

December 2023



STOKE HILL INFANT AND NURSERY

DATES

1st Dec
PTFA Christmas
Fair 4-6pm, Infant
School hall

6th Dec
Year 1 Production
9:30am and
2:30pm

7th + 8th Dec
EYFS Winter
Concert (details
shared via
Tapestry)

8th Dec
Festive Jumper
Day

8th Dec
Woodpecker
cake sale after
school

13th Dec
Christmas Dinner
Day (Festive
jumpers can be
worn)

14th Dec
Year 1 and 2 trip
to see the Quirk
Theatre show at
Exeter Phoenix

15th Dec
Swift cake sale
after school

15th Dec
Last Day or Term

**Return to
school
Thursday
4th January**

AUTUMN TERM, ISSUE 12

Dear Parents and Carers,

With only 2 weeks of term to go, there is lots of festive fun in the pipeline, starting with the Winter Fair today! There will be two opportunities for festive/winter jumpers to be worn to school with uniform this year: Friday 8th (festive jumper day) and Wednesday 13th (Federation Christmas dinner day) - there will be a stall of pre-loved jumpers at the fair today. If your child would like to give out Christmas cards, they can be brought into class and put in the post sack to be handed out. We're also really looking forward to the Year 1 show and the EYFS concert, as well as the Key Stage 1 trip to the Phoenix.

In other news, I am pleased to tell you we have received a defibrillator from the government scheme, so we now have one at each school. This is a reassuring presence for us, knowing that we would be able to act quickly in the event of an emergency.

As always, it's been a busy half term and one of my highlights has to be when we celebrated World Science Day on November 10th. The sense of awe and wonder around the school that afternoon was wonderful and the elephant's toothpaste was a particular hit!

I'd like to take this opportunity to wish all the Stoke Hill community, our children, families and staff, a happy, healthy festive period and very best wishes for the year ahead.

Best wishes,

Claire McKimm, Head of School

Stars of the week

The following children have been their class's reader, role model or learner of the week during the last month:



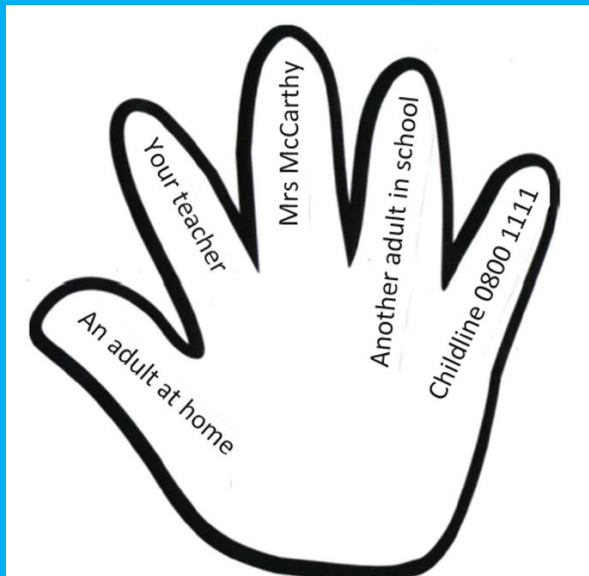
Readers of the week: Otto, Lia, Daisy, Ricky (Bee), Erin, Mateus, Finn, Arch Damon, Emery, Jonah, Oliver (Ladybird), Antec, Habib, Emily, Ire (Beech), Ellie, Mahtab, Darcie, Ella (Oak), Riyansh, Yashvan, James, Edward (Willow), Joshua, Jack, Lucas, Archie (Chaffinch), Molly, Theia, Ocean R, Samuel (Swift), Lissi, Mila, Willow E, Tate (Woodpecker)

Role models of the week: Ruwayn, Gabi, Jacob, Reiza (Bee), Hazie, Mohamed, Lucy, Eliza (Dragonfly), Amber, Elara, Aaron, Reuben (Ladybird), Tabitha, Roy Nihal, Amelia, Wilbur (Beech), Albie, Millie, River, Skye (Oak), Lucas, Isaac, Martha, Ada (Willow), Aiden, Albert, Mimi-Peach, Viktoria (Chaffinch), Sofia A, Jonah, Poppy, Alison (Swift), Ajay, Kian, Lily, Solomiia (Woodpecker)

Learners of the week: Callum, Joe, Olive, Joe (Bee), Ayomikun, George, Haider, Mira (Dragonfly), Zoja, Willow-Mae, Ollie, Mollie-Mae (Ladybird), Zayan, Lilian, Ellen, Benjamin H (Beech), Boran, Rithvi, Jesse, Teddy (Oak), Amelia, Isadora, Sylvie, Nuala (Willow), Maya, Noor, Eliza, Tobias (Chaffinch), Toby M, Samuel, Toby B, Ocean C (Swift), Agatha, Jack, Ernie, Annie (Woodpecker)

Anti-bullying week

Every year, anti-bullying week takes place in November. This year's theme was 'Reach Out'. In assembly we reminded the children that bullying means unkindness happens 'several times on purpose' and that there are lots of trusted adults they can go to if they have a worry:



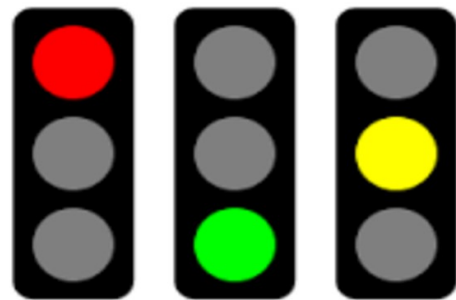
STOP

Several

Times

On

Purpose



Tell a grown up straight away if someone is being mean to you **several times on purpose**. This is called 'bullying' and we don't want it in our school.

