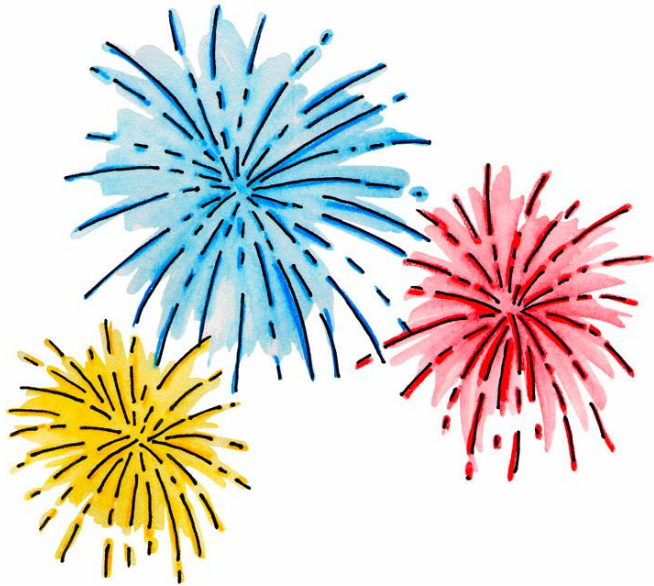


# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

**November 2020**



November is here and it is usually the time of the year when the weather is getting colder and we stand outside appreciating the fireworks and the local carnival but alas, we find ourselves entering yet another National Lockdown! I was very relieved to hear that schools would be exempt from the restrictions and that we could continue as before with our safety measures in place.

Our safety measures contained in our risk assessment are reviewed by myself, the staff and the governors every fortnight and these are then sent to the trustees who give the go ahead or not to any changes.

Just looking through the risk assessment the other day, it made me so proud to be the Head of Stogursey school- the way the community has supported us whether it is with the changes to entering and exiting the site or with giving us access to the new Victory Hall for our Indoor PE lessons; Stogursey has shown it can rise to the occasion.

There's bits that I do find frustrating as I'm sure everyone does- the extra costs with no reimbursement, the impact on PE lessons to enable distancing, the whole school activities that cannot happen at the moment to name but a few. The thing I

am finding the saddest at the moment is that we cannot sing inside the building. I don't know about you, but some of my fondest memories of primary school was singing together. As I was reflecting on this the other day, I went back to the new aims of the school and one of them I thought was very pertinent here,

"Find joy in learning"

It was this that helped me to move beyond the sadness that current restrictions impose on us and I delivered an assembly to the children (in their bubbles) that school must become a place of normality. The joy of what we learn and experience in school should be celebrated and we should make more of a thing of it. This edition of the newsletter has the usual information but really looks at the exciting things going on in our school at the moment.

It may be an anxious time out of school, but learning has the power to bring light to dark times. Let's celebrate that more!

Mr Tucker

## **CHILDREN IN NEED**

This will be a non-uniform day this Friday 13th November. The theme is 'act your age' so we have decided to do some number challenges on the day and children may come into school in casual clothes. Please do bring in a donation on the day to raise money for this worthy cause.

## **STAFF NEWS**

We welcome Mrs Janine Collins, who has temporarily stepped in as Office Manager whilst we recruit Mrs Carter's successor. She has already been getting to know the children, staff and families and has said how welcome everyone has made her feel. That's the Stogursey way!

The COVID restrictions have put added pressure onto our site team and so we are delighted to welcome

# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

Jess Hendy and Susan Dare as cleaners in the school during the daytime. Their job is to ensure that classrooms are ready for afternoon sessions and so that our existing cleaners can do a deeper clean each day. Welcome to you both!

## MINOR CHANGES TO THE RISK ASSESSMENT

**Entry and exit to the school-** we have coloured paw prints on the car park outside to follow so we don't have to keep putting the equipment out each day. My thanks to Haygrove School for the stencils and to our governors for sorting this out.

**Visitors-** During this time of national lockdown, the only visits permitted to the school building are those deemed essential.

**After school club-** this is still on with the primary reason given to assist with childcare and to enable parents to work. Any enrichment now at lunchtime will be in bubbles only.

