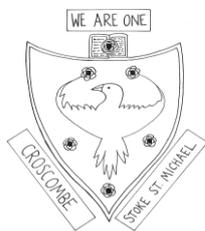




Stoke St Michael County Primary School Little Roots @ Stoke St Michael

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Headteacher: Mr Stephen Heath

08 March 2019

Dear Parent/carer

Dates for the diary

Monday 25 th February – Monday 1 st April (Every Monday)	Mrs Vincent's Marvellous Maths Club – Year 6 only.
Tuesday 26 th February – Tuesday 2 nd April (Every Tuesday) 3.15pm – 3.30pm	Mrs Young's Homework Club
Tuesday 5 th March – Tuesday 2 nd April (Every Tuesday) at 2.45pm	Celebration Assembly – Parents please join us at 2.45pm in the school hall.
Thursday 28 th February – Thursday 4 th April (Every Thursday)	Forest School sessions for Reception & Year 1
Friday 1 st March – Friday 29 th March (Every Friday) 3.15pm – 4.15pm	After school club - Whole school (not including Reception children)
Monday 4 th March and Thursday 16 th May	Year 5 Growing Futures programme at Whitstone School
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day – Children may come to school dressed as their favorite book characters.
Friday 15 th March	Red Nose Day Mufti – Wear bright colours for a £1 donation.
Friday 29 th March	Bags 2 Collection at 9am
Friday 29 th March	Easter Bingo at 6pm
Friday 5 th April £1 per child to wear mufti. Easter Bonnets optional (Prizes to be won for the best!)	Mufti Day for NSPCC Speak Out. Stay Safe. (School finishes for Eater Break at 1.30pm)



Celebration News

In each class we celebrate children for showing progress in their learning and for shining in a particular area.

Our Super Stars of the Week are:

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Conor** for always showing a positive attitude and for developing his confidence in all areas of the curriculum.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Livvy** for showing many Super Learning Powers: for showing continuous Emerald Power in trying hard and persevering well, especially in writing; for avoiding those monster distractions and showing lots of shining Sapphire Power; for being a wonderfully caring Ruby powered friend who always checks on others with kindness and for demonstrating lovely organised Diamond Power.

Little Roots

Awarded to **Mason** for showing amazing confidence and speech skills during his sessions.

Our Wonderful Writing Wizards are:

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Hope** for improving her ability to form lowercase letters correctly.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Hazel** for demonstrating fantastic Emerald perseverance in her writing and producing impressive and much improved description and suspense.

Our Magical Maths Magicians are:

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Roman** for working well and showing confidence in matching fractions.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Logan** for knowing how to partition and recombine numbers to 50 and for understanding how to make equal groups.

Once the children reach their initial 100 reads mark, we will then award them certificates for reads in multiples of 50.

Acorns News

Due to our time table shift, as of next week, please can you ensure that Acorns children have their P.E. kits available and in school on a Tuesday and a Friday. Alternatively, children are welcome to leave P.E. kits here on their pegs throughout the week and weekend for ease, I will ensure everything on pegs comes home each half term. Many thanks for your support with this change.

Reception have been designing and creating their own dragons for their story and focusing on Super Power words, words that cannot be sounded out but Super Sight recognition and Super Writing is needed in order to know how to read and write these off by heart. Super Power words: **I, am, go, the,** are helping Reception express their ideas through writing. Reception are also working very well with ordering numbers to 20; saying "What is one more and one less?"; recognising them in the environment and counting concrete objects that they are playing with. Well done Reception!

Years 1 and 2 have had another great week of creative writing, their ideas inspired by the Nunney Castle trip are wonderful. They have been looking at how to create a build-up to suspense and how to use more exciting words for verbs such as 'look', 'walk' and 'fly' using a thesaurus to help. They have also made sure that nouns are described by adjectives; for example: Ramparts have become crumbling, broken ramparts thus making them noun phrases. Please encourage your children to spot noun phrases when you read with them at home. Thank you! Below is a lovely example published with the child's permission:

Poppy and the Mysterious Castle

Once upon a time there was a girl called Poppy who lived on the edge of the quiet sea side in a cosy cottage. Early one bright morning she began her stroll to the stables but her daddy warned her. Beware of the dangerous animal that lives in the mysterious castle! So she skipped to the stables until she saw she had taken the wrong path.

A dreary stone began to appear through the trees. Poppy could see crumpled turrets and broken ramparts. It was when she saw the arrow slits she realised she had found THE CASTLE! Poppy could hear the crows screaming but there was something much bigger than a crow beating its wings. A monumental gust of hot wind hit Poppy in the face. Poppy just had to see what it was.

