



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

Moonshill Road
Stoke St Michael
Radstock
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Headteacher: Mr Stephen Heath

06 December 2019

Dear Parent/carer

Dates for the diary

Week Commencing Monday 4th November - Monday 16 th December (Term 1) (Every Monday)	Gymnastics After School Club Starts (Years 1 - 6) Monday 4 th November – Monday 16 th December £2 per child, per session to be paid termly in advance (Maximum of 15 children)
Tuesday 5 th November - Tuesday 17 th December (Every Tuesday)	Celebration Assembly All welcome! Please join us at 2.45pm (Refreshments available)
Tuesday (DATE TBC)	Green Gait Gardening Club – Start Date TBC 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Tuesday 3 rd December – Tuesday 17 th December	Miss Foord's Year 6 Marvellous Maths Club 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Saturday 7 th December	Church Christmas Craft Fair in the village hall.
Monday 9 th December	Parents Meeting with Mr Heath 2.45pm. All welcome!
Thursday 12 th December	Acorns Nativity with Little Roots as Stars and Oaks and Owls choir. Afternoon performance 2pm Evening performance 6pm
Friday 13 th December	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children (Please bring £1 to wear your Christmas Jumper to help support Save the Children)

Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Lunch Children can wear Christmas jumpers to school if they wish.
Tuesday 17 th December	Christmas Craft Day – Your children's festive creations will be on sale in the school hall at the end of the school day.
Wednesday 18 th December	Whole School Cake Sale – The children will be baking cakes during the day and they will be on sale after school. Cake and festive treat donations very welcome!
Wednesday 18 th December	Free Festive Family Film event and Governors Raffle Draw 3.30pm – 4.45pm (Parents and carers welcome to stay – Mulled Wine and Refreshments will be available and the Governors raffle draw will take place in the interlude)
Thursday 19 th December	Christmas Party and Buffet Lunch Children are invited to wear their festive party wear.
Friday 20 th December	Children finish at 1.30pm for Christmas Break
Monday 6 th January	Back to School
Thursday 9 th January – Thursday 13 th February (Every Thursday)	Holly and Hawthorn Forest School for Years 5 and 6 + two Year 4 children (Year 4 Parents/Carers will be contacted directly)
Wednesday 15 th January 2020	Primary School Application Deadline

Little Roots Dates for the diary

Monday 9 th December	Little Roots Christmas Party 1.30pm – 3pm (All children welcome – Please let us know if your child will be attending and it is not their usual session.)
Thursday 12 th December	Little Roots Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children (Please bring £1 to wear your Christmas Jumper to help support Save the Children)
Thursday 12 th December	Acorns Nativity with Little Roots as 'Stars' and Oaks and Owls choir. Afternoon performance for wider village community and school families at 2pm Evening performance for school families only at 6pm (More information on Little Roots part to follow shortly.)

Tuesday 17 th December	Little Roots and School Christmas Lunch Children can wear Christmas jumpers if they wish.
Wednesday 18 th December	Free Festive Family Film event and Governors Raffle Draw 3.30pm – 4.45pm (Little Roots children must be accompanied by an adult – Mulled Wine and Refreshments will be available and the Governors raffle draw will take place in the during this event)
Thursday 19 th December	Little Roots children finish at 1pm for Christmas Break
Monday 6 th January	Back to Little Roots
Wednesday 15 th January 2020	Primary School Application Deadline



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:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Jess** and **Maddy** for enthusing everyone with the film making on the school trip while maintaining a mature and sensible manner.

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Hazel** for always being a helpful and polite member of the class and for showing amazing **Amethyst Power** by patiently helping others to learn in paired and group work.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Corey** for showing amazing **Ruby Power** to his friends: for shining with perseverance and **Sapphire Power** in learning his times tables and words for the Nativity.

Little Roots

Awarded to **Willow** for her amazing concentration and listening skills; for setting a good example to the younger children.

Our Wonderful Writing Wizards of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Billy** for including lots of detail in your 'Thank you' letter to Dr. Brunning. You learnt a lot on Friday and have recalled it well.

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Reece** for staying focused with super **Sapphire Power** to produce a truly blood-curdling description. Well done!

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Jessica** for showing '**Sapphire Stickability Power**' and now beginning to show her cursive letters in her own writing.

Our Magical Maths Magicians of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Ben** for expanding your mental maths ability and learning your fractions, decimals and percentages sheet off by heart.

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Jessica** for wonderful **Sapphire** focus and **Ruby** kindness working on column subtraction and helping others to understand.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Mara-Rose** for persevering and showing great **Emerald Power** in being able to use super-mathematical words to describe different quantities of objects.

