

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

April 2021

Happy Easter



Welcome to this month's edition of the school newsletter. It is April and it is almost the Easter Holidays. For many of us with the lockdown, then the return and then the requirement to self-isolate due to positive cases of COVID, this will just seem more of the same. However, Spring is here and the rules appear to be relaxing so this is obviously good news!

The Easter story is all about new life and about the resurrected Jesus. I do hope that despite these numerous derailments recently, we might be able to return to some normality soon and bring new life into what we do. The vaccination programme seems to be going well with many in our communities having had their 1st jab and some now going on to have their 2nd. It seems normality is within our grasp.

When it comes to what lies ahead, I dislike the term 'catch-up'. It adds pressure onto children and using the language of deficit like this just makes goals seem ever so far away. I have always said that the children are a credit to yourselves. They relish challenges and over the years ahead, they will learn what they need to learn and it will be done in a timely manner. Putting extra pressure on them is not the solution to this.

Our long-term plan is to bring in specific, useful services to encourage excellent mental health and I outlined some of this in my radio interview last week. I have a goal to achieve a coveted Mental Health Award in the next few years and work is already beginning in earnest to achieve this.

Right now, I want to think more about what has been lost over the past year or so and regain it. Children have missed out on many things but have also gained enormously. We will be analysing and seeing where children might need extra help. At last, the National Tutoring Programme has been in touch, so children needing this help will finally get it. The things I want to bring back this term for us all includes:

- Practical Science - You may have already seen this starting with our exciting Science Week recently.
- More time to work on friendships, conflict resolution and self-esteem activities.
- Creative Arts - More time to paint, design and create things.
- School Production - I understand Beacon Class is still deciding what this will be and we are hoping to put on the first-ever performance in the new Victory Hall in June once all restrictions are lifted.
- More time outdoors - research shows this is good for mental health as well as physical health so this is a must!

You can see that these measures are responsive to what we see is needed in school. Feedback has come from parents, children and staff and we have used this information to plan an exciting programme going forwards.

As always, we find getting feedback really useful. I am usually on the gate at the start and end of each day so please come and have a quick chat or if you need a longer one I am usually at the end of the phone. I wish you and your family a Happy Easter and I look forward to seeing everyone back together in the Summer Term.

Mr G Tucker
Head of School

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SCHOOL CROSSING PATROL

We would like to remind everyone that adults are role models to children in demonstrating safe crossing of the road to enter and exit the site. Please show this by using the school crossing patrol correctly. We've had a number of incidents recently whereby adults have disregarded Mrs Stone, our school crossing patrol and crossed at unsafe points. The speed at which cars come along past the school, despite the safety measures in place makes this challenging at times. We should as adults be modelling to children how to cross the road safely. Please adhere to this and be aware of your own roles in doing this. Thank you to those who do this all the time and thank you for your support.

SELF-ISOLATION GUIDELINES

This has been quite a new thing for many of us with the recent positive cases of COVID in the school and many children and staff having to self-isolate and switch back to working from home. Here is a reminder of 4 things to do if you, your household or a child has to self-isolate.

1. You should not be seen out and about away from your homes. This is against the law and the police are enforcing this.
2. Visitors shouldn't be going into houses or going in gardens for social occasions. We are still in a national lockdown!
3. If you develop symptoms or test positive on a test, please ring Mr Tucker. This is important for contact tracing and for ensuring no one is at the school site who shouldn't be there.
4. Only those identified as having to self-isolate need to do so. They have been informed by email. The rest of the household do not have to self-isolate unless someone in the house goes on to develop symptoms.

THE PAST FEW WEEKS IN TRISCOMBE

Triscombe settled back into School amazingly well. They were all ecstatic to see their school friends and there were lots of happy excited dances! We played

lots of games and explored the outside area as we settled into our routine again. We have continued our look at different types of plants and planting our own bean seeds and monitoring how well they have grown.



We have enjoyed doing different science experiments including seeing how food colouring in water will affect white flowers and making lava lamps. We have also looked at space during the past couple weeks of school. I was amazed by the knowledge of Triscombe class and all the amazing facts they told me, Max told me that "the sun stays still and the planets move around it" whilst Alexander and Oscar had lots of facts about the different planets and what they are made out of. There was also some wonderful imaginative play and discussions in our new rocket role play area.



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RED NOSE DAY – 19th MARCH 2021

The children had lots of fun during our Red Nose Day.

We raised a fantastic £55! Well done to everyone who took part.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

If your child would like a school packed lunch for Summer Term 1 please let Mrs Pear know your options by Wednesday 30th April. Thank you to the parents who have already informed us.

EASTER HOLIDAY CLUB – TUESDAY 6TH – FRIDAY 9TH APRIL

This half term we are running our first Holiday Club during the Easter break. We hope that the children who will be attending have a fantastic week.

PARENTS EVENING

The dates and times of your parents evening consultation will be sent out this week. If you haven't already contacted us about an appointment with your child's teacher please ring the School Office.

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.

Wednesday 31 st April	Last day of term
Thursday 1 st April	Inset Day
Tuesday 6 th April – Friday 9 th April	Easter Holiday Club
Monday 3 rd May	Bank Holiday

