

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

September 2020



Welcome back to the new Academic Year at our school. I hope you had a lovely summer holiday and are refreshed, ready to return back after what has been a very unusual year!

I do hope that you have taken the time to read the reopening plan and to study the extra measures put in place to make the school safer for learning to carry on. Please, I do ask, that you are patient with us as we also adapt to these new arrangements.

My own personal teaching commitment this year is raised compared to last year due to the new safety arrangements. I do ask if you wish to contact me then please do so after 12.30pm each day. I should be available on most days.

I hope you like the new branding for the school with the green and white look. It is to reflect our new vision 'Grow in the Grace and Knowledge' and you will soon get more information about this through online videos. You will start to notice changes to the website, these communications and more videos.

We have been highly praised for our remote learning solution and our dedication to pack collection and delivery last year. A big part of the success was the communication, I would say, particularly through Facebook. I urge you to 'Like' our Facebook page as this is often where you can find the most up-to-date information and interesting videos. If you have it, our Youtube channel is worth subscribing to so that you never miss out on content.

Many thanks for your ongoing support during these challenging times for our country. I am confident we will make a success of whatever lies ahead of us.

Mr Tucker

STAFF NEWS

We said goodbye to Miss Atwell at the end of the year but we have also to say goodbye to two other members of staff. Mrs Tina Adam who has worked in our kitchen for many years has left her post. We will miss her wonderful character and how she lightens up the school with her sense of humour. We thank her for all her service to the school and for all the delicious meals she has served up over the years. She will be missed!

Mrs Sue Hobbs, our Triscombe Class Teaching Assistant, has decided to retire. Mrs Hobbs has worked at the school for an amazing 22 years! She will be missed tremendously for all the extra support she has given over the years in terms of supporting Reading, Speaking, Listening, Writing, Maths and much more! She has been the 'guardian' of our stock cupboards, keeping them well-organised and well-supplied and we will all miss her terribly. We thank Mrs Hobbs for all that she has done for the community over the past two decades and wish her all the best in her retirement.

We welcome to our school Mr Tim Law. Mr Law has been a parent at our school and trained with us to become a Teaching Assistant last year. Mr Law will be with us full-time initially but was appointed part-time to be Teaching Assistant in Triscombe Class. We hope to be recruiting his job-share very soon. Welcome to the Stogursey School Family, Mr Law!

We also welcome Miss Beth Turner as the Teacher in Triscombe Class. Many children and parents came to meet Miss Turner at our school starters' picnic. She has impressed already with her radical transformation of the learning environment both inside and outside.

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

When you drop your child off, please do stop to admire her work. Your children are set to gain enormously from Miss Turner and her hard work. We are so pleased to have her joining the Stogursey School Family.

THE REOPENING PLAN

We had our plan approved by the QET's Trustees. As far as I can see most changes by the DfE over the summer really only affect Secondary Schools so our plan is good to go. There's only really one minor change for parents entering Pre-School and Triscombe class. We will now not be collecting children from the gate. Please enter and start to queue outside the rooms safely. Please be also aware that the area you are standing in is an outdoor classroom so be aware of resources that may be out and try not to stand on them! Many thanks.



WELLIES

We intend to use the field all year round. As part of this, we told you that one of our parents, Mr Stubbs has constructed us a welly rack. We would like to start using it. Could your child bring in some wellies with their name in both, please? If they are needed for evenings and weekends, then if your child brings in a carrier bag for when it is needed, then we can arrange for them to get them from the rack. If wellies can't be brought in, then old shoes will be fine.

OUR PRIORITIES

Our main priority as a school is to recover from this long period of time where children have missed out on many aspects of their education. Look out for short videos showing what we are doing and how you can help on our YouTube channel or the Facebook page. We will also be introducing a new subject to our children called 'Wellbeing' in which we will be learning about all sorts of things to do with building mental strength. I am confident that this new subject will improve how children view themselves and how they respond to challenges they will face now and in the future. Miss May will be the lead on Wellbeing. This has come at the perfect time!

We also have to have a plan in place for better Remote Learning, to be ready for any possibility of a local lockdown. We will communicate this to you at the beginning of October so you know your role. Miss Day is the Lead on this and she will be in touch soon about what sort of technology you have at home as we should be receiving Chromebooks for home shortly but this will be for pupils who are eligible. Miss Day will outline this in due course.

When we say 'better remote learning', we will be looking at what worked well during last year's lockdown and improving other aspects such as 'Live Lessons' and Online Feedback as well as regular time to chat with their teacher.

Details are still emerging about the catch-up funding, but we will be assessing and planning which children would benefit from taking part in the National Tutoring Programme as well as having a Learning Coach. Again, details will be released in due course and Mr Tucker and Miss Dunwood are the co-leads on the catch-up



HONESTY SHOP

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

We have so many apples and pears in our field. We will be picking them and selling them at the front of the school in our new 'Honesty Shop'. It doesn't quite compare to the one in Shurton but you never know what might happen! There will also be plum jams for sale and a jar will be left outside for payment. All money raised will go towards your children.

PARENTS EVENINGS

These will be held in November and will possibly involve using technology. Where technology is an issue, alternative arrangements will be made.

CLUBS

After school clubs are slowly springing back to life and a letter is being sent out about this.

DASH club is postponed for the moment due to there being no space for this currently.



ATTENDANCE

Obviously, now we are getting back to normal, attendance monitoring will continue with the help of our Attendance Officer Elaine Detain.

We noticed last year, prior to lockdown that our higher than average unauthorised absence rate was caused by children arriving late to school after registers had closed at 9.15am. This automatically results in an unauthorised absence, even if your child is here! You can do your bit by making sure your child is not late to school and gets here on time before 9am, preferably.

We appreciate that initially, some children may be reluctant to come to school after such a long break but we can help with that. Please don't be afraid to ask for help. Once the children have settled back into

the routines, we should be able to focus on punctuality a bit more.



PE DAYS

Please remember as part of the plan, children may come to school in a tracksuit on PE days. These days are outlined below:

Triscombe (Rec/ Y1)- Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays
Alfoxton (Y2/3)- Mondays and Fridays
Beacon (Y4/5/6)- Thursdays and Fridays

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.

Tues 15th September	Beacon Class Swimming starts
Mon 19th October	Box of Delights Wellbeing Day
Thurs 22nd October	INSET Day
Fri 25th October	INSET Day
Mon 2nd November	Term 2 starts
Mon 16th November	Friendship Week starts
Mon 16th/ Tues 17th	Parents Evenings (Remotely)
Mon 30th November	Box of Delights Wellbeing Day
Fri 4th Dec	End of Topic Celebrations
Mon 7th Dec	Christmas topic begins
Fri 18th Dec	End of Term