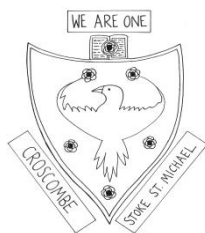




Stoke St Michael County Primary School Little Roots @ Stoke St Michael

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Radstock
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Headteacher: Mr Stephen Heath

07 February 2020

Dear Parent/carer

Dates for the diary

Week Commencing Monday 13th January - Monday 10 th February (Every Monday)	After School Invasion Games Club (Years 1 - 6) Monday 13 th January - Monday 10 th February £2 per child, per session to be paid termly in advance (Maximum of 15 children)
Tuesday 14 th January 2020 - Tuesday 4 th February 2020 (Every Tuesday)	Celebration Assembly All welcome! Please join us at 2.45pm (Refreshments available)
Tuesday 14 th January 2020 - Tuesday 11 th February 2020 (Every Tuesday)	Miss Foord's Year 6 Marvellous Maths Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Thursday 9 th January 2020 - Thursday 13 th February 2020 (Every Thursday)	Holly and Hawthorn Forest School for Years 5 and 6 + two Year 4 children (Year 4 Parents/Carers have been contacted directly)
Wednesday 12th February 2020	Celebration Assembly and Mr Heath's Leaving Assembly please join us at 2.30pm All Welcome! (Refreshments available)
Thursday 13 th February 2020	Year 5 Tater Day at Whitstone School. (Transport and lunch provided)
Friday 14th February 2020	INSET Day
Monday 17 th February 2020 - Friday 21 st February 2020	Half Term Break
Monday 24 th February 2020	Back to School

Tuesday 25 th February 2020 - Tuesday 31 st March 2020 (Every Tuesday)	Miss Foord's Year 6 Marvellous Maths Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Tuesday 25 th February 2020 - Tuesday 31 st March 2020 (Every Tuesday)	Mrs Rice's Recorder Club for Years 2 - 6. 3.15pm - 4.15pm (Maximum of 8 children)
Wednesday 26 th February 2020 - Wednesday 1 st April 2020 (Every Wednesday)	Green Gait Gardening Club for Years 1-6 with Paul Green and Gordon Gait 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Thursday 27 th February 2020 - Thursday 2 nd April 2020 (Every Thursday)	Holly and Hawthorn Forest School for Years 3 and Year 4
Friday 28 th February 2020	Acorns Trip to Radstock Museum for a Victorian school child experience.
Thursday 5 th March 2020	World Book Day - Children are encouraged to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book for a £1 donation towards World Book Day!

Little Roots Dates for the diary

Thursday 13 th February 2020	INSET day
Monday 17 th February 2020 - Friday 21 st February 2020	Half Term Break
Monday 24 th February 2020	Back to Little Roots
Thursday 5 th March 2020 (Monday 2 nd March - Thursday 5 th March)	World Book Day - Children are encouraged to come to Little Roots dressed as a character from their favourite book all this week for a £1 donation towards World Book Day!



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 **Libby** for using your **Emerald Power** to be brave and give helpful explanations to the whole class. You are also great at setting a wonderful example of being kind. Thank you for using your **Ruby Power** too!

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Elsie** for improved **Amethyst Power** in working and playing well with others this past week! Well done!

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Jack I** for using '**Super Sapphire Stickability**' to show improved independence and focus in his lessons especially writing.

Little Roots

Awarded to **Willow** for her great concentration skills and pencil control, mark making her rainbow and her knowledge of how and why a rainbow appears.

Our Wonderful Writing Wizards of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Ben** for using your **Emerald Power** to experiment with new vocabulary in your persuasive writing. Your advertisement is very convincing!

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Jessica** for '**Super Sapphire Power**' in staying focused on and contributing to our Talk 4 Writing text mapping. Super ideas!

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Maggie** for showing '**Super Sapphire Stickability**' in persevering to use grammar in her writing, such as commas in a list, resulting in clear sentences that are beautifully and cursively written.

Our Magical Maths Magicians of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Bertie** for using your **Sapphire Power** to stay focused and stick with some challenging learning. You are getting better and better at adding and subtracting fractions.

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Lily C** for wonderful **Diamond Power** in her Maths organisation and layout as well as challenging herself further on the carpet!

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Bethan** for persevering and showing '**Super Sapphire Stickability**' when using concrete apparatus to represent petals on a flower.

Head teacher availability for next week

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

SENCO availability for next week

Emma will be available in Stoke on Wednesday afternoon and in Croscombe on Wednesday morning.

Little Roots News

Our Topic

Next week our focus will be people who are special to us. We will be talking about people who are special to us as well as our feelings and emotions. Children are welcome to bring along something that is special to them. We will also be making Valentines cards as well as lots of other activities.

Our Story

Next week we will be focusing on *Monkey Puzzle* by Julia Donaldson and Axel Scheffler.

The story revolves around a child-like monkey who has lost her mother in the deep, thick, hot jungle. The monkey is then assisted to find her mother by a butterfly, who tries to think of whereabouts in the jungle she might be. However, the butterfly keeps suggesting incorrect animals as the monkey's mother, including an elephant, a snake, a spider, a parrot, a frog and a bat. Eventually, the butterfly and the monkey find the monkey's Dad, who says, "Come, little monkey, come, come, come, it's time I took you home to..." and then shortly after another call, Butterfly finds the monkey's lost mother and the monkey is happy again, as well as the butterfly.

Parent Questionnaire

We will be sending home parent questionnaires and yellow home-link forms this week to give you the opportunity to relay any information that you would like to notify us about.

Wellies

Please ensure all children have a named pair of wellies in Little Roots for outdoor play.

