



STOKE HILL JUNIOR

AUTUMN TERM, ISSUE 21

October 2024

DATES

Year 6 Residential
Week @Heatree
30th September –
4th October

Mental Health
Day
October 10th

Parent's Evening
14th and 16th
October 3.20-
6.00pm

School Photo-
graphs
15th October

PTFA Quiz
18th October

PTFA Cake Sale
24th October

Halt Term
28th – 1st
October/
November

Deadline for
Year 6 to apply for
High Schools
31st October

Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome to all of our families and I hope you enjoy reading about the many things that are going on at the Junior School. Each month I try to remind you about some of the key events that are coming up, share with you what the children have been doing, give you some advice and signpost you to resources which you may find useful, as well as celebrating the many achievements of the children.

Please take a moment to check the dates for October. I've again attached the school calendar, so that you can highlight the events bespoke to your child. For year 6 parents it is vital that you have applied for your child's High School by the end of October (it falls in half term this year) otherwise you may have very little say in which school they go to.

I hope you spend a moment too looking at how we are leading our mental health support across the Federation and will join us in wearing an item of yellow on October 10th to mark this.

Finally I am really pleased with how the transition of all children has gone. September has simply flown by and for our new year 3 children they have settled into routines and a slightly different way of learning. The staff here will continue to support any child that has a challenge and we work with you to ensure that open communication is paramount.

Jamie Sullivan
Head of School



We are a

NO NUT and NO SESAME school.



NUT FREE



SESAME FREE

We have children with allergies in school. Please do not bring products/treats with nuts and sesame seeds into school or any products containing these, such as hummus, pesto or cereal bars.

School Champions

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

Reading: James (3B), Sam (6M)

Writing: Maisie (5AM), Edward (5W)

Maths: Amber (4G), Emily (4T)



Parent Teacher Interviews

October 14th and 16th

Shortly we have the first opportunity for parents to hear from their child's teacher about how they have started the year. The meetings take place in the school hall and we ask that parents wait outside of the hall until the time of their appointment. Each appointment is 10 minutes and if it appears the conversation needs to be longer, the teachers will arrange a separate time. It's our way of sticking to time for other parents, so they are not kept waiting. You will be given some of your child's books by the teacher to look at with your child at your leisure. Also we have a book fair during this week and so you can purchase books after your meeting if you so wish. We look forward to seeing you all.

Year 6 Heatree

This week we have taken 69 children up to Heatree House on Dartmoor, for 4 nights on their residential. Being away from home can be a little bit worrying, but the children are certainly kept busy with a range of outdoor activities led by the Heatree staff, before the fun in the evening, led by the fabulous Stoke Hill staff, who willingly give up their time to make this trip so great. Year 6 parents will get the chance to see and hear all about the trip during class assemblies in November.



New School Crossing

I know from talking to so many of you how pleased we are to finally have a crossing outside of the school, which makes us all feel that bit safer. Thank you for driving more slowly around the school and being patient when a large number of people are crossing all at once. If you are driving please ensure that you are parking legally and respectfully for the local residents. No school has enough parking and I appreciate that it can be tricky at times. Let's continue to work together with the local community to make these times of the day successful.

School Improvement

You should have received an overview of the different areas the two schools will be working on over the next year. Below I've just picked out a couple and added a little bit of detail.

- 1) A new handwriting scheme across the Federation called Letter - join.
- 2) Embed Zones of Regulation - this is a relational approach to support children managing different types of behaviours. It supports them in being able to coregulate and self regulate, which in turn supports their mental health and well being.
- 3) Continue to embed OAIP (Ordinarily Available Inclusive Provision) as our approach to SEND in all of our classrooms.

We look forward to sharing more about these initiatives as the year moves on.

School Office Notice

It is very helpful for you to pre order lunches on the Gateway App (before 8am each day). Please can you make sure you do this if you know your child will be missing at morning registration. Meals are prepared using the figure given to the kitchen after registration each morning so we can't always accommodate late arrivals if they haven't been pre-ordered, which may mean some children may not get their chosen meal. Many thanks for your support.



Home Learning

Please see attached further information about what we are expecting the children to do at home in order to support their learning, and particularly for our older children, in supporting them in their preparation for moving to High Schools next year. The children work hard in school and we want them to enjoy their time away from it. Home Learning always splits opinions and for some what we ask is a starting point that can be developed. However it must not become a struggle or battle. The teachers are there to help and listen to any queries you may have.

Mental Health at Stoke Hill

10th October 2024 is World Mental Health Day

Every year, thousands of schools, companies, and communities come together to make World Mental Health Day that little bit brighter by wearing something yellow and donating to Young Minds. In my role as Mental Health lead for the Federation I'm asking for your support. We'd love for as many staff and pupils to wear something yellow on this day and show their support for positive mental health. If you'd like to also donate to Young Minds, then that's your choice and you can do so by following the link <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/donate/>

Right now, the world is a tough place for children and young people to grow up in. We want young people to know that they don't have to go through this alone. Things can get better. Within our mission to make Stoke Hill a great place to learn, work and play we ensure inclusivity for all. It is our commitment and determination that all individuals will succeed and excel in all aspects of their learning. As senior mental health lead I strive to ensure the whole team embed positive mental health and wellbeing across our school culture to create an environment where pupils can thrive.

This World Mental Health Day, wear yellow with thousands of others across the UK and raise money to show young people that they're not alone with their mental health. Because we stand brighter, together.

In addition to wearing something yellow our amazing Mental Health Ambassadors want your help and have a real treat planned!

They believe to help us all hold positive mental health in mind, they would love for Stoke Hill to have its very own mascot that stands for positive mental health and well-being for everyone. They would like children to draw a mascot, give it a name and state what animal it is. Entries must include their class and name. Votes to be posted in the red box next to Mrs Padbury's office.

The MHAs will then collate entries and we will choose a top 3 and then put it back out to the whole school to choose the winner.



M&S | YOUNGMINDS

In a bid to raise the profile of mental health and well-being at Stoke hill we recognise there are many strands to supporting all partners within our school community. Whilst the education of children and young people is central to the work, we do we also recognise that to share support, ideas and resources extends to the families, parents and carers of our school community. On each monthly newsletter we will be drawing your attention to a series of short video clips (2 mins) and help cards that you may find of use. It may also be just the short video clip that helps towards maintaining that positive well-being that we all strive for. Below is a small sample, why not click on the link, it could be the most helpful 2 minutes for a while!

<https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

This month's top 3 are...

“How do I get my child to listen” “Problem solving with children” “Raising a resilient child”.

My child has trouble going to sleep 2 min video 8 min read Read now	How do I get my child to listen? 2 min video 4 min read Read now	Talking to my child about race and discrimination 2 min video 5 min read Read now
Helping your child understand cultural identity 2 min video 4 min read Read now	My child has meltdowns 2 min video 8 min read Read now	Using praise and reward with children 2 min video 6 min read Read now
Helping your child develop talents 2 min video 6 min read Read now	Supporting children with their homework 2 min video 7 min read Read now	Co-parenting after a separation or divorce 2 min video 6 min read Read now
My child thinks they need to be perfect 2 min video 8 min read Read now	Understanding shyness in children 2 min video 8 min read Read now	My child says "I hate you!" 2 min video 5 min read Read now
Healthy habits for parenting 2 min video 6 min read Read now	The importance of limits and consequences for children 2 min video 5 min read Read now	How to ignore irritating behaviours effectively 2 min video 5 min read Read now
My child is anxious 2 min video 8 min read Read now	Playing with my child 2 min video 6 min read Read now	Supporting healthy gaming habits for children 2 min video 10 min read Read now