**Trips-** These are now on hold until national lockdown has ended. PE at the Victory Hall is an exemption to this.

**Contactless Thermometers-** Our thanks to FOSS for purchasing these. If your child has a high temperature, they will be sent home and put onto remote learning. Your child will come home with a booklet and a Chromebook may be loaned with a signed loan agreement if need be. If your child is sent home, please ensure you dial 119 and arrange for a COVID test to be carried out and self-isolate your household until told what to do next by the COVID testers. In exceptional circumstances, we have a limited number of COVID test kits in the school that may be given to parents to use on children and sent in the post.

## REMOTE LEARNING

We have had some children off school with symptoms of COVID19. Luckily, we have had no positive cases. It

is required now in law that anyone self-isolating either through a positive case or awaiting test results should continue their education at home through Remote Learning provided by the school. Our new Chromebooks have arrived and they can be loaned out. All work (except for Triscombe class) should be done online in Google Classroom. We will set out more details about this but the main expectations are:

1. Work should be for at least **3 hours per day**
2. Remote Learning should be done to the same high standards as we have at school (good presentation, care taken with it)
3. Any remote learning packs are to be brought back upon your child's return to school
4. A requirement to meet deadlines set by teachers
5. Your family bubble should NOT be seen out and about whilst self-isolating. This is now against the law and can incur big fines.

We appreciate that switching like this can be very challenging but please know that our teachers are working extremely hard to ensure work is provided and then for children to 'slot back in' upon their arrival. This is such a challenge for teachers to do and so if you don't understand something about Remote Learning, then please do contact us at the school.



## PARENTS EVENINGS

These will be held next week over the phone and separate details have been sent out about this.



# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

## SEX EDUCATION POLICY

Our policy will now have to be ready by April in line with the new requirements. If you remember, right before COVID, as guided by the church, we planned to hold a parent meeting to decide on a policy together. We will be doing this work but will hold it in the form of surveys. Mrs Caroline Hawkes (our link governor), Miss Day and Miss May are going to facilitate this and draw up a new policy in consultation with you.

We encourage you to get involved with this. The Sex Education aspect of Relationship, Sex and Health Education (RSHE) is not statutory in Primary Schools but we wish to make sure that what we create is what you wish for us to teach your children and is age and stage appropriate. We need your help with this so please do participate in any surveys they send out to you. We need all of this in place by April as we have to have our full curriculum including all of this in place by the Summer Term.



## ANTI-BULLYING WEEK

Stogursey School takes Bullying very seriously. We are taking part in this year's anti-bullying week with various activities going on. Our Wellbeing lead, Miss May is coordinating this with the teachers and we will celebrate our achievements around this on the school website.

Bullying is extremely serious and schools are required to take action where it happens and to do preventative work on it. **I have a task for you.** On our website is the Anti-Bullying Policy. Take a look at the

section on the preventative work that takes place in our school. When I re-read it recently, I was taken aback by how much work is already done in the school to prevent bullying. It is astonishing. I want everyone to read the policy and appreciate the hard work of everyone in our community that already takes place to stop this in its tracks.

I will even send out an email copy to everyone. Every year, we re-look at the difference between bullying and falling out with someone. There's a really important bit in the policy whereby it talks about weakening the power of the word 'bullying' by equating it to falling out or disagreements. I think we should all take the time to have a look at this document so that we can indeed 'Unite against Bullying'.

## CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

This is always a very special occasion and we obviously cannot hold our usual nativities and carol services. Even after lockdown finishes, the DfE will not allow performances including community gatherings. This is understandable. However, we do not want your child to miss out on their first nativity or the specialness that Christmas brings so we are filming it and putting it on our YouTube channel. Our premier day will be Weds 16th December. Be sure to subscribe to the channel so you don't miss out on it.

## 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

Some classes are going to start training to be sports leaders and will be getting extra PE sessions. An email should have already gone out about this.

# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

## WHOLE SCHOOL WELLBEING THEME



As a whole school, we are learning about the diversity elements in the new RSHE framework. Mr Tucker is looking at how diversity is explained in the Bible in his assemblies. He has already looked at the parable of the Good Samaritan which shows that we can help people who are different to us and Jesus even commands us to do so! Diversity is a celebration of everything and everyone and their differences.

## LEARNING EXPEDITIONS CURRENTLY IN CLASS

We have got back into the swing of things. Below is some news on what exciting learning has been happening in classes.

