



STOKE HILL JUNIOR

November 2023

AUTUMN TERM, ISSUE 12

DATES

6AM Class
Assembly

3rd November
8.55am

Y3 Kents Cavern
6th/7th November

PTFA Fireworks
10th November
7.00pm

Children in Need
17th November

6M Class
Assembly
17th November
8.55am

6T Class
Assembly
24th November
8.55am

Parent Pop In
29th November
2.40pm

Last day of term
15th December

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that everyone enjoyed their half term break. Coming back after the holidays and looking forward to term 2 reminds me of the many events that are coming soon.

We have all of our year 6 classes busy preparing their class assemblies to share with their parents and the songs from the year 5 production are beginning to stick in my head as I hear them practised over and over. Over 70 children wanted to speak in the show and the teachers have been creative in splitting parts and writing in new lines to accommodate the requests of the children. Our PTFA are putting the final touches to the amazing fireworks display and Diwali celebration. They can also do with extra pairs of hands to make it even more spectacular than last year. At time of print there are very few tickets left, so don't leave it until the last minute. Over half went in the first 2 hours!

We've got 44 children attending the Cross Country at Killerton, I think it's going to be quite muddy! This was cancelled last year and so we've just taken the same children that missed out.

The weather is now more unpredictable than ever, so please ensure that your child comes to school with a coat. Wherever possible we try to get the children out, to allow them some fresh air and coats with hoods mean we can go out when it rains. The children are not playing on the grass anymore, but around the edges can become quite muddy as the water comes down from the field, so there will be some mud splatted shoes from time to time.

Jamie Sullivan
Head of School

School Champions

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

Reading: Maggie (5P), Jack (4B)

Writing: Lily (3C), Finley (6T)

Maths: Herbie (4DP), Robert (4G)



Year 6—Heatree House Residential

October 2nd - 6th

I asked Mavis and Ennis to give a brief recount of their recent visit,

'We had a fantastic time at Heatree. Low Adventure was one of our favourites. You had to listen to each other and work as a team, including going through a maze, over a rope bridge and crawling through tunnels. At the end of the day we got really muddy too! The stream was freezing. Team Quest was also great, because you collected items through challenges and built a rocket. The team that got the rocket the furthest was the winner. We also had room inspections, night walks and did loads more cool stuff.'

A great start!

Football Team Success

The school football team made a super start to the Exeter Football Tournament recently. 8 children played 2 matches against Pinhoe and Clyst St Mary respectively. Two fine performances saw us beat Pinhoe 3-1, 2 goals for Olly and 1 from Finley and then a hard fought 1-0 victory against Clyst St Mary with Finley scoring from inside his own half. With more matches, a tournament and the girls' football beginning we hope to report further success next month.



New Governors Elected

We are delighted to welcome 2 new parent governors. Jo Cook and Jesney Stone bring a wide range of skills and experience to the governing body.

Fireworks and Diwali Celebration - November 10th

At present we need the following support either before or on the night, could this be you?

- We would love to hold our own food tables so that we can benefit from any profit, is anyone a chef, keen cook or just a BBQ fanatic??
- Sweet Stall, We need someone to get this ready aka bags & bags of sweets, popcorn etc and at least 2 people to sell on the night
- Lots of general volunteers needed to help. This includes stewarding, help on the refreshment stand, sell glow in the dark stuff, set up, clear down.
- We would love to coincide this with Diwali the festival of lights and wonder. If there are any Stoke Hill Families or friends that can bring a touch of this to the event, our ears are open.

Please do let Louise know on the PTFA What's App channel or message 07818252276 if you can help.

School Office Notice

Please can you make sure that you pre order lunches on the Gateway App (before 8am each day). We also ask that you make sure your child knows what you have ordered for them. A small number of extra meals are prepared each day, but we can't continue to have children changing their minds at the serving hatch. This has led to some children having to wait or offered an alternative to what they have ordered.

Many thanks for your support.



School Parent Survey

Each month we are keen to hear parent views. The survey takes a matter of seconds to complete. If you copy the link below into your browser you should be able to access it. We'll share the findings in the next newsletter (go to page 4 to see the results from September).



