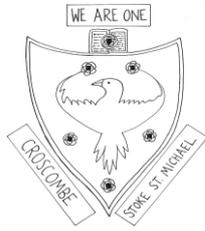


Stoke St Michael County Primary School

Little Roots @ Stoke St Michael



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Headteacher: Mr Stephen Heath

27 November 2018

Dear Parent/carer

Dates for the diary!

Tuesday 6 th November – Tuesday 18 th December (Every Tuesday) at 2.45pm	Celebration Assembly – Parents please join us at 2.45pm in the school hall.
Wednesday 7 th November – Wednesday 19 th December (Every Wednesday)	Creative Aquatic – Whole school (*We will not be going to Creative Aquatic on 5 th December due to children watching Christmas pantomime. Snow White)
Thursday 8 th November – Thursday 13 th December (Every Thursday)	Forest School sessions for Year 3 & 4
Friday 9 th November - Friday 14 th December	Team Sports after school club - Whole school (not including Reception children)
Monday 19 th November - Monday 10 th December	The Book People – Books on display in Little Roots and school entrance corridor.
Thursday 29 th November 9.30 – 5pm	Year 5 - Primary Dance Festival at Whitstone School
Saturday 1 st December 10.30am – 12 Noon	Church Christmas Fair at the Village Hall
Wednesday 5 th December at 1.45pm	Christmas Pantomime - Croscombe will be joining us at Stoke St Michael School to watch Rainbow Theatre Productions perform Snow White.
Thursday 6 th December – 2pm – 3pm	Acorns Stay and Play sessions for Pre School age children.
Saturday 8 th December 11am – 4.30pm	Memorial Hall Christmas Market in the Village Hall
Wednesday 12 th December – 2.30pm – 3pm	Christmas Sing a Long at Little Roots for parents/carers and families

Thursday 13 th December at 9.30am and 5.30pm	Acorns, Oaks and Little Roots Nativity Performance
Monday 10 th December – Thursday 13 th December	'Save the Children' – Christmas Jumper Week (Little Roots)
Friday 14 th December	'Save the Children' - Christmas Jumper Day (School)
Monday 17 th December	Rainbow Treat afternoon
Friday 21 st December	Christmas Break – Children finish at 1.30pm

A message from our Senior Teacher Mrs Vincent

The Nativity Concert

The children have been busy rehearsing and learning their lines for the Nativity concert. After parental request we have decided to put on an evening concert as well to ensure all parents with work commitments can attend. Please could all children involved (this is the whole school) be in school for 5pm for a 5:30 start on Thursday 13th December. The morning Nativity concert will still take place at 9:30 am on the same day therefore giving two performances on the same day. Please feel free to either come to one or the other or BOTH! The performance shouldn't be any longer than 40 minutes. Children from Reception upwards will be looked after by adults in the school from 5pm. However, children in the pre-school will need to be accompanied by a parent at all times in the evening show although Kelly, the pre-school leader, will be here to guide them in their performance. In addition, Oaks would like to dress up in Christmas clothing for the Nativity.

Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)

Thank you to Mrs O'Brien and Mrs Bannister for organising such a successful Stay and Play session for pre-school and nursery aged children and their families in order that they can experience the Acorns learning area and school environment early on and to hopefully positively engage more families with our wonderful school.

The activities on offer kept the children: **'Content, Curious and Engaged'**

Beautifully tying in with our new Stoke St Michael EYFS vision statement above for our EYFS and foundation stage development plan. More to come on this....

The next stay and play session will be held on Thursday December 6th from 2-3pm. Fun festive activities along with snacks and drinks available for the children and their families. Please spread the word and come and join in with your pre-school or nursery aged children. Looking forward to seeing you there.

Some photographs of the children enjoying our first EYFS Stay and Play Session





Pin Badges

Children are beginning to receive their Rainbow Readers pin badges and it won't be long until they start to receive their merit badges also. Please be aware that the badges are not for children under the age of three years old due to the small part and pin. We will ensure we encourage the children receiving their badges to either wear them or keep them safely and to not play with them as they are not a toy

Mel Vincent

Dorset and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service - Fire Safety Talks

On Monday 26th November the children were visited by Fire-Fighter Lee Dredge, from Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service to talk to them about Fire Safety in the home. Each child will have brought home a Fire safety for families booklet, which contains information and advice for parents and carers on fire safety as well as some activities for the children.

Children are at greatest risk in the event of fire and one third of fire deaths happen in properties without a working smoke alarm.

Call 0800 05 02 999 and speak to one of the specially trained technicians to find out how to keep them safe. One of our technicians can carry out a FREE Home Safety Visit and provide and fit a smoke alarm free of charge.