The Big Ambition Survey

[The Big Ambition](#) survey is open to children and young people across England, and parents and carers can fill out the survey on behalf of children. Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner for England, wants to know what children enjoy about their schools, communities, family life, and the wider world. She also wants to find out what young people would like policymakers and Government to focus on to help them achieve their future hopes and ambitions.

The questions in the survey have been tailored to suit the age of the child answering, but, everyone is being asked what they think the Government should do to make children's lives better. The Children's Commissioner will be sharing what children tell her in [The Big Ambition](#) survey with policymakers across all the political parties to ensure they are putting children's voices and needs at the heart of their policies and priorities. Click the yellow link to take part.

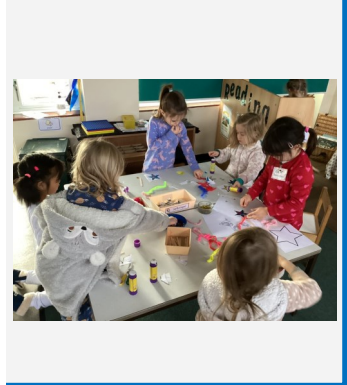


The Nursery children have had a busy term, settling in and making new friends. We are very proud of how independent they are already becoming. The children have been delighting in exploring the environment both inside and outside. We were very lucky to have a visit from two doctors to tell us about their jobs which inspired the children to create their own hospital and cafe for poorly animals and dolls - it was great to see the children build on their own experience to make the play feel meaningful. Developing listening and communication is always a key focus in the Nursery and we have enjoyed listening to stories, learning rhymes and developing our vocabulary.



Year 2 are learning about toys in history and last week welcomed 2 special guests to join in with their lessons. Karen, who is one of our cleaners, and Linda, who is one of our School Administrators, came into our classrooms to talk to the children about the toys that they used to play with over 40 years ago. It was a great experience hearing about history from a primary source and the children had some super questions to ask our visitors. We were especially interested to hear about Karen's memories of being a pupil in this school when she was a child herself!

Last week in **Reception** we had an indoor 'School in the Dark' where we came in wearing our pyjamas! We talked about when we usually wear pyjamas ("in the night" and "when it's dark"). In our Vocabulary lesson, we learned the definitions of our new words 'nocturnal', 'star' and 'sunrise'. We now know that a star is "a ball of gas which glows"! We read stories based on our project 'Light and Dark', crafted stars and wands and even did some star printing. We then cosied up at the end of the day to watch a movie and drink hot chocolate .



For world science day, **Year 1** carried out the 'dancing milk' experiment. We put milk into a dish and then added drops of food colouring. We carefully touched each drop of food colouring with liquid soap to see what happened. We noticed that when we added liquid soap, the food colouring dispersed across the plate. In Maths, Year 1 have been learning about addition and subtraction, specifically number bonds within and up to 10. The children have been using counters and tens frames to find number bonds systematically and write the number sentence. They have used their knowledge of part-part whole to find many different ways to make a number.



PTFA

It's been a fun and busy term for the PTFA; this is what we have been up to....

The cake sale every week at the infants on Friday is going very well and on average we are making £90 per week. Thank you to all the classes who have baked/brought and helped at the cake sales; we couldn't have done this without you.

There was a lot of work behind the scenes to give Stoke Hill the most fantastic Fireworks evening. We had a breathtaking display from Sonic - even the rain held off until the display had finished. The evening was a great success and we would like to thank all the volunteers who helped organising and on the night.

The Winter Fair is on 1st December at the Infants School in the hall from 4-6pm and everyone is welcome. We have lots of festive fun planned including stalls, refreshments and even a visit from Father Christmas. Please come along and join in the festivities - we are looking forward to see you all. A big thank you to all that are helping at the fair.

We are busy planning ahead for 2024: we have a quiz planned for early in the year, the cake sale will carry on and we will have a cake sale at the end of every half term at the Junior School, There will be lots more too so watch this space.

At this time of year, there are lots of illnesses about and we wanted to take the opportunity to share some useful information.

The NHS website has lot of clear and useful information

<https://patient.info/childrens-health>

and

<https://onedevon.org.uk/our-work/services-and-support/children-and-young-people/handi-app/> is a good handy app that patients can down-

load and has lots of useful information on childhood illness.

a good



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minftec>.