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

Head teacher availability for next week

Mr Heath will be available in Stoke on Monday and Wednesday and will be at Crocombe on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday. Mrs Vincent our senior teacher will be available as usual.

SENCO availability for next week

Emma will be available in Stoke on Friday and in Crocombe on Wednesday.

Little Roots News

Our Topic

Our topic continues to be Christmas until the end of this term. We have a wide range of Christmas activities planned.

Our trip to The Paint Room

We had a lovely time on our trip to The Paint Room with our friends in Reception. The children really enjoyed their festive story and figure decorating.

Little Roots Christmas Party

We are very much looking forward to our Christmas Party on Monday 9th December from 1.30pm – 3pm. We hope the children are looking forward to it as much as we are.

Little Roots Christmas Jumper Day

Little Roots Christmas Jumper Day takes place on **Thursday 12th December**. Children can wear their Christmas Jumper for a donation of £1 for 'Save the Children'.

Little Roots and School Christmas Nativity Performance

The festive time of year has come!

We are putting on TWO shows this year:

The **first** is for all of the community of Stoke St Michael and surrounding villages. This is 2pm on Thursday 12th December! If you have any neighbours or elderly friends in the village please do encourage them to join us. There will be a festive café open from 1.30pm serving drinks and snacks.

The **second** is a special show just for our Little Roots and school families; this will start at 6pm on the same day. We ask that children come back to school between 5.15pm and 5.30pm on the night in order to get changed and have a warm up. The festive café will be open from 5.15pm.

Little Roots and School Christmas Lunch

This year Christmas Lunch will take place on Tuesday 17th December in the school hall. Please complete the order forms and return to the school office with payment as soon as possible. Children are welcome to wear their Christmas Jumpers if they wish.

30 Hours Funding

Please check your codes to ensure you receive your funding entitlement.

Primary School Admissions 2020

Applications are now open for admissions for Reception children in 2020. The deadline for applications is Wednesday 15th January 2020. For more information or to apply please visit: www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/apply-to-start-school

Acorns Class News

Acorns have been busy rehearsing for their Nativity play. As some of you may have noticed we and the children have invited our local community to join us for the afternoon show at 2pm, doors open at 1:30. The children have been discussing the elderly in our community as of late and are keen to show kindness but please be reassured the children will be supervised at all times. You are all very welcome to the afternoon show also. The evening show will begin at 6pm, however we would like all children delivered to the school between 5:15 and 5:30 in order to change and warm up. We will have a donations box in the entrance with a suggested donation of £1 and of course the Christmas café! Please come along and enjoy a heartwarming celebration of Christmas with the children and at the same time help raise money for important resources needed within the school. Many thanks!



Oaks Class News

Oak Class are certainly getting into the spirit of Christmas as they are actively involved in the School Nativity and have been busy rehearsing their lines and songs for next Thursday!

It was lovely to see so many of parents last week to discuss the children's progress. I hope you got a chance to see the photos of our music/science lesson where the children learnt about vibrations and pitch through playing drums, recorders and guitar strings. Thank you for making the time to come and share feedback about their learning – it's so important to have your support!

I'm sure that you heard all about our school trip to the Avalon Marshes Centre. It was a fantastic learning experience! Mrs Foord and I were so pleased with the children's enthusiasm, interest and behaviour as well as their wonderful efforts with dressing up. Thank you for your help! The children enjoyed the picture trail, coin striking and other activities but were particularly enthusiastic about their film making.

This week, in between rehearsals, we've continued with our writing of wishing tales in English and column subtraction in maths. Whilst, in our topic work we have been writing in runes and investigating more details about Viking longships. They have certainly enjoyed our Viking topic! Christmas themed activities will begin to predominate from next week so I hope you have a great weekend before 'Christmas fever' really takes hold!