Acorns News

Acorns have been busy rehearsing for the whole school Nativity Concert, where they are taking the lead with major parts. Please could you ensure that your children's costumes are in school by Monday 3rd December. We would ideally like the children to know their lines and where they come in by memory for this date also, they can then concentrate on the stage directions with confidence.

Thank you so much for all your support with helping your children to learn their lines and for ensuring they have a relevant costume for their part in the play. If you need any help or ideas with costumes please let us know, we will be happy to help.

We are currently inviting any keen background helpers to help with creating the set. Please speak to a member of staff if you would like to be involved. Thank you!

Our new home learning system is now up and away, thank you for your patience whilst we embedded the new weekly system. The children are now doing superbly at making sure they have their home learning books ready to hand in on Friday morning's. This is when their informal spelling test will take place so please encourage the children to make the most of the extra space that they now have for practising their spellings in a way that helps them to remember them by memory.

Many thanks for your continued support with this.

Now winter is nearly here, please could all children bring a coat to school and the Reception children especially, wear layers under their school uniform to enable them to stay warm whilst they are learning in the outdoor environment. Thank you.

Celebration Assembly

Last term, we decided to change the day we hold our our celebration assembly each term so that parents, especially those who work would have more opportunity to attend. However, as we are an incredibly busy and active school will be unable to hold our celebration assemblies on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday afternoons due to swimming, forest school and P.E.

We will still hold our celebration assembly at the same time of 2.45pm, unless it is combined with a class assembly, which will start at the earlier time of 2.30pm but we would like to give parents and carers an opportunity to vote on which day they would prefer.

Please indicate your preference on the attached slip and return to school as soon as possible.

Many thanks

I would prefer celebration assembly to be held on Monday afternoon at 2.45pm

I would prefer celebration assembly to be held on Tuesday afternoon at 2.45pm

'Save the Children' - Wear your Christmas Jumper!

On Friday 14 December we're inviting all pupils to take part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. The whole school will be taking part by pulling on a Christmas jumper for a great cause.

We're asking for a £1 donation, or whatever you can give, to help transform the futures of children in the UK and around the world.

All money raised will go to Save the Children and will help make sure every child, no matter where they're born, has essentials like food, water and a safe place to sleep at night, and ultimately will ensure children can go on to make their mark on the world.

All your child needs to do is wear a festive woolly and bring in a donation. There's no need to splash out on snazzy new sweaters to join in the fun – why not swap, borrow or bling up an old woolly with some festive decorations.

Together we can help make a difference to Children's lives.

Little Roots

Stoke will be able to wear their festive woolies all week from Monday 10th December – Thursday 13th December for a £1 donation of whatever you can give for each day they wear them.

PTA News

Just a reminder, the Church will be holding their Christmas Fair in the village hall on Saturday 1st December. 10.30am – Noon. On Saturday 8th December the Memorial Hall will be holding their Village Hall Christmas Market 11am – 4.30pm. Come and visit us on the PTA stall we will be at both events!

Charlotte Corbett will be hosting a PTA Christmas Craft evening tonight. Tuesday 27th November at 7.30pm at Hillcrest, Stoke Hill. Everyone Welcome!

Below is a breakdown of profits raised from recent PTA events:

Cinema Club on Wednesday 21st November raised £50.15

Christmas Bingo on Friday 23rd November raised £700.30

Giving a grand total of £750.45

Thank you for your continued support!

Festive Holiday Fun @ Carymoor

Get Crafty this Christmas!

Saturday 8th December, either 10am - 12noon or 2 - 4pm

Join us for 2 hours of festive family craft-making using natural and recycled materials:

Christmas wreaths, willow lanterns, recycled reindeer and more!

For children aged 4-11 and their parents/carers. £5 per person.

Booking essential: please call 01963 351350 or e-mail education@carymoor.org.uk

Go Wild @ Carymoor!

3rd and 4th January 2019, 9am- 3pm

£35 per day

Action-packed New Year activity days for 7-11year-olds on our beautiful nature reserve near Castle Cary!

Give your children a WILD start to 2019! Come for one or both days and enjoy outdoor adventures, woodland crafts, campfires, winter conservation tasks, wildlife discovery, orienteering, challenges, games and much, much more.

Booking essential: We limit these special experiences to 15 children per day so please call 01963 351350 or email karen.boswell@carymoor.org.uk now to find out more and to book a place!

For more information - see posters on the parent noticeboard in the school entrance corridor.

Many thanks

Steve Heath
Headteacher