



Stoke Hill Infant and Nursery School Newsletter

October 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to our first new-look newsletter of the year. Each month we share important upcoming events and messages, whilst also reflecting back on the previous month. I hope you enjoy reading October's edition! All the children have settled so well in to the new school year and it's been lovely to welcome new families across the school. Here's to a fabulous year ahead.

Best wishes,

Claire McKimm, Head of School

What's been going on in September

Nursery

We have welcomed lots of new starters to Nursery, along with our EYFS Lead, Emma Guest, as the Nursery Teacher. They're all settling really well and particularly enjoying exploring the woodlands!

Reception

I can't believe they've only been here a few weeks – they're so confident and in routine! Etty and Mia said the best thing is learning numbers!

Year 1

Year 1 have been particularly enjoying art and drawing their own patterns inspired by Romero Britto. Cameron told me he likes doing pictures and some children proudly came to show me their work.

Year 2

Gracie said the best thing about Year 2 so far is "learning with my friends". Ask your child to sing you the continents song – it's an earworm!

Upcoming Events

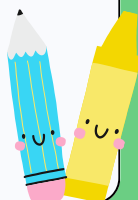


- October 7th – Year 1 Parents' Little Wandle Meeting – 2.30pm in the hall
- October 9th – wear yellow in support of World Mental Health Day
- October 13th and 15th – Parents' Evening
- October 20th – School Photographs
- October 26th – 30th – Half Term
- November 3rd/4th – Y2 Museum Trip
- November 6th – PTFA Fireworks
- November 13th – Children in Need
- Year 2 Class Assemblies coming up

Office Reminders

Please remember to contact the school if your child is absent. This is an important way we safeguard all children and can take our staff a long time to chase up if it hasn't been reported. Thank you for your help with this.

Please make sure all your child's belongings are labelled with their name so we can reunite lost items with their owner.



Mental Health at Stoke Hill



Once again this year we will be showing our commitment to improving mental health by encouraging staff and children to wear yellow on Friday 9th October, ahead of World Mental Health Day (October 10th). If you would like to donate to the charity Young MInds, please follow this link, <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/support-us/donate/> We also offer a wide range of resources on our own school website for parents and carers to support a range of challenges. https://www.stokehill.devon.sch.uk/web/parent_and_carer_support/702742

Parents' Evening

You will shortly be receiving a link inviting you to book online for the first parents' evening of the year. Each appointment with your child's teacher is 10 minutes and will take place in classrooms – please look out for signs as a year group will be based in one classroom. They will share with you some of the work from the term so far and discuss how they have settled into their new year group.

Bits and Bobs

School Photos

Infant School individual photographs are being taken on October 20th. Details of arrangements for family pictures will follow shortly.

Year 3 Applications

Year 2 parents must apply for their child's Year 3 place no later than January 15th.

https://oneonline.devon.gov.uk/CCSCitizenPortal_LIVE/en

After school

The playground is available for a short stay and play after school but gates will be shut at 3.45pm (or earlier at times) to safeguard children at clubs and First Steps and to keep the site secure. The Reception astro, Water City and the field are not available before or after school. Toilets and school equipment are also not available. Thank you for cooperation.



Celebrations

Each week in our Friday Celebration Assembly we celebrate a star reader, role model and learner from each class – if your child is chosen, you will receive an email and they will bring home a certificate. Reception will be starting this soon.

We also celebrate the book of Above and Beyond, where children have been noticed for something above or beyond what is expected of them, be that in their work or behaviour, or perhaps something they've done outside of school like earning a swimming badge or doing extra learning.

PTFA Fireworks

It's nearly that time of year again! Each year the PTFA organise a superb event with over 1000 people in attendance. Ticket information will be shared shortly and tickets normally go really quickly, so don't miss out. The PTFA do leaflet drops to make locals aware of the event in case they have pets, but your support with sharing information by word of mouth can go a long way too.