Owls Class

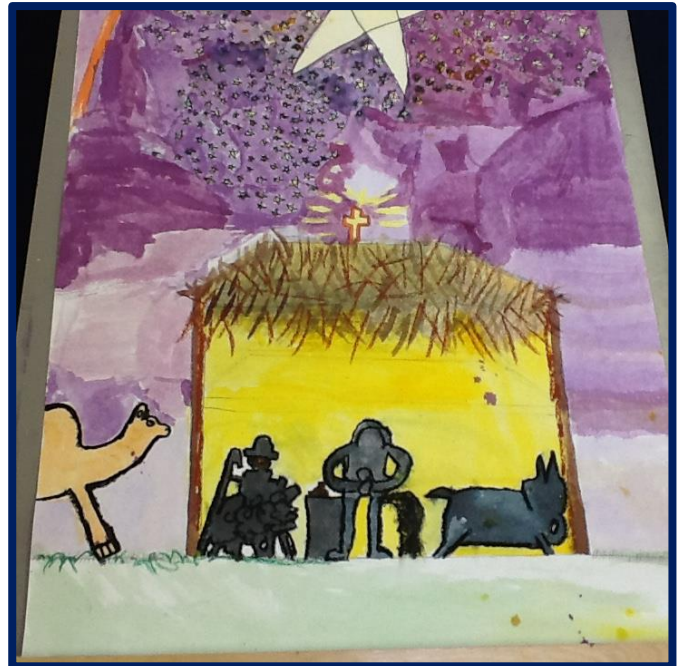
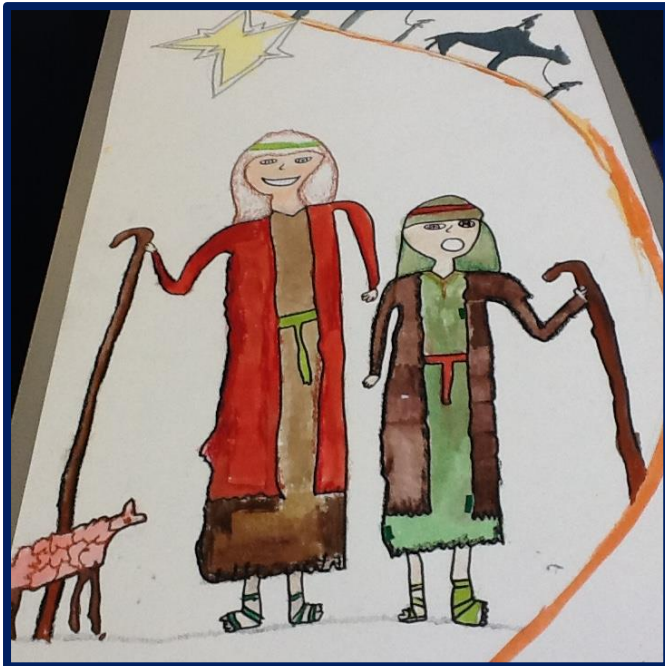
What a wonderful school trip! Thank you to Mr Clarke for the recommendation to 'Avalon Marshes Heritage Centre' and thank you to all of the parents and carers who helped with the Anglo Saxon and Viking dressing up. "It felt like we actually went back in time." said some of the pupils. The children really enjoyed the day, exploring the site, lunching in the Anglo-Saxon feasting hall and sailing the very rough ocean on the Viking trading ship! The role play, organised activities and film making was great fun and educational for all.

Owl Class have followed up the trip by writing thank you letters to Dr. Brunning. Some of the letters are quite passionate and promise to return with families – so watch out!



In maths, pupils have been revising their knowledge of factors, prime numbers and multiples, with an emphasis on mental maths. We have also been learning about 'commutativity'. Why not ask your son/daughter?

The Christmas banners are finished! See below for a sneak peek. If you would like to see the entire artwork, then please go to the church where they will be on display shortly.



Have a super weekend.

Owl Class.

Stoke St Michael School News

Reception and Little Roots trip to The Paint Room

Our Reception children had a lovely time on their trip to The Paint Room with their friends from Little Roots. The children really enjoyed their festive story and figure decorating.



Christmas Nativity Performance

The festive time of year has come!
We are putting on TWO shows this year:

The **first** is for all of the community of Stoke St Michael and surrounding villages. This is 2pm on Thursday 12th December! If you have any neighbours or elderly friends in the village please do encourage them to join us. There will be a festive café open from 1.30pm serving drinks and snacks.

The **second** is a special show just for our Little Roots and school families; this will start at 6pm on the same day. We ask that children come back to school between 5.15pm and 5.30pm on the night in order to get changed and have a warm up. The festive café will be open from 5.15pm.

Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

Our Christmas Jumper Day takes place on **Friday 13th December**. Children can wear their Christmas Jumper for a donation of £1 for 'Save the Children'.

Christmas Lunch and Christmas Craft Day

This year our Christmas Lunch will take place on Tuesday 17th December. Please complete the order form and return to the school office with payment (if required) as soon as possible. Children are welcome to wear their Christmas Jumpers if they wish.

