

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

December 2021



Time flies when you are having fun! I can't believe Christmas is upon us. Where has the time gone?

I have spent a lot of time this term, really getting to grips with our curriculum and dropping into lessons I previously wouldn't have dropped into, looking at subjects that don't always get a high profile.

This term has had a renewed focus on a broad and balanced curriculum and ensuring that children get a great offer when coming to our school.

It's been nice to see the fledgling Stogursey Adventurers programme taking off with bug hotels, weather stations and cookery lessons happening regularly. It's been great to see how Miss Dunwood's team of parent volunteers have got involved and assisted with this.

I am so impressed with how naturally our children are computer programmers, working on the new Purple Mash software making computer games. Surely this is going to be useful knowledge to have for future jobs?

I enjoyed teaching dance the other day with our new PE scheme 'Real Dance' and also to see the new Country Dancing Club taking off. There is such enthusiasm and energy for dance. Long may it continue! I was humbled to be a part of the recent lessons about different families as part of our Relationships, Social and Health Education. The children were very sensible and created a safe space to be able to talk about different families that exist and diversity. I felt for the first time in my career to be able to contribute to the discussions talking about my diverse family including my husband and that just showed that Stogursey School has such a strong culture of inclusion and we are able to prepare children for life in modern Britain. The children made me feel included and welcome in their discussions and this is brilliant!

Finally, it has been a real pleasure to see action teams getting started, in particular Max's Curry Club at the Happiness After School Club. This was exactly what this club was founded for- so that children can do what makes them happy and discover things that maybe they didn't know makes them happy!

A special mention has to go to Lianne and her team for running the Happiness Clubs (this was a new addition this term) and I am so delighted the government has decided to fund the holiday provision again for next year. Having this really helps us to 'grow in the grace and knowledge'.

All that remains is to wish you and your family a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year. I look forward to seeing everyone back at school on Tuesday 4th January.

Mr Tucker

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

STAFF NEWS

At the end of this month, we say goodbye to Jane Lock who has brilliantly stepped in as a temporary Office Manager whilst we recruit to the substantive post. We are so grateful for her hard work and determination to keep the office running as smoothly as possible and we will miss her! We will also be saying goodbye to Joanna Duncuff-Hoad who has been working in Triscombe Class. We thank her for the hard work and expertise she has brought to supporting children in this class.

We welcome in January our new Office Manager, Carlie Nicholls. Being one of our parents, she is a familiar face. She is looking forward to this exciting, new challenge and we are looking forward to starting working with her! We also welcome Ashley Millar who will be working as a Teaching Assistant in Triscombe class.

SUPPLY TEACHERS

You will notice that over the rest of the year, we will have more supply teachers in school than usual. This is because we have been able to find funding for our teachers to develop our curriculum and ensure we have a great offer in place that reflects our vision. So far, the children have responded well to the supply staff and ensured they feel welcome in our school. This is excellent and enables our teaching team to work on the latest evidence-based thinking and plan to achieve an ambitious and interesting curriculum that children will only benefit from in the long-run. Each newsletter, we set out in the 'Our Priorities' section so you can see what great work has been taking place by our very talented teaching staff.

We will balance this with not having teachers out of class too much because we are aware that this can also cause disruption.

ATTENDANCE

After an initial dip in November, we are once again picking up on our attendance. If your child is

struggling to get into school, please do ask for help. We have found attendance at Breakfast Happiness Club is closely linked to improving attendance. We even have discounts available to remove any barriers to this so that children start the day in a positive way and keep coming to school. Please talk to Mr Tucker about any of these things.

REMAINING INSETS

These are listed below:

- Friday 18th February 2022
- Friday 22nd July 2022
- Monday 25th July 2022
- Tuesday 26th July 2022

OUR PRIORITIES IN FOCUS- RELATIONSHIPS, SOCIAL & HEALTH EDUCATION (RSHE)



Each month, we will look at one of the 4 priorities for this year to show what we are working on. We felt following our new vision of 'Grow in the Grace and knowledge' our curriculum did not reflect this vision and so our improvement work focuses on this. So far this term for RSHE, we have...

- Trained teachers in Diversity themes and text-based lessons on families
- Started to introduce themes on protected characteristics in the Equality Act (2010) such

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

as LGBT families, age and disability discrimination

- Re-evaluated our RSHE curriculum and secured funding for this to be developed to reflect our needs as a community
- Started up in-house mental health provision for those who might need it using our qualified staff to do so.

This is just the beginning of what we intend to achieve. A visitor to our school recently said how forward-thinking we seem. Preparing children for life in Modern Britain is more than just English and Maths results. Employers look for so-called 'soft skills' and we believe emotional and social skills should be developed from the off and based on good evidence. This is what we are doing.

TUTORING

This is coming to an end and has been largely successful. The children say that they've enjoyed benefitting from these sessions. In the Spring Term, we will complete these and then move toward the final tranche of school-based tutoring for a small minority of pupils who may still require this.

FUND RAISING

Thank you for all of your donations. We raised:

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK FUNDRAISER (Odd socks day)
£17

POPPY APPEAL FUNDRAISER
£73.97

CHILDREN IN NEED FUNDRAISER
£99.34

SAVE THE CHILDREN (Christmas Jumper Day)
£21.22

EPILEPSY AWARENESS

This Term we had a fantastic time raising awareness for epilepsy by wearing purple to school! We have learnt all about what epilepsy is and how to care for people who have epilepsy.

Miss Louise Day



DIARY DATES

Newsletters will be sent out in the second week of every month. Please see the website for more information.

These are the dates for this term. We try our best not to change them but sometimes circumstances require us to.

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| Fri 17th December | Christingle Service at church |
| Fri 17th Dec | End of Term |

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| Tues 4th January | Spring Term Begins |
| Mon 10 th January | Adventurers starts |

(We require volunteers to help with the Adventurers or it will not be able to continue)