

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

March 2022



Welcome to this month's edition of the newsletter. As things seem to be slowly getting back to normal following the turbulent previous half term and indeed turbulent couple of years, we find ourselves in yet another world crisis with the Russian invasion of Ukraine.

It is everywhere you look and I don't know about you but it's all I'm hearing from adults at the moment when out and about. It has certainly driven anxiety levels up. The heart-breaking scenes in the media of people being driven out of their country and their homes being destroyed by Russian forces just make for a terrible atmosphere at the moment.

I sent out an email to set out our plan to help children to make sense of what is going on as per DfE guidance. Children pick up on anxieties in adults and our school community is no exception. I am hoping through well-planned, factual and relevant lessons, children will feel a little better and we can all stand in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.

It's times like these that we feel powerless to do anything but often it is children who can help lead the way and point out kind things we could

do to help and I am looking forward to seeing what the Stogursey community does to help.

As always, I am out on gate duty most days if you want to stop for a chat or feel free to schedule an appointment through the school office if a longer chat is needed. Please do get involved in the life of the school. There's a role for everyone and I look forward to hearing from you.

Mr Tucker

REMAINING INSETS

These are listed below:

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



ATTENDANCE

We were really pleased with our achievement of getting back to 96% just before what happened last half term but now our attendance is once again low at 93.4%. Somerset attendance is higher than this and so we are making a concerted effort to improve this as a whole school. We have retained the need to self-isolate if COVID positive (although this is no longer a legal requirement). This makes our attendance quest even more tricky so we need your help. Here's what you can do:

- Ensure your child is in everyday and on time (by 9am)
- Send your child to the breakfast club as a sure-fire way to have great attendance

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- Not to keep your child off for a cold
- Call the office before 9.15am to give a reason for absence
- Provide medical proof if you have been asked to do so in a letter from school
- Talk to your child about the importance of attending school for their futures

Mr Tucker has had to have conversations recently with some parents/ carers about not calling in for absence. It is against the law to not provide your child with an education and not explaining the reasons for absence may lead to unauthorised absences. These soon mount up and can gain the attention of safeguarding organisations including Children's Social Care. Some parents in Somerset recently were fined by magistrates for failing to make their child attend school and the fines were pretty hefty.

If you are struggling to get your child into school, then please ask for help. It is what we are here for. If you want a copy of the attendance policy, we can provide copies at the school office for you to take away. Let's work together to get our attendance back to where it was.

OUR PRIORITIES IN FOCUS- CURRICULUM

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 so we have...

- Started to collaborate with Spaxton School and planned trips with them and other events
- Implemented the new RE curriculum based on the Diocese of Oxford's thought-provoking scheme of work which is question-based
- Worked with external experts and subject specialists to improve our History and Geography curriculum to teach these subjects in a more rigorous way

- Pre-school staff have finished Forest School qualifications and we are now seeing this in action on site
- Stogursey Adventurers are improving the condition of the school site with their amazing woodworking products
- Money is now being spent on new PE and playground games and equipment
- High quality artwork and sketchbooks are being kept and time dedicated to this in class.

We are currently reviewing our Music and Art curricula. We have some ambitious plans and want to reintroduce live music to Collective Worship. We also want to open up worship so parents can come along for it as well as opening classrooms up to parents to join in. More on that soon!

EASTER HAPPINESS CLUB

This will happen Tuesday 19th- Friday 22nd April 10:00am- 2:00pm. We have succeeded in gaining 3 additional grants on top of what we normally get (transport costs, additional member of staff grant and a cookery grant). With this in mind we will have 2 days at Kilve with transport provided and 2 days in the school focusing on cookery. As part of this, children will learn how to cook a delicious, healthy meal and will then receive a 'Make and Take' bag filled with ingredients and a recipe card so that they can then cook the same meal for you at home another time. We think this is fantastic and will certainly provide an enriching experience.

Booking procedures will be directly through the school this time. Parents found the Playwaze system too confusing to navigate so we are doing this directly ourselves. A letter will go out shortly and this provision will be 100% free but limited to 30 places a day on a first-come, first-served basis.

Hot School Meals

We have had such a brilliant response with our new hot school meal website and would like to say a massive thank you to all the parents and carers who

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have registered their child through the Select website.

We have more children than ever now having hot school meals, which is amazing! Don't forget to make sure your child has picked their school meal in advance. If your child hasn't been registered but you would like them to have hot school meals, please go and see Mrs Nicholls in reception and she can get your child registered in a matter of minutes!

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.

16th March- Corfe Castle trip
14th-16th March – No School Crossing Patrol
15th & 17th March- Parents' Evening (no SATs club)
17th March – World Book Day Menu
18th March- Comic Relief
22nd March- No School Crossing Patrol
23rd March- Sweets and ice cream sale after school
25th March -Bring someone special coffee and cake afternoon
8th April- Last day of term
11th- 22nd April- Half Term
25th April – First day back

COMIC RELIEF



Staff and pupils are encouraged to dress as red as possible to raise money for Comic Relief on Friday 18th March. Please join in by coming to school dressed in as much red as possible and bring a donation.

Wraparound Care

The children have focused lots of preparing and making their own meals from scratch. Very rewarding for them and of course life skills!! Pizza and movie night has been a blast 🌟