<https://app.myschoolwellbeing.com/survey/begin/245/parent>

Year 6 Heatree Gallery

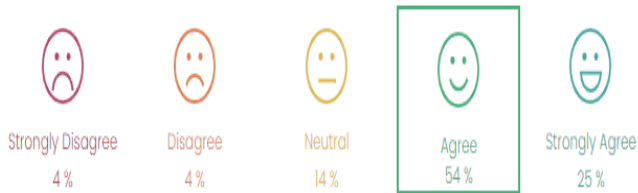


A slightly different theme this month, with pictures from the year 6 trip to Heatree House. Hopefully this will give you a small flavour of the wonderful time the children have and for younger children, what they can look forward to in the coming years.

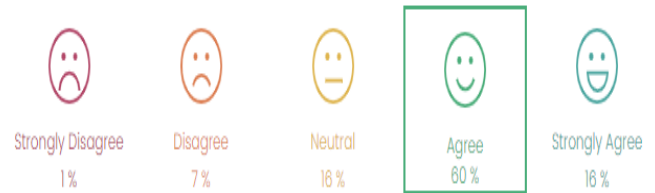


School Survey - September 2023

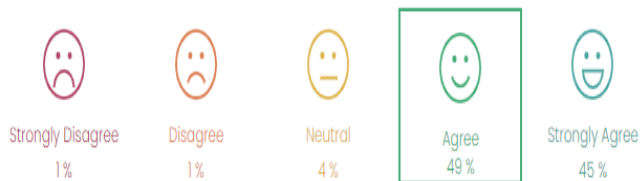
My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school (School life)



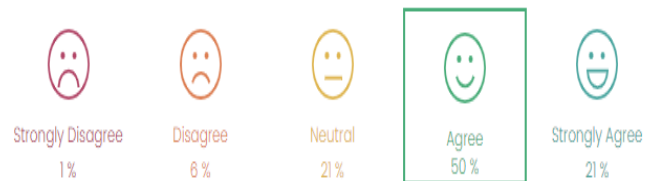
School communication is informative (School life)



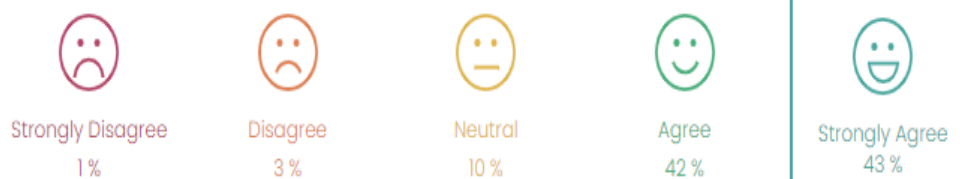
My child feels safe at school (School Culture)



The school encourages children to adopt a healthy lifestyle (School Culture)



I would recommend the school to other parents



Parents are given the opportunity to comment against any of the questions. Below are a sample of the comments and our response.

The parent pop in time was quite tricky if you have to pick up from the Infants

We wanted to give parents the chance to meet their child's new teacher, which is why this was from 3.15–4.00. All other parent pop ins are on different days and begin before the end of the school day.

Teachers are supportive

The staff always appreciate kind comments like this. They are dedicated professionals who work their best to provide excellent opportunities for all children.

Instead of trying to appoint a lollipop person, the school should ask the council for a crossing, there is nowhere safe for the children to cross

We share parents concerns and are regularly in contact with the council. The school doesn't appoint a school crossing patrol officer, we support in advertising the role. We remind all parents to drive safely around the area and make their own judgements on whether they think their children are old enough to cross the roads by themselves. We continue to teach the children about road safety.

I think there could be a better range of clubs, lunchtime or after school, like at other schools, some are quiet expensive.

We understand that striking a balance is tricky. Premier Sports provide after school clubs, which is at a cost to parents. The variety of clubs can be dependent on the skill set and passions of the teachers. I'm always grateful to staff that feel they can give the time to lead a club or take time to take children away on overnight trips. Children are asked for their opinions on different clubs too.