamper and would be very grateful if you could help.

Postal Bible School

I have been told by a parent about a Postal Bible School that one of our pupils belongs to. This is a free service and children receive a booklet and can earn prizes by sending their work back. For more information, look at <http://www.besweb.com/>

West Dorset Schools Collaboration

I would like to draw your attention to the work that we do as part of the West Dorset Schools Collaboration. The collaboration is made up of the following schools: Beaminster School, Broadwindsor, Greenford, Parrett and Axe, Powerstock, Stickland's, Salway Ash, Symondsbury and Thorne's.

The aim of this group of schools is to enable every young person to achieve outstanding opportunities to learn. As part of the collaboration, we are now able to access greater training opportunities for staff, and opportunities for them to work with colleagues from other schools to share good practice. The collaboration has also provided an even wider range of sporting events for our children to participate in. The schools are employing the services of speech and language therapists, and a support worker to work with individual pupils. As I am sure that you can appreciate, working in partnership with other schools in this way will enable us to provide even more for our children, in a climate where budget cuts mean we have to be more creative with our funds.

School Dates

Can I just remind you to 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