



Stoke Hill Infant and Nursery School

Update 15.1.21

Federation News from Mrs Mackay

The first piece of news this week is that I have decided to retire at the end of this school year, and Mr Souter at the Junior School will be doing the same. As you will appreciate, it has not been an easy decision for either of us to make, but we both feel that it is time for some other lucky people to have the opportunity to move our amazing schools and the Federation forward.

The governors are now looking at different options for the future leadership of the Federation, and will be asking for the views of stakeholders as part of a thorough and rigorous recruitment process. We will keep you all updated.

In the meantime, we will continue to work with our brilliant staff team to make sure the rest of the school year is as good as it possibly can be for every one of our Stoke Hill children.

Remote Learning

We hope you have had a good week of learning at home with your child. No doubt you have enjoyed watching the three daily videos made by your child's teacher/teachers in the year group or the activities from the Nursery team. I have received some wonderful feedback! This is a new venture for our staff, who have worked so very hard to master the presentation and the tech skills required. From next week you will need to use your child's ClickView username and password (sent home with the Christmas Assembly invitation) to access our school videos, in all year groups. If you have misplaced it, here is how you can generate one:

Username: marys@stokehill (first name and initial)

Password: year1oak

On Wednesday next week we will be asking you to use your smart phone to take a photo of some key learning that results from the videos and email it into your child's teacher, who will then be able to provide you with some feedback through the weekly Keeping in Touch email. To further support Remote Learning we have prepared a booklet of Explore and Learn or Project activities, to be used in conjunction with the website. The booklet and the Nursery learning pack will be posted out today and should reach you early next week.

Remote Learning is not easy, all we ask is that you 'do what you can, when you can'. Do also try to get out in the fresh air everyday so that your child achieves the minimum one hours daily exercise recommended by the government. This should also help them sleep well!

In School Learning

School is busy with happy children, although much quieter than usual! However we are at 50% occupancy, compared to just 10% in the previous lockdown. This feels too high and like most schools in Exeter we have taken measures to reduce attendance. We have asked critical workers to review their needs. We have fully implemented the Covid 19 protective measures, with school as safe as it can be but any reduction in numbers would help. We do of course want to support our critical worker families and we will continue to offer full time

education for them, where necessary and for children with SEN or those considered vulnerable. Thank you for co-operation in this matter.

Out of the darkness...

These indeed feel like dark days, dark when I drive to work in the morning and dark when I drive home again. The situation with Covid 19 is of course extremely serious. Then I remember that around the twentieth of January it starts to get a little bit lighter at both ends of the day and I know that spring is on its way. I hear the news and I learn that tens of thousands of people have been vaccinated today. So we are definitely moving into light!

Wishing you all a happy and safe weekend ~ **Alison Kenney**