

October 15

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Achievements**

Isabella (M) and her partner Nathan have danced their way with their team, the Yeovil Falcons to the top of the 2<sup>nd</sup> division in the southern Supadance league Under 12s this season. Presentation day is on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November where they and their team mates (4 couples in total) will be presented with a first prize medal. Congratulations to Isabella and her team!

### **Inset Day**

Just to remind you that Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November is an inset day, the children's first day back after half term in Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November

### **Changes to the Start of the School Day**

After half term we are going to make a change to the start of the school day as the current arrangements are proving quite disruptive and delay the first lesson of everyday.

From Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, the children will continue to arrive from 8.30am and will be able to play on the playground until 8.40am. A teacher will then blow the whistle and we would like all parents to leave the playground so that the children can line up without any distractions. Lining up in the morning currently takes much longer than it does at any other point in the day.

We would greatly appreciate your cooperation with this and can assure you that the playground will be checked for any forgotten items once the children have been taken to their classes.

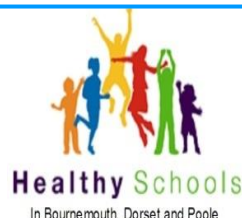
### **At the end of the day!**

School closes at 3.00pm everyday with the exception of clubs. We are having an increasing amount of children coming into school after this time to use the toilets and look for lost items. We understand that this is necessary but after half term the school will only be accessible to parents/children until 3.10pm.

The school is not set up to supervise children after school hours and health and safety would require some supervision to be in place which we do not have the staff for. As well as, this staff use the time after school to catch up on any events that have occurred during the day and some of the information discussed is sensitive therefore, parents/children should not be in school to hear this.

We would be grateful if you could respect this change as it will also enable staff to catch up on marking and preparation for the next day and this takes much longer if they are being continually disrupted.

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## **Eschools and Letters**

We have now been using Eschools for other six months to send out electronic copies of all letters which should have given you all a chance to go into the website and look at the activities happening in your child's class as well as copies of the letters we have sent home.

To help cut back on the amount of paper being sent home we will now only be sending electronic copies of information letters however, any letter that requires a response will also be sent home as a hard copy. To see any letters that have been sent home you can login to the school website [www.sticklands.dorset.sch.uk](http://www.sticklands.dorset.sch.uk) using the "login" box in the top right of the home page. If for some reason you have lost your username it will always be your firstname.surname ie. lisa.cracknell and there is a button for forgotten password.

If you download the "eschools" app onto your phone or tablet this will notify you of any letters sent to you.

We also spend an awful lot of time chasing reply slips for the children therefore, we are now implementing a policy to stop this. You will receive a hard copy of the letter with the permission slip, at the same time the letter is emailed to you. We will then send you an email followed by a text to remind you to return the slip if you have not already done so. If you do not return the slip then your child will not be able to attend the event.

Finally, if for some reason you do need a hard copy of any information letters then please contact the office.

## **Key Stage Two Melbury House Concert – 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> December**

The Key Stage Two choir 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. 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 and the Evershot shop nearer the time.

## **Clubs**

Unfortunately, the archery club will stop after half term as the current providers are unable to arrive at school for the end of the school day. They are hoping that in the future they will be able to find a way to ensure they arrive at 3.00pm and if they can they will happily provide another club.

All other clubs will continue until the week ending 4<sup>th</sup> December however, Recorder Club will now be on a Tuesday.

Once again I would like to remind you that we would like the children to show commitment to the club they have signed up to, clubs are an extension of the school day and our behaviour policy still applies. Should a child not show commitment or their behaviour is unacceptable then we will write to you and their place will be offered to another child.

Finally, I am sure you are all aware that the staff provide these clubs during their own time and we would therefore be grateful if you could collect your child promptly at the end of these clubs.

**Forest School Working Party**

We would like to form a group which helps to develop and maintain our Forest School which would meet for 2-3 hours each term. We do not need you to have experience in this area but just an interest in the outside environment and enthusiasm to help. If you are willing to help then please could you complete the attached slip and we will form an email group to keep you up to date and discuss any ideas/projects.

**Red, White & Blue Day Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October**

Thank you for supporting this year's Red, White and Blue Day, I am pleased to announce that we raised £81 which will go towards supporting UK Service Families.

**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