



STOKE HILL JUNIOR

SPRING TERM, ISSUE 5

February 2023

DATES

Children's Mental
Health week
6th - 10th
February

Y4 Production
7th and 8th
February 5.00pm

Year 5 Sleeping
with Sharks trip
9th and 10th
February

Half Term
13th - 17th
February

Return to school
20th February

Parent's Evenings
21st and 22nd
February

Geography
Curriculum Day
24th February

High School
places confirmed
1st March

World Book Day
2nd March

Dear Parents and Carers

The mornings are just that little bit lighter and the evenings that bit longer as we start the month of February. The varying weather has left its mark on the school, with large areas of mud. It's the same every year and although the children don't play on any grassy areas at this time, the edges are getting quite muddy. We ask the children to stick to the paths, but the temptation is always there to take a short cut. So apologies if shoes and parts of uniforms are a bit muddy at the moment, but hopefully it won't be for too much longer.

A couple of other reminders that no toys should be brought into school. This often happens after Christmas, when new presents have been received. The latest one this year, appears to be watches that take photographs, allow children to play games, message or can use the internet. Watches that tell the time and monitor steps are fine, but if your child wears a watch that can do any of the above, please ensure that the settings are set to prevent this. I don't want children not to wear these, but if they contravene our safeguarding measures you will be contacted and asked that your child wears a different watch.

There are lots of exciting things happening in February and I look forward to seeing you at parent's evening later in the month (see details later in the newsletter). The year 5 children are off to Plymouth for their Sleeping with Sharks overnight trip, year 4's will treat us to their production of Goldilocks and the Three Bears (not quite as you remember it!) and we have our Geography Day, where we celebrate the subject and really inspire the children with the joys of the subject.

Jamie Sullivan
Head of School

School Champions

The following children received school awards in reading, writing or maths during the last month:

Reading: Alfie (6AE) and Luna-Grace (6MK)

Writing: Vibhav (4W) and Elena (3T)

Maths: Bella(5J) and Ollie (4G)



Congratulations

Our year 6 teacher, Mr McKimm will be starting adoption leave after February half term. Mr McKimm has worked at the school for many years and we were all delighted when he confirmed the news that he and his wife had been matched to adopt their first child.

Mrs McCarthy and Mrs Padbury will be taking over 6MK after half term.

I know that the children in 6MK will miss him, but we all wish him well and look forward to seeing him later in the year when he pops back in.

A great performance



Our school football team recently took part in the Exeter Kids Cup. If you were at the school last year, you'll remember that this was the starting point that led to us playing at Wembley. They were drawn in a tough group, but a stirring victory over Uplowman in their last game saw them qualify for the next round of the cup competition. Despite playing well, we lost to a strong Brixington team. Thanks to Mr McKimm for taking the children and giving them the opportunity to represent the school.

School Council - Spring 2023!

Our new School Council have been busy making plans for this term and wanted to share what they will be working on.

- More planting, more lunch time clubs, checking regularly to be sure all toilet locks are working, talk to the cook to share ideas of new meals for the menu, even more learning outdoors.

Focus/Events:

- World Book Day. Decide on the theme. Promote costume exchange, design posters present in assembly
- Red Nose Day
- Operation Easter. Plan activities and fun!

Every child to have an egg to take home for Easter.

The Great Hall



Our year 5 children visited The Great Hall at Exeter University to be part of a performance by Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra. Alongside many other schools in Devon the children had practised a song beforehand that had lots of actions. It was a great event to be part of and for the children to experience live music.

School Office Notice

Booking your parent's evening appointment

This event is coming up on February 21st and 22nd. Parents will receive a separate link on February 6th to book. This will work in the same way as the autumn term. The appointments will go live to book at 6.00pm on February 6th.



Bus Repaired

It's taken a long time, but our children were very excited to be able to use the bus again. It's a great space at this time of year for the children to use at lunchtimes and with their teachers during the school day. I know the children were really disappointed to return in September and see the bus had been vandalised to the cost of £2000, but we now have happy faces, squeezing onto the bus to chill out and chat with friends. Sadly the damage wasn't covered by the insurance, but a huge thank you to South West Bus and Coach Glazing from Taunton, who came and gave their labour costs for free during the day it took them to put in 5 new windows.



Community News

Your local Police station:

Exeter Police Station, Sidmouth Road,
Exeter

Opening hours: Mon – Sat 8am-6pm
General enquiries: 101

Your Mincinglake Neighbourhood Police Team consists of:

Police Sergeant Vickie Follett,

Neighbourhood Beat Manager
PC Matt Lester



PCSO Rich Shelton

For the latest Police news please look at our website page via the Local Policing section at www.devon-cornwall.police.uk

Parking Issues outside Schools

Devon & Cornwall Police are committed to working together with other agencies as part of the Exeter Community Safety partnership in order to reduce levels of nuisance and anti-social behaviour. Our intention is to prevent this behaviour and to improve the quality of life for everyone in our community. During November and December, the Neighbourhood Police team have received reports of dangerous and inappropriate parking outside and on roads close to Stoke Hill Infants School, Stoke Hill Junior School and Willobrook School. The reports have included vehicles stopping or being parked on double yellow lines, vehicles parked on pavements and grass verges and vehicles parked on junctions obstructing the view of other drivers and pedestrians. So far, Officers have sent advisory letters to 25 drivers who have been witnessed parking dangerously or inappropriately.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for everyone's help in this matter. If anyone has been parking in such a manner as described above, please can you ensure that you park in a safer and more appropriate place. Although we understand that parking near schools can sometimes be difficult, there are normally spaces in nearby roads. The Neighbourhood Police Team hopes that by educating drivers in the first instance, this may reduce future problems. Should these issues continue, partner agencies will look at taking further action which may include issuing further warning letters or Penalty Notices.