

Stoberry Park School

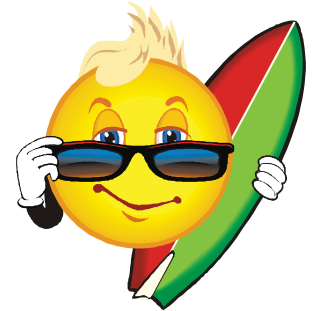


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Headteacher: Mr M Hawkins B.Ed.

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the summer term.

First, can I check that everyone is working on the same calendar dates? There is talk of an INST day next week. Just to clarify - we did cancel this date some time ago and put our INSET day in February. We have now used all our INSET days up for 2009/10. The INSET days for 2010/11 are on the website and we are just about to publish the 2011/12 INSET timetable as far as we can. Please see the website or Mrs Nash to obtain a copy of the dates.



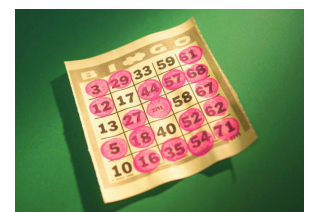
2011/2012 INSET

I know that this seems so far away but holiday companies are already taking bookings for the 2011/12 academic year and I wanted to give as much notice as possible so that you were able to get some good holiday deals should you decide to do so. The September 2011 school year starts on Thursday 1st September. Parent consultation will be held on Monday 17th October and Tuesday 18th October and we will have 3 INSET days on 19th, 20th and 21st October. Half term will then run from 24th -28th October. We will then have an INSET day on the Wednesday 4th January 2012. The final day will be decided when additional information comes into school. All INSET day calendars will be available on the school web site or may be obtained from the office. Although this information looks a long way into the future I hope that parents will find this useful.

This will be the first newsletter where we have not sent out as a whole school paper copy. Please remember that a paper copy is always available at the office if it is needed.

Bingo

I am pleased to inform you that our Easter Bingo and Raffle raised £1200. We would like to thank everyone who gave so much time and effort to making this event a real success.

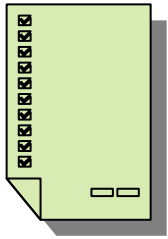


Sport Relief

Our 'dress up in sports kit' raised £245 towards the National Charity event and we would like to thank you all for your support.



Report Feedback



Sadly, only a very small number of replies came back from our report questionnaire. I would like to thank everyone who did reply. I would also like to feedback some information based on the comments which we received. The comments were very useful and we hope we can work with some of the ideas to help improve the school.

I am pleased to say that our very sad looking hall should have a complete make over in the summer holiday. The walls and floor will be replaced and we hope some very smart new cladding will improve the appearance of the outside.

There was a question raised about information on absence not getting from the class teacher to the office. I would like to remind everyone that we have requested that all absence information is given to the office rather than the class teacher. Absence can easily be recorded in the office where often a teacher will be thinking of many different things connected with the day.

We were asked about phone and address information by one parental return. You can request a data checking sheet which can be updated and returned. I am sorry if we appear not to have updated information but this can sometimes be missed. I hope anyone in this situation will accept my apologies and we hope we can eradicate any errors by updating your information. I am pleased to say that many parents are keeping mobile phone numbers up to date so they can receive our text messages.

In terms of text messages I hope that some of you are not being disturbed by the late arrival of messages. We have noticed that some messages are being delayed for one of many reasons. This is beyond our control due to phones being out of signal when we send or phones being switched off. It can also be a slow process at our end as we are sending out over 300 texts at a time.



Quiet Area

Once again very special thanks to our Circle of Friends who have made such a difference to the area off the KS2 playground. It is now a beautiful part of the school which children are really enjoying. We are now looking forward to it being planted up.

SATs 2010

We have written to Year 6 parents with a letter on our web site to explain our position in terms of SATs this year. Stoberry Park School will not be completing the 2010 SATs with our year 6 children. The children will still undergo an assessment procedure but not using the 2010 papers. The full letter outlining our position is available on the website should you wish to find out more information.



Electronic Notice Board



Please can I remind you that we have a notice board in our library window with weekly information. It contains information on events, clubs and items of interest each week. It will also show an alert if we are sending out newsletters. I hope that you will get used to having a look to help you remain up to date. At the moment the solar film on the window can make the picture a bit dark but we are hoping to resolve this matter soon.



Sports Day



Some parents have informed us that our Sports Day clashes with the first day of The Glastonbury Festival. The School Senior Leadership Team has looked at this and has decided that on this occasion we are going to continue with the date set. However, in future years we will try to avoid this clash.

Notebook Project

I am very excited and pleased to inform you that our Governors have agreed that we can set up a notebook project across the school. Initially, this will be three shared sets of 15 mini laptops for pupils to use in the classrooms. Some schools now have up to 1 notebook per child. We hope this project will be up and running by September.



Cinderella Rockerfella

Our Year 3/4 Musical is well underway and will be performed for parents on 5th, 6th and 7th of May. If you would like tickets there are still a few available in the school office. It is a show not to be missed!



Medical Advice

Please may I ask all parents to be on the look out for eye infections? It is possible that children may have picked up an unpleasant viral eye infection which looks like conjunctivitis. If you notice your child rubbing their eyes or if they have sore or infected eyes please take them to see the doctor. As with conjunctivitis this is very infectious and children should be kept out of school until it has been treated and they are clear of infection.

In a similar vein I would ask everyone to remain vigilant with checking hair for nits and headlice. We are advised not to send out general letters saying that headlice are doing the rounds but a reminder to everyone to check is important. Vigilance is the only route to reducing the numbers of children experiencing this problem.

Garden Project

We are pleased to have been given the plants for a vegetable garden. We would like to thank Mrs Baigent for applying for this resource. The Eco Team will be seeking support in preparing the ground and putting some fencing in to protect it. They hope that they will be able to encourage a small group of enthusiastic parents to give them some assistance.



Sun Safety



I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the need to send adequate sun protection into school. Children will be encouraged to put sun screen on if you send it in. The same is true of hats. Hats are available at the uniform shop should you require them. We do expect children to take responsibility for this but would encourage you to send named hats and sunscreen into school in their bags.

Trainers and PE Kit

Please would you ensure your child has trainers and PE kit ready for outside PE.



Walk to School Week

This event will run for the week starting 17th May and is a good reason to get those walking shoes out and start to get healthy for the summer. WOW cards and badges are there for those who take part.

Thank you all for your continued support

