**January 2020**

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you are well rested and ready for the new term ahead. I hope you had a wonderful Christmas and got everything you wanted!

After a term of many changes, it’s been so nice to see everyone a bit more settled in school and getting straight into work mode. The children seem really excited and motivated by their Climate Change learning expedition already and are even teaching me things about this very relevant topic. All of our learning comes back to this issue this term and the children are planning a very exciting event near the end of the term to share their learning with you. I can’t wait to see what happens!

In our collective worship this term, we are exploring the work of the Saints and learning about their stories, their achievements and how they went out into the world to spread the Gospel of Christ. Hopefully, if the children feel inspired enough by the term’s learning expedition, they can take action just as the saints did and help reverse Climate Change. Luckily, we have a Smart School Council to facilitate this sort of thing!

I have had parents approach me to ask to get involved in the school and I am absolutely thrilled to hear this. Read on to see how you can play your part in the next thrilling chapter of our school.

If you want to pop in for a chat about anything, I am usually on the gate at the starts and the end of days or please feel free to make an appointment at the school office through Mrs Carter for any time after 11am each day.

Mr Tucker

**CHANGES TO STARTS AND ENDS OF DAYS**

Many thanks for your help in getting children to the right side of the school building as we trial this new way of starting and finishing the school day. As we said before, we are trialing this because we wish to develop the outdoor learning space for Early Years and Year 1 and want to take advantage of the space we are so lucky to have outside.

**HELLO AND WELCOME**

Welcome to our new Pre-School Assistant Lianne Field. Lianne is a very experienced assistant and comes with great ideas and enthusiasm in developing our wonderful Pre-School.

We are still recruiting a supervisor. In my conversations with other childcare providers, it turns out it is a national problem in getting Pre-School staff so we are very lucky indeed to have acquired Lianne! I hope to have someone in place as a supervisor by the end of February at the latest.

In the meantime, we have Katie Bushell (who the children know really well) and on days Katie can’t be in, we have Sue and Caroline from the Nurture Shed in Langport as supervisor. They are all very experienced and full of great ideas in helping us to transform and improve our Early Years provision.

We also welcome Jacob Weeks as our new Monday and Wednesday Sports Coach. He has made a good first impression on the school and we welcome him to the Stogursey community.

**VOLUNTEERS TO HEAR READERS**

Our reading results go from strength to strength. As well as having excellent teachers of reading in our school, we have a small but dedicated team of volunteers who listen to children reading regularly. This makes a huge impact. Here’s an idea- why don’t you join the team? You can make such a difference to children’s lives. It could be just for one hour a week.

Please let us know if you could spare an hour or two to hear readers. Turning children into passionate readers makes children learn better and achieve more. They can only be passionate if they have been taught and practise regularly. We even have a quiet, new library for listening to readers so this is much better than before! Can you help us with our reading quest? Please speak to Miss May if you can volunteer.

**SMART SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATES**

The School Library is just about finished. There’s a few minor alterations to make and it is good to go.

Emily and Bronte in Year 6 are starting up Drama Club Tuesday lunchtimes. This is the first child-led club (supervised by an adult) the Smart School Council has helped to create. We have a football club and a Computing Club in the pipeline so please watch this space.

**WE ARE RECRUITING**

We need a Pre-School Supervisor. The advert for this job is on the QET website at <https://www.quantockedtrust.co.uk/vacancies>

This is an exciting opportunity to take part in our exciting work on enhancing our Early Years provision and lead a wonderful team. Details out on the same webpage. If you know anyone or are interested yourself, please either check the website or pop in to have a chat with Mr Tucker or Miss Day.

**REARRANGED CHRISTMAS SERVICE**

This will take place in the school hall this coming Thursday 16th January at 6pm. Please ensure your children are back in school for 5.30 pm to get ready for it. Doors will open then for you to take your seat. Mr Tucker is stepping in to play piano for this!

**PE KITS**

We’ve had a lot of children in the past term forgetting to bring PE kits into school. PE is a very important part of the curriculum. It is good for building relationships and for physical and mental health. Please ensure your child has a change of clothing and footwear. The MAT computer system will now auto-send an email to notify you if your child has not brought in their kit. We thank you for your support in this.

**PLASTIC MILK BOTTLES**

Triscombe class is designing and building something for their learning expedition involving plastic milk bottles/ cartons. Please bring yours to school to donate to their interesting project. The four-pint and six-pint ones are very good for this.

**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.

Mon 6th Jan Spring Term starts

Thurs 16th Jan Christmas Service in School

 Hall at 6.00

Fri 14th Feb INSET DAY

FEBRUARY HALF TERM

Mon 24th Feb First Day of Term

Mon 24th Feb Parents Evening 4.00 – 6.00

Tues 25th Feb Parents Evening 3.30 – 5.00

Thurs 12th Mar Heights and Weights (YR & Y6)

Fri 3rd April Last Day of Term