



**Stoke St. Michael County Primary School & Pre School**  
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**Headteacher:**

**Mr Stephen Heath**

**05 October 2018**

Dear Parent /Carer,

**Dates for the diary!**

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> September – Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October (Every Monday) at 2.45pm	Celebration Assembly – Parents please join us at 2.45pm in the school hall.
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> September – Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> October (Every Wednesday)	Creative Aquatic – Whole school
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> September – Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> October (Every Thursday)	Forest School sessions for Year 5 & 6
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> September - Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Fencing and Archery after school club - Whole school (not including Reception children)
Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> October (10am – 1.30pm)	Celebrating World Space Week at Wells Library.
Sunday 7 <sup>th</sup> October at 4pm	Harvest Service at the Church
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Combined Class Assembly and Celebration Assembly – Parents Welcome.
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> October 2.30pm	Parents Meeting with Mr Heath
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> October 6pm – 8pm	Halloween Disco (See attached PDF for details)
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup> October 10am – 2.30pm	Carymoor Cosy Creatures Family Learning Day.
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual School Photos
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> November at 11am	Flu Immunisations – Reception – Year 5
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> December at 1.45pm	Christmas Pantomime - Crocombe will be joining us at Stoke St Michael School to watch Rainbow Theatre Productions perform Snow White.

## Maths INSPIRE afternoon

We would like to say a massive thank you to all of the parents and governors who attended the Maths afternoon on Tuesday. We really hope that you enjoyed the experience. It is a great opportunity for your children to explain what they have been learning, and, by doing this, it helps them understand the concepts at a greater depth. We were delighted to see such a large number of adults in the school and hope that you will all pop in again for future events. If you missed it, please ask your children about what they did and ask attending parents how much they enjoyed it. Thanks to all of the staff who helped to prepare for the event and the children for working so hard. A splendid time was had by all.

## A few photographs from our Maths INSPIRE afternoon for parents



### **Harvest Festival**

Thanks also to all who attended our Harvest Assembly on Thursday. As ever, we were overwhelmed by the generosity of parents and the quality of the produce on display. For those who did not get to attend, just ask your children about the size of Roman's watermelon! All of the goods were collected by the church and will be auctioned this weekend. The monies raised will be shared by the church and our nominated charity, the NSPCC. As always, we thought the children all performed their songs and poems wonderfully (with a few impromptu dance moves thrown in!)

### **Healthy Lunchbox**

To ensure that the children's minds and bodies are ready for learning each day please take note of our No-Chocolate policy. Please make sure the children have healthy snacks and fruit in their lunchbox.

### **The Gem Power Project**

As promised, attached are our Learning Gem Power objectives for your information, which we have adapted for Stoke St Michael School. The project has been successfully adopted and adapted by many schools all over the country. It helps children focus on what they need to do to become better learners. Each Gem (Ruby, Sapphire, Emerald, Topaz, Amethyst and Diamond) is related to a particular learning skill set which in turn are related to a set of behaviours and feelings. Each behaviour or feeling will either enhance learning ability or impede it. The project helps children understand they are in charge of their behaviours and feelings and with practice can gather more gems and sparkle even more. Dr Tom Robson came into school on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September to demonstrate the idea to the children. We plan to implement one power fully per half term. At the moment, all classes across the federation are working on Diamond Power. Children are enjoying the challenge of gaining more gem power than the teachers. Feel free to use this at home – it really works!

### **The Book People**

As you know fundraising plays an important part in raising the money needed by schools for books for their classrooms and libraries. Book People's School Fundraising Scheme is a way of helping us raise these valuable funds without it costing you a penny, by giving the school 10% of the value of every order you place to spend on books. And there's more – you'll also be rewarded with exclusive offers that you won't find anywhere else, as a thank you for helping your school. Books will be on display in the entrance corridor until Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October. Just pop into the school office if you would like to have a look and if anything catches your eye, fill in the order form and return your money to the school office no later than Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October. (Please note: If you do not return your order money, your order will not be fulfilled.)

### **PTA – AGM**

On Wednesday afternoon the PTA held their annual general meeting. A copy of the minutes from the meeting can be found on Friends of Stoke St Michael School Facebook page; alternatively you can request a copy from a member of the PTA or from the school office. There have been some changes to committee members; Sarah Jenkins stepped down as Chair of the PTA and Hannah Snow stepped down as Secretary of the PTA although both will remain active parent members of the PTA. Lucy Stott was voted in and seconded as Chair of the PTA and Lizzy Rice was voted in and seconded as Secretary of the PTA. All other committee members remain the same.

### **PTA Committee Members 2018**

Lucy Stott – Chair (Acorns class and Little Roots parent)  
Rachel McEntee – Vice Chair (Oaks and Acorns class parent)  
Charlotte Corbett – Treasurer (Acorns class parent)  
Lizzy Rice - Secretary (Acorns class and Little Roots parent)  
Every parent and staff member at Stoke St Michael School

### **Bikes and scooters in school**

The PTA made a very sensible suggestion at their AGM on Wednesday, which we are very keen to endorse. We are delighted that so many children are cycling to school in the morning and want to encourage them to do so safely. However, the bikes and scooters are being left on the path at the front of school and, quite apart from looking untidy, they are a little dangerous. Please can we ask all children to store their bikes on the path behind Pre-school, against the backs of the garages? This area is not much used any more as the gate at the top of the field is no longer open. The bikes should be undisturbed, there is more space (so they won't get knocked over) and they will be out of the way. In time, we will try to provide suitable storage.

### **Parents' Meeting**

As part of our continuing efforts to keep parents better informed about developments at the school, we will be holding a Parents' Meeting on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2.30pm. This will be an opportunity for parents to hear about developments in the school, to discuss options when possible and ask questions. Please come and join Mr Heath – there may well be biscuits!

### **Celebration Assembly**

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October we will be holding our Acorns Class Assembly alongside our Whole School Celebration Assembly. Therefore we will start at the slightly earlier time of 2.30pm. We will be celebrating all of the children's achievements from the past week and handing out certificates and prizes etc. Parents please come along and join us.

### **E- Newsletter**

Unfortunately not everyone received the e-newsletter test email which I sent last Friday. As a result I will return to sending paper copies until our IT department can resolve the issue to ensure everyone is kept up to date. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

Many thanks,

Steve Heath  
Headteacher



Halloween Disco.pdf



# Our Learning Gems



## Diamond

**I can face a challenge and be responsible for problems.**

E.G. I can organise my own belongings and learning area; I can identify a problem that is in my power to solve without help from an adult; I can use a talk partner to ask questions to help move my learning on.



## Emerald

**I can be courageous, brave and show bouncability**

E.G. I am happy to be brave and have 'go' with my new learning; I can make mistakes and learn from them and bounce back!. I am comfortable when I make a mistake as I know that these help us to learn.



## Sapphire

**I can avoid monster distractions and stay focused**

E.G. I can continue with my learning even if someone else isn't; I can continue with my learning even though there are monster distractions around me trying to put me off.



## Ruby

**I can supporting others and recognise their achievements**

E.G. I can make others feel good about their successes; I can understand how others have felt during their learning and shown them kindness by listening to them and supporting them in their learning; I can empathise.



## Topaz

**I can actively learn with others**

E.G. I can work in a group of three or more and take turns to share ideas during class talk time; I can help someone in my group by giving them an idea during learning time; I can ask questions in my group.



## Amethyst

**I can work well alongside others**

E.G. I can work with one other person; I can share ideas using my talking and listening skills; I can work in collaboration with my partner and added new ideas to the ones we already had.