The children will also be making Christmas Crafts. Their festive creations will be available to purchase in the School Hall after at the end of the school day to help raise money for new resources for your child's classroom. **We ask that parents collect their children from the hall at the end of the school day.**

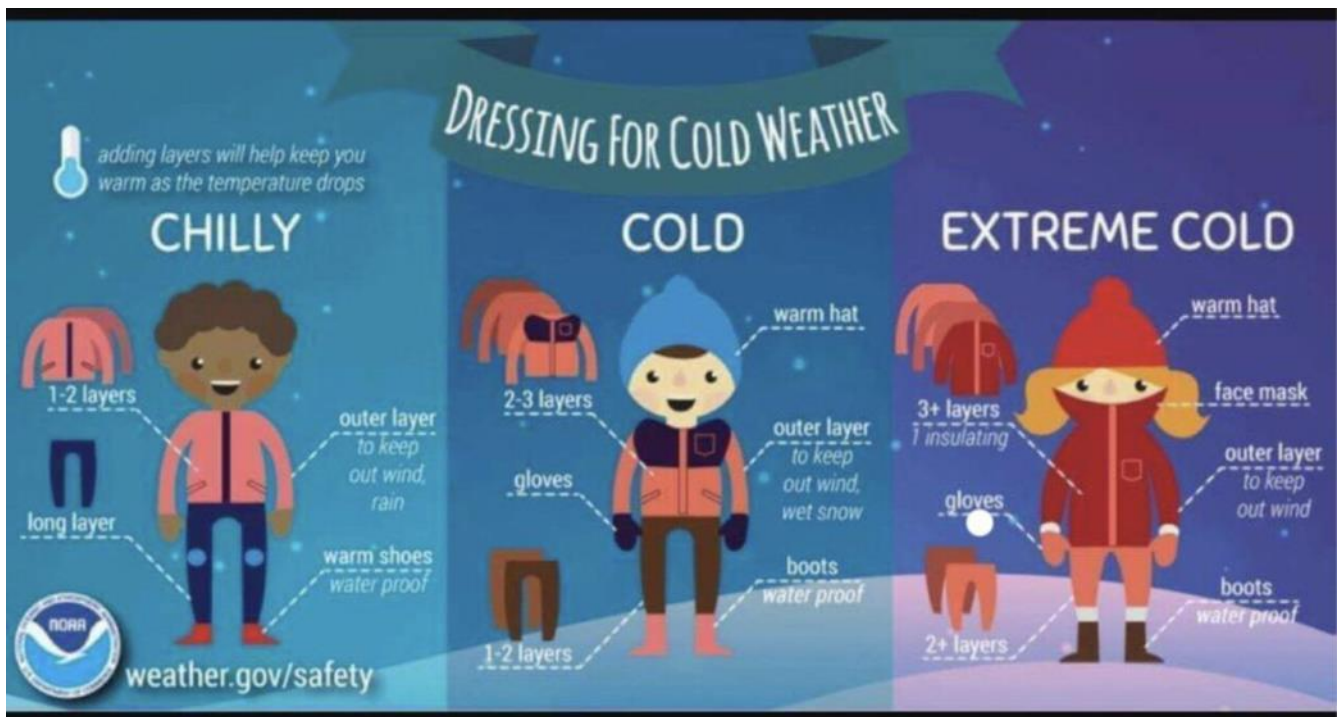
Volunteers

We would love some more volunteers next term in Acorns, Oaks and Owls to listen to the children read. If you are able to spare any time please contact the school office. Free training will be provided.

Forest School

When we return after the Christmas Holiday's our Year 5 and 6 children along with two children from Year 4 will be attending Forest School from Thursday 9th January – Thursday 13th February. (Year 4 parents or carers have been notified directly. Year 5 and 6 parents please complete the attached permission slip and return to the school office as soon as possible)

We are anticipating a particularly harsh winter this year and would recommend lots of layers of clothing to ensure the children keep warm, especially a thermal base layer. (These can be purchased from most supermarkets and sports or camping shops.) Please see the guidance below to ensure the children are dressed appropriately for forest school in the cold and extreme cold weather. Thank you!



Nativity Costumes

We recently sent letters home requesting that Nativity costumes were brought into school for Monday 25th November. There are still some children who do not have their costumes in school. Please ensure your child's costume is in school by Monday 9th December for our dress rehearsal. Please ensure your child's costume is named and placed on a named hanger and/or in a named bag.

If you have lost the original letter or if you did not receive a letter about a costume for your child or even if you are unable to provide the requested costume. Please speak to a member of Acorns Team as soon as possible. Thank you for your support!

Whole School Festive Cake Sale

On Wednesday 18th December we will be holding a whole school cake sale. The children will be baking their cakes and festive treats during the school day and these will be on sale at the end of the day in the school hall to help raise money for new resources for your child's classroom. **We ask that you collect your children from the hall after school.** If you would like to donate cakes or festive treats these would be very much appreciated!

