



# STOKE HILL JUNIOR

## AUTUMN TERM, ISSUE 3

December 2022

### DATES

Languages Day  
2nd December

Y5 Production  
6th/7th December  
5.00pm

Y4/Y6 Phoenix Trip  
8th December

Festive Jumper  
Day  
9th December

Y3 Phoenix Trip  
13th December

Y5 Phoenix Trip  
14th December

Federation  
Christmas Lunch  
14th December

Winter Festival  
Day  
15th December

Last Day of Term  
16th December

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach the end of term, there are so many wonderful things to look back on, but also lots of things still to be part of during the last two weeks. It's so important to regularly check the Gateway for information.

It's also been noticeable how much the weather has been changing recently. The huge amount of rain that we have had has left the areas around our playgrounds very muddy. The children are not allowed to play on the grass at this time of year, but inevitably we are getting more wet and muddy shoes. Please also ensure that your child brings their coat each day. I know that this is more of a challenge with the older children, but it's better for us to go out, have fresh air and get a little wet and cold, than stay inside.

Over this holiday period there is always a lot of talk around fresh starts and new goals for the year ahead. However in schools it's a bit different because those happened in September and so it's more a case of refreshing the expectations and aims for the rest of the school year.

Thank you for working hard to ensure your child is sat down in their classroom by 8.40am each day, let's keep that going. Please remember that dogs, on leads are welcome on school grounds, but you should wait with them on the patio area, just inside the school gate. Finally, please ensure your child is wearing their school jumper, not hoodies and that they are named, they can then be returned and ultimately save you money.

I wish you all a peaceful and happy holiday and look forward to seeing you all on **WEDNESDAY 4TH JANUARY 2023**.

Jamie Sullivan  
Head of School

### School Champions

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

Reading: Laila (5J), Freya (5B), Nathan (4B)

Writing: Edward (3T), Celeste (5B), Evie (3C)

Maths: Tiara (6MK), Solomon (3P), Amy (5P)



## Winter Festival Day

### Thursday 15th December

On this day, children can wear their festive jumpers to school. We have a range of activities going on in classrooms across the day, we'll also have our Christmas Assembly and in the afternoon the year 6 children will be organizing our Christmas Fair.

It rounds off a fantastic entrepreneurs unit of work and look out for flyers about the stalls on the day. All children will attend with their classes during the afternoon and should bring a small amount of change with them on the day. Our younger children are supported by our older children with understanding costs and change, it works brilliantly.



## PTFA Fireworks Night

### What a night!

A massive thank you to Helen Wallace and the other PTFA members and volunteers, who organized the wonderful fireworks this year.

Sonic Fireworks once again did us proud with a super range of fireworks and lighting up the trees, really created a lovely atmosphere.

These events take a lot of time and effort to organise and having an audience of 850 to support this community event made it one of the highlights of the year so far.



### Festive Jumper Day

Each year across the Federation we show our support for Save the Children by allowing children to come to school wearing their favourite festive jumper if they want. This year this is happening on Friday 9th December.

However children can also wear this instead of their school jumper on Wednesday 14th December, which is Christmas Lunch day and the following day, Thursday 15th, which is our Winter Festival Day in school.

If your child doesn't wish to wear a festive jumper, then they should be in normal school uniform.

### Christmas Post

Each year our Year 6 Christmas Elves dust themselves down to deliver the hundreds of cards to children in the school.

The post box is situated outside the school offices and the first deliveries will be from Monday 5th December.

To help them deliver all of the cards, please make sure the name and class of the person it is being sent to is clear on the front of the envelope.



## School Office Notice

Federation Christmas Lunch – This is happening across the Federation on Wednesday 14th December. If you want your child to have this, please use the Gateway and order this option for this day.

Absence – We are at the stage in the year, where there are an increasing number of absences. As part of safeguarding the children we must know where each child is each day. Please remember to communicate with the school each day that your child is absent. Your support in this will save the office staff a lot of time each morning.



### Heatree

Just after half term, our year 6 children spent 4 nights away from home on their residential at Heatree on Dartmoor. We've been told some wonderful stories through the recent assemblies. Nicholas from 6AE has shared his below.

*'My best bit was archery, because you had to focus on the target and it was great fun. All of the activities were great. The weather was very wet and it meant we got very muddy in low adventure. I had to be very brave on the high ropes. They were a long way off the ground, but my group supported and encouraged me to complete the challenge.'*



## Community News - Police Notice

Dear Parents/Guardians/Carers,

### **Incidents of Dangerous Parking**

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.

The Mincinglake Neighbourhood Police Team have received reports of vehicles being parked dangerously and inappropriately on roads in and around both schools. The reports include vehicles double parking, driving on to pavements and on to grass areas, vehicles causing an obstruction by parking on junctions and vehicles blocking resident's driveways. Parking or driving on to a pavement or causing an obstruction are traffic offences for which Police officers can issue Fixed Penalty Notices.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your help in this matter. If you or any other persons using your vehicle are parking in a manner as described above, please ensure you park in a safer and more appropriate place. Although we understand that parking in the area can sometimes be difficult, there are normally spaces in nearby roads.

The local Neighbourhood Police Team hope that you receive this letter in the spirit it is intended, i.e. to reduce future problems. So far Officers have issued verbal warnings or written warnings to drivers they have seen parking inappropriately. However, should these issues continue, we will look at taking further action which may include warning letters and Penalty Notices.

Yours sincerely

PCSO 30092 Shelton  
Mincinglake Neighbourhood Police Team

## Our Vision and our Next Steps

Dear Parents,

In case you missed the letter sent out a few weeks ago, we wanted to remind you of our new Vision statement.

Parents, staff, and children all had an opportunity to offer a statement they felt would capture Stoke Hill's vision and values. We received many ideas and thank you to all of you that contributed your thoughts and ideas.

The final say, then went back to the children as they voted for their favourite.

***We work together to make Stoke Hill a great place to learn, work and play.***

This statement has now been shared with everyone and we are excited to bring this statement to life.

One of the ways we want to do that, is to share with parents what both schools are working on this year, by sharing with you all the School Improvement Plans. These plans are created each year by gathering evidence across a range of areas and these include:

- Feedback from you, our parents
- Listening to the children
- Feedback from the Local Authority
- Analysing our data
- Working with teachers to identify learning needs

Next week the overview of our School Improvement Plans will be available on the Website and will be shared electronically with all of you. We believe that 'working together' is essential for Stoke Hill and moving forwards, we aim to strengthen our Parent - School partnership by sharing more with you. I hope you will read through the improvement plan documents when you have chance and I hope you will find them informative as we work together to make Stoke Hill a great place to learn, work and play.

Yvonne Hammerton-Jackson,  
Executive Headteacher.

