

# STOKE HILL INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL



February 2023

## SPRING TERM, ISSUE 5

### DATES

7th Feb  
Safer Internet Day

7th and 8th Feb  
Parents' Evenings

### **13-17th Feb Half term**

20th Feb  
Playground  
resurfacing

20th Feb  
Year 1 visit from  
Exeter Science  
Centre

22nd Feb  
Early Years Little  
Wandle parent  
workshop

22nd Feb  
Reception height  
and weight  
checks

14th March  
Year 1 Little  
Wandle parent  
workshop (details  
to follow)

Dear Parents and Carers,

It seems incredible to think we are now almost half way through this academic year. The children have already done so much and made so much progress with their learning and there's still half a year to go! It's even stranger to think I will miss some of it because of my adoption leave, but I'm already looking forward to hearing about everything that happens whilst I'm away.

There was much excitement a couple of weeks ago, when many of our children experienced snow for the first time! By lunchtime, it was so compacted we had to stay inside, but everyone enjoyed some time outside and making snowballs or tiny snowmen!

Finally, at the end of this newsletter you will find some information about the NSPCC Speak Out, Stay Safe programme being shared with our Year 1 and 2 children next week. Please take some time to read it before then.

Best wishes,

Claire McKimm, Head of School

### Snow!



## New Playground

We are very excited that the process to improve our top playground will begin during half term. There will be three stages to this: 1— the current equipment and surface will be removed during half term; 2—the playground will be resurfaced; 3— new equipment will be installed. Resurfacing is taking place on **Monday 20th February**—there will be **no access** through the Wildlife Entrance and across the top playground on this date. We do not have a date for installation yet but will share plans with you when we have them.

## Year 2 Fire Rescue Service Visit

Julia from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service spent a morning with Year 2 telling them all about fire safety and what to do in an emergency. She met each class and shared some exciting video clips showing fire fighters at work. They saw the different vehicles and machines that fire fighters use and talked about how they stay safe whilst rescuing people and animals. The children learnt about the Stop, Drop and Roll method to put out clothes if they are burning and how to make a 999 call. They were also shown some real fire alarms and told that these should be in every home to help save lives.



## Nursery in Space

The children in the Nursery are becoming experts on our solar system, learning the names of the planets and interesting facts about them. In the studio they are creating 3D models of them using papier mâché and have designed rockets and moon buggies. The children love playing 'guess the planet' and here are some of the clues that they have created: ' I am the biggest planet and I have a storm', ' I am sometimes called the sideways planet', ' I spin in the opposite direction to the other planets'. I wonder if you can guess what they are....



# School Office Notices

## Parents Evening

The second Parents' evening of the year will take place on Tuesday 7th/Wednesday 8th February. Please make sure you have signed up for a slot (details sent to you 24/1/23).



## Times of the day

Please ensure you drop off and collect promptly:

School starts at 8:50—children should be in class by this time

School finishes at 3:20—please let us know if you are running late

## Contact details

If you have changed your contact details or not returned your data collection form, please update the school office as a matter of urgency so that we can contact you when needed.

## Community notices

### Latest News from Mincinglake Police Team

On the evenings of Halloween and Bonfire Night, local officers including PCSO Shelton were on patrol in the Beacon Heath and Whipton Village areas. Although Officers dealt with 2 incidents of youth related anti-social behaviour in the Summerway area, there were no other reports in the Beacon Heath or Pinhoe area. Recently, PCSO Shelton has been working with the local Exeter City Council Housing Officer and has issued warning letters to the parents of youths who have caused anti-social behaviour in the area.



Isca Church & Police Youth Football Academy are looking for new players. Started in 2008 the Academy meet every Friday afternoon in school term time at St James School Astroturf pitch from 4.30 to 5.30pm. Open to all youngsters in school years 6 to 11 this is an opportunity to meet and play football with other local youngsters, Police Community Support Officers and Isca Church youth workers. The cost is 50p per week which includes a half time drink and snack. The next games will be on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

The Beacon Centre holds a community drop-in session, with refreshments available, for residents every Friday from 10am until 12 noon. Exeter Foodbank are also at the Beacon every Friday morning. Also on a Friday morning, St Katherine's Priory, St Katherine Road hold a community larder between 10am and 12 noon plus a community café between 10am and 3pm.

# **NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe.* online programme**

Next week in Year 1 and 2 we will be participating in the **NSPCC's *Speak out. Stay safe. online*** programme. This consists of an online assembly and supporting classroom based activities. *Speak out. Stay safe.* is a safeguarding programme available to all primary schools in the UK and Channel Islands. It aims to help children understand abuse in all its forms and to recognise the signs of abuse in a child friendly way. Children are taught to speak out if they are worried, either to a trusted adult or Childline.

In the online assembly, the *Speak out. Stay safe.* messages are delivered in a fun and interactive way with the help of their mascot Buddy as well as special guest appearances from Ant and Dec.

We have studied the content of the materials and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of the programme, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

If you would like to know more about the *Speak out. Stay safe.* programme you can find information on the NSPCC website [www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/speakout) or I would be happy to discuss any questions that you may have.

## **Additional resources**

### **Online safety hub**

You may also like to visit the NSPCC [Online Safety Hub](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/online-safety) where you will find advice and information on a range of different online safety topics including gaming, social media, sharing nudes, parental controls and more.

You will also find online safety information for families of children with additional needs and disabilities. We have worked with Ambitious about Autism and parents and carers who have children with additional needs and disabilities to create activities to help talk about online safety which you can find at [www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-families-children-with-send](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-families-children-with-send).

### **Childline Under 12's Website**

Childline also have a website with age appropriate advice for primary school children on topics such as bullying. It also has games and other interactive tools. Your child can visit it at [www.childline.org.uk/kids](http://www.childline.org.uk/kids).

The Childline website has an accessibility tool too, you can find out about it by clicking on the accessibility link in the Get Support menu. Children can use it to:

- Read the website out to them
- Change the text size and font
- Change webpages to just text only
- Add a mask or ruler to help them focus on just part of the page
- Magnify parts of the webpage
- Translate the website in to over 120 languages

### **Talking PANTS with your children**

Talk PANTS is a simple conversation to help keep children safe from sexual abuse. From P through to S, each letter of PANTS provides a simple but important message that can help keep children safe. You can find out more and download the free resources at [www.nspcc.org.uk/pants](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/pants).

Penguin and Ladybird have partnered with the NSPCC to create a Pantosaurus book aimed at children aged 4 - 8. We use this book in school and you can find copies of the new book on sale at <https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/> or in Matalan's selected stores. All profits from the sale of this book will support the NSPCC.

### **Support the NSPCC**

You may be interested in the NSPCC's new selection of BUDDY goodies available from the NSPCC shop at <https://shop.nspcc.org.uk/collections/buddy>—all profits go to help keep children safe.