

STOGURSEY SCHOOL NEWS

January 2022



Happy New Year! We are back after the Christmas Break and ready for another exciting term. This is set against the backdrop of the rising case numbers of the omicron Covid variant and we will continue to review and amend our risk assessment in light of what the government says for us to do. In the meantime, we will continue to deliver the vision for the school, the curriculum improvements as well as our other priorities of growing what we offer.

This half term, we are focusing as a school on one of our Christian values and that is 'Hope'. We have started to think about things like New Year's Resolutions as well as our hopes and dreams for the future. I am hopeful that as we continue to expand what we do as a school, more parents will hear about us and choose to send their children to our school.

I am hopeful that the prospects are very bright for our school indeed. The new FOSS group of parents raised the most in one term ever last term and are starting to launch a fundraising campaign to revamp the playground. This area, although enjoyed by the children could do with updating and so we plan to totally revamp it with more climbing apparatus, lines on the ground as

well as investing in new toys and games. It'll take some time to come up with the money but we are all hopeful that this won't take too long and will have the support of the community, driven by FOSS.

Our school has such an exciting 'buzz' to it at the moment and long may it continue! 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 something for everyone to play their part in this exciting chapter in Stogursey School's history.

Mr Tucker



ATTENDANCE

We were really pleased with our achievement of getting back to 96% just before Christmas break and this is fantastic. National attendance is currently 90% in Primaries so we are doing extremely well. With COVID cases rising, we are anticipating a drop but with the isolation time decreasing, we are confident with us all working hard to improve attendance, it shouldn't be a worry.

REMAINING INSETS

These are listed below:

- Friday 18th February 2022
- Friday 22nd July 2022
- Monday 25th July 2022
- Tuesday 26th July 2022

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COVID Risk Assessment

This has been updated in line with recent changes. The omicron variant is spreading rapidly and when we get positive cases, we follow the measures in our risk assessment. Unfortunately, for GDPR reasons we cannot disclose who has got it and whether your child is a close contact of the positive case(s). This is because NHS Test and Trace took control of contact tracing from schools a while ago. You should be notified by them if your child is a close contact and then a daily Lateral Flow Test is 'strongly advised' for a 7 day period. Keeping children off school is not an option unless they are positive themselves. A confirmatory PCR test is no longer required. If you are concerned that your child may have been a close contact and you have not been notified by Test and Trace, then all we can advise is to keep taking Lateral Flow Tests regularly and still attend school. We will provide remote learning for children self-isolating if they are well enough to do this. For most, this new variant has very mild symptoms. We won't provide remote learning for those being kept off school unauthorised and this may even trigger safeguarding procedures.

As school staff, we have to operate within the guidance we are given by the DfE. Thank you for your cooperation.

OUR PRIORITIES IN FOCUS- READING, PHONICS AND SPELLING



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 and so our improvement work focuses on this. So far this term for Reading, phonics and spelling we have...

- Trained teachers and support staff in how to deliver high quality phonics and spelling sessions
- Given extra reading with an adult to those children who might need it
- Started to revamp our library
- Bought more books than ever!
- Integrated reading into our other subjects
- Brought back reading for pleasure sessions including Hot Chocolate Fridays
- Altered our reading books to match up with the phonics scheme so younger children get to practise reading at home and achieve quicker success with what is a fundamental life skill.

We have more exciting things planned, including ...

- Inviting authors to talk about their experiences as a writer;
- Creating more class books (written by the children) to add to our ever-growing library;
- Receiving more furniture to improve our library and provide more shelving for books;

FOSS

Thank you to the group of parents who came in during the holidays to construct the Eco Team's new shed. This will really help to keep their tools tidy and safe from damage. Also, for the work in constructing a little building for the Early Years outdoor classroom area. We really appreciate it!

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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.

24th Jan – Book of delights

25th Jan- No school crossing patrol

27th Jan- Flu vaccinations

8th Feb- No school crossing patrol

9th Feb – Year 5/6 We the Curious trip, Bristol

15th Feb- Triscombe class trip to Carymoor

18th Feb- Inset Day

21-25 Feb- Half Term

28th Feb- Back to school

28th Feb - 2nd Mar- Kilve Residential Y5-6