**PRE-SCHOOL-** We have been looking at volcanoes and dinosaurs as this really interests us at the moment.



**TRISCOMBE-** We have been learning about villains in stories and in our History lessons, we have been learning about Guy Fawkes.



**ALFOXTON-** Our topic has been about Italy. This is a country that is slightly different to ours. It is in Europe and we know a lot already about the delicious food they have in their culture. We will be learning more about this very soon.



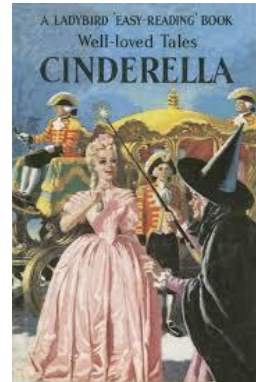
**BEACON-** Our topic is all about local History. We are doing a depth-study on the Battle of Sedgemoor which actually took place on the other side of Bridgwater! We have been exploring the causes of the battle and after lockdown are hoping to visit the battlefield for ourselves! As part of preparing for the learning expedition, we have explored the underlying causes rooting from the Gunpowder plot. We designed 'guys' (as is the local custom) and created them before shortly throwing them on a bonfire! We are also exploring how the local carnival came about from this event.



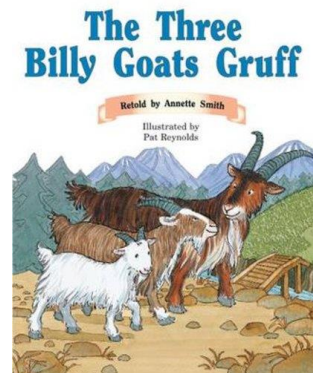
# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS



**Beacon-** Born with facial differences that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie Pullman becomes the most unlikely of heroes when he enters the local fifth grade. As his family, his new classmates, and the larger community all struggle to discover their compassion and acceptance, Auggie's extraordinary journey will unite them and prove you can't blend in when you were born to stand out.

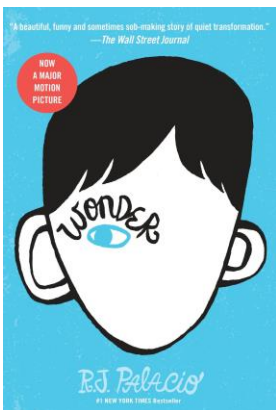


**Alfoxton-** Cinderella is the story of jealousy, virtues and sufferings of Cinderella and hostility of her older sisters. The fairy-tale about Cinderella has won many generations and everyone who believes that a humiliated being will rise and win and also that beauty and virtue not only have to be rewarded but also recognised.



**Triscombe-** The Three Billy Goats Gruff is a famous Norwegian folktale that will charm any child. A mean and hungry troll lives under a bridge. He's hungry for a meal and would love to snatch and eat any goat attempting to cross his bridge.

## BOOKS WE ARE READING



# STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

## MATHS NEWS

The word 'BARVEMBER' is written in a colorful, blocky font where each letter is a different color and has a slight 3D effect. The letters are arranged in a slightly staggered manner.

Daily Maths Problems are displayed in the school and children are encouraged to try to represent the problem through a bar model. Work on this is being done in Maths lessons but the challenges themselves are for home! The pupil who hands in the most number of challenges wins a huge bar of chocolate!

### Current Leader board

Harry (2)  
Jacob (2)  
Isaac (1)  
Olivia (1)  
Riley C (1)  
Skye (1)

## 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.

Fri 13th November	Children in Need
Mon 16th November	Anti-Bullying Week starts
Mon 16th- Weds 25th	Parents Evenings (Remotely)
Mon 30th November	Box of Delights Day: Diversity
Fri 4th Dec	End of Topic Celebrations
Mon 7th Dec	Christmas topic begins
Fri 11th Dec	Christmas Jumper Day
Weds 16th Dec	Christmas Performances (on YouTube)
Fri 18th Dec	End of Term



Miss Day has set us a new challenge- a prize to anyone who dresses their avatar in a diverse way. It could be in cultural clothes, subcultures or just an avatar that looks a bit different! This is to celebrate our whole school theme of diversity and to practise your times tables! The winner gets a certificate and a prize!