School Christmas Party and Buffet Lunch

On Thursday 19th December we will be having a 'Christmas Party' Day and 'Party Food Style' buffet lunch. We encourage the children to dress up in their festive party wear for lots of Christmassy fun and games.

For those children who would normally have a hot meal from New Manor Farm Kitchen on a Thursday (Week 1 of the menu) if your child would like a buffet lunch you do not need to do anything we will order this automatically. If you would like to cancel your child's food order and send a packed lunch from home please let us know as soon as possible.

However if your child would normally have a packed lunch but would like to have a buffet lunch on Thursday 19th December please contact the school office as soon as possible. Thank you!

Donations for our Christmas Nativity Performance

If anyone has any white or silvery material/sheets, cardboard/large pieces of card or twinkly lights they would be willing to donate we would be very grateful!

Governor News

Dear Parents/Carers

Raffle

Please note that your children have taken home a sheet of raffle tickets for the Christmas raffle. This will take place on the 18th of December at the Stoke festive family film event. Tickets cost £1 and there are lots of wonderful prizes (beauty vouchers, jewellery, confectionary, toys, vouchers for take-aways etc, fruit & veg vouchers, gifts etc). All proceeds are for the schools in our federation and will be used to purchase much needed resources and improve the learning environment for our children.

Silent Auction

In addition to the raffle, we are also holding our Christmas **silent auction**. Full details of prizes are listed on the Stoke, Shepton, Croscombe and Wells Facebook (FB) pages where you can access the auction and place your bid. If you don't have access to FB and wish to bid, please contact nmorris@educ.somerset.gov.uk, **advising the number, item name, the amount you wish to bid, your name and either a contact phone number or email**) There will be over 16 prizes worth between £40 and £350. The bidding opens on Monday December 2nd and closes midnight Dec 11th..... Winning bidders will be contacted for payment and handover of their fabulous auction item by 13th December 2019. Items listed so far (including number and name) are:

- #1 **Caravan Holiday in Devon (4 people)**
- #2 **Christmas Hamper (From Mary Cadogan, BBC Good Food)**

- #3 **Starling Murmuration Guided Walk**
- #4 **1 Year Pass for Kilver Court Gardens**
- #5 **Archery session for 4 people**
- #6 **One hours sports massage**
- #7 **Bitterns on the Somerset Levels – Guided Walk**
- #8 **2 nights' accommodation Parsonage Farm Crocombe**
- #9 **Digital Jukebox Hire**
- #10 **Creative Writing Workshop**
- #11 **Somerset Levels wildlife guided walk**
- #12 **3 nights self-catering for 4 people in Crocombe**
- #13 **Sunday lunch for 2 at The George, Crocombe**
- #14 **Caving Experience (6-8 adults)**

We would appreciate your full support for these events. The child who sells the highest number of raffle tickets will be awarded a prize.

Best regards

Governor Fundraising Committee: Nicola Morris, Charlotte Corbett, Simon Clarke & Tanya Tyreman

PTA News

Free Family Festive Film Night and Governors Raffle Draw

On Wednesday 18th December after the children's cake sale we will be holding a festive family film event where the Governors raffle draw will take place.

Showing: The Snowman

When a young boy starts making a snowman on Christmas, it magically comes to life. The snowman then takes him on a journey to meet Santa Claus.

Parents and Carers are invited to stay and enjoy this festive film and the Governors raffle draw. (Little Roots children must be accompanied by an adult) There will be Mulled Wine, Mince Pies and Tea and Coffee available for a donation towards resources for our school.

As usual there will be a £1.50 snack selection and drink available for the children.

£1.50 per child. Includes snack selection and a drink (popcorn/crisps, chocolate biscuit/sweets and a drink.)

Please note: If your child(ren) would like to purchase extra snacks or drinks there will be an additional charge.

Drink - 50p

Popcorn - 30p

Crisps - 30p

Chocolate Biscuit - 20p

Sweets - 10p

If you are unable to stay with your child (Acorns, Oaks and Owls children only) please complete the permission slip below and return to the school office.

Many thanks

Steve Heath
Headteacher

Festive Family Film Event

I\We give permission for to attend Festive Family Film Event on Wednesday 18th December 2019.

- I will pick my child(ren) up at 4.45pm.
- My child(ren) will walk home at 4.45pm. (Applicable to years 5 & 6 only)

Signed:
(Parent\Carer)

Forest School Sessions Year 5 and 6

I/We give permission for to travel by mini-bus to weekly Forest School sessions from Thursday 9th January – Thursday 13th February at the Earth Science Centre with Holly and Hawthorn Forest School.

Signed