Poppy peered into the castle. A glittery blue dragon was sitting on a window ledge. It was sad! A scruffy loud crow had stolen some of the nest that had four dragon's eggs in it. Poppy stared at the blue dragon it was looking at its feet. Poppy was trapped she didn't know what to do. She started to notice a rampart was going to fall on her so she ran out of the way.

Poppy sprinted to fix the nest. She grabbed one egg and she ran and she ran. Under the portcullis over the rock and across the drawbridge and the moat but the glittery blue dragon saw her from the crumpled turret. Poppy crept into the eerie thick forest and ambled to her garden gate. She took one more daring look behind her and there was NO dragon! Poppy was victorious. When the egg hatched she would be a heroine.

By Hazel - Year 2

Oaks News

PE Lessons

Oaks will have their class PE lesson on a Wednesday afternoon. They will continue to have their PE lesson with Premier Sport on a Friday afternoon with Acorns. Please ensure PE kits are in school on Wednesday's and Friday's. Alternatively, children are welcome to leave P.E. kits here on their pegs throughout the week and weekend for ease, We will ensure everything comes home each half term. Many thanks for your support with this change.

A message from our Senior Teacher Mrs Vincent

World Book Day

Thank you for the extra effort that you made this week in ensuring your children came dressed up to school on Thursday, it was worth it! The children had a fantastic time being dressed as book characters and reading and sharing their chosen books with each other. During assembly they participated in some drama activities with Miss Foord, one being 'The Twits' which brought on much cheeriness. The children looked super AND so did the adults who all participated with great costumes and shared their chosen books too. Reading should be and is an enjoyable experience and this certainly was true this week.





Red Nose Day

On Friday 15th March we are inviting the children to dress in 'Bright Colours' to help raise money for Comic Relief. We would like to suggest that children come to school with a painted red nose instead of buying a plastic one as we are endeavouring to be 'greener' and to be mindful of the importance of recycling. All donations will be forwarded to the Red Nose Day Appeal.

Viral Scare

We recently sent home information for parents regarding an online 'viral scare' that is making headlines at the moment, as well as being shared on social media. The story concerns an online challenge or message that is reported to include unsettling images or words attempting to persuade users to take inappropriate actions. Images or words about it may be encountered in user created content, such as in online apps or videos.

We have received further advice concerning this, including from the Local Authority. It recommends the following steps:

The advice is not to mention or name any specific 'viral scare' or programme with your child if they have not come across it, as there is a danger that children will then look for it online.

The advice encourages open and general conversations with children about the kind of content they could encounter online, and to ensure children know where to go and who to turn to if they do come across something unsettling.

It recommends reminding children not to contact strangers online, regardless of the method, as well as setting privacy systems on devices with your child, as a conversation starter to agreeing on automatic precautions.

It encourages families to promote an atmosphere of openness and transparency about online activity, so that adults can keep an eye on device usage and children can talk to their families more easily about anything that upsets them. Video games and screens might only be used in shared family areas so activity is visible to all.

Here at Stoke St Michael Primary School we will continue to remind the children about what to do if they find things online that unsettle or scare them and who they can turn to for support if this happens.

If you have any concerns please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Long Hair

We recommend all long hair be tied back for children in both the school and Little Roots settings. This will help stop the spread of head lice. Thank you!

Parent Governor Vacancy

The Board of Governors at the Croscombe & Stoke St Michael Primary Schools Federation has a vacancy for a Parent Governor with effect from 23rd March 2019. As a parent/carer of a pupil attending our school we sent a letter at the beginning of the week inviting you to put your name forward for consideration.

Parent Governors are parents/carers of a pupil attending the schools and are elected by the parents/carers to give a parental perspective in discussions and decisions. In addition, it would be expected that Parent Governors bring a range of skills that will help them to contribute effectively to the work of the Board of Governors.

Deadline for applications is Noon on Monday 18th March.

PTA News

Fundraising

Cinema Club on Wednesday 27th February raised £45.40p.

Pancake decorating on Tuesday 5th March raised £26.00p.

Thank you for your support!

PTA Meeting

PTA Meeting in the Knatchbull Arms at 7.30pm on Monday 11th March. Please come along and share your ideas! Everyone welcome!

Easter Egg Hunt

We are holding an Easter Egg Hunt for the children after school on Thursday 4th April. More details to follow shortly.



BINGO!

Our Easter Bingo date is fast approaching. On Friday, 29th March 2019 in the school hall. Doors open at 6.30pm for eyes down at 7pm with the legendary bingo caller Al Stewart! We still need your help to ensure its success! If you are able to donate any items to help create a luxury hamper prize. For example Easter Cake/Biscuits, Sweets/Chocolates, Easter Decorations/Cards or just a tin from your cupboard. These would be gratefully received! Please drop any donations into the school office or give to a member of the PTA.

Many thanks

Steve Heath
Headteacher