World Book Day

This year World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5th March. To celebrate World Book Day and to help raise money, we would like to encourage the children to come to Little Roots dressed as a character from their favourite book from Monday 2nd March to Thursday 5th March for a £1 donation towards the World Book Day charity.

Please bring along your favourite book to share with everyone!

Acorns News

In addition to learning about the very significant Queen Victoria, Acorns have been busy identifying similarities and differences between what it was like to be a Victorian child and their own childhood. We have been finding out about the past by looking at photographs and evaluating real Victorian toys. The children have been intrigued to find out that Victorian children from wealthy families would play with trains and dolls but poor Victorian children had to make their own toys.

Next week we are going to learn through Design and Technology. We are going to make many prototypes of toys that Victorian children perhaps would have made themselves and finally we will develop our own designs to realise. In order for us to continue to find out about toys through product analysis we are welcoming the children to bring in old and new toys of interest for us all to evaluate and to leave safely on our display for the week. Pop-up, mechanical and 'old' toys are of particular interest. Many thanks!

On Wednesday's Pre School and Reception children get together for an environmental sounds session.

We have been exploring lots of sounds in our sensory garden and experimenting with the sounds different objects can make. The children have demonstrated their favourite sounds to their friends and we have been playing our traditional nursery rhymes softly and loudly.

This week we have enjoyed a music session with Jenny James from Music with Mummy. The children had lots of fun with their mummies and their younger brothers and sisters. We investigated different types of light source from candles and starlight to electricity. We sang along to both new and familiar songs and covered musical concepts such as start and stop, fast and slow, high and low and long and short.





Oaks News

What an exciting time Oaks are having with our efforts towards the Make the Sunshine show! This week the children have been demonstrating their creative talents in both our tiger making workshop and our drama rehearsal. Clare Barr, visited the school on Wednesday and helped Oaks to make giant tiger paws and head out of papier mache (glue and ripped newspaper everywhere!) and the body, tail and legs out of painted material. Clare was impressed with how well Oaks were able to focus and produce some great parts for the tiger.

Our drama rehearsal with David Reakes went very well on Thursday afternoon, with the children developing their acting skills as clowns. David commented that he loved working with Oaks as they 'gave so much!' We are sending home scripts with the children who have returned forms to say that they will be taking part on the night and also to those who have not yet replied. Please have a read through with your child so that they are familiar with the scene. We will be allocating the parts for the ringmaster, acrobats, clowns etc next week. We very much hope that the majority of our 16 children will be able to take part on the night. So please do return your form if you haven't already.

In science this week, Oaks enjoyed investigating electrical circuits and I was so impressed with their enthusiasm and curiosity which led to some super scientific thinking about what happens to the light bulb if we add more batteries into our circuit. In maths, our learning has been focused on translating maths arrays into multiplication calculations for 2 digit numbers by 1 digit numbers and using our maths resources to support understanding. Whilst in English, the children have been learning the rules for writing dialogue and then applying it to their writing.

With only one more week to go before the half term break, there is still lots to keep us busy! Thank you for your continued support you're your child's homework and learning times tables at home. Have a wonderful weekend!



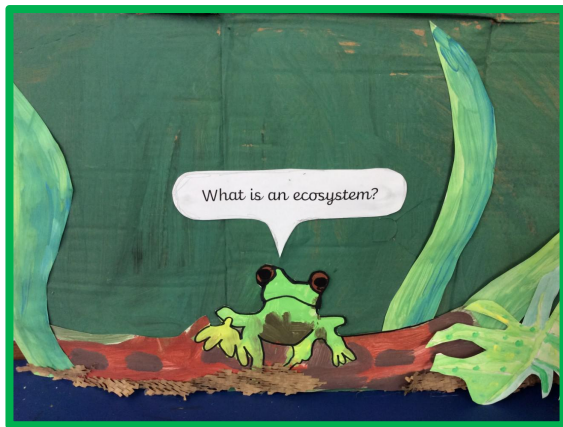
Owls News

This week, in Owl Class, the children have started using their ICT skills to organise their persuasive writing into a brochure format. With jaguars and scarlet macaws in the background the holiday advertisements are beginning to look very convincing. (Unfortunately not convincing enough for a school trip destination!) As well as this, preparations for a debate for and against deforestation are underway. At the moment, everyone seems to be on the same side but we shall see...

In maths, Year 5 have started the unit on measuring perimeter and area while Year 6 are coming to the end of their unit on fractions. Both year groups are continuing to love their maths lessons.

Below are some photographs of the Henri Rousseau style artwork that attempts to show the depth of the rainforest that we also hear about in our class reading book 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. Today, we will use our art skills again when we will begin making leaving cards for Mr Heath to wish him good luck in the future.

Have a great weekend. Owl Class.



Miss Foord's Marvellous Year 6 Maths Club

Miss Foord will be holding our free Year 6 'Marvellous Maths' club on Tuesday afternoons from Tuesday 25TH February – Tuesday 31st March. This club is an extra tuition club that focuses on the key arithmetic skills that Year 6 children need in order to access their Year 6 problem solving lessons in school. The Marvellous Maths club will be held in school every Tuesday from 3:15pm – 4:15pm. Please ensure that you sign the permission slip below which also indicates whether you would like your child to walk home alone or be collected at the later time of 4:15pm and return it to the office. We really look forward to tutoring your child in order to help prepare them for secondary school Maths.

Stoke St Michael School News

Forest School

When we return after Half Term our Year 3 and 4 children will be attending Forest School from Thursday 27th February – Thursday 2nd April. Please complete the attached permission slip and return to the school office as soon as possible.

We 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 chilly, cold and extreme cold weather. Thank you!



World Book Day

This year World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5th March. To celebrate World Book Day and to help raise money, we would like to encourage the children to come to school dressed as a character from their favourite book for a £1 donation towards the World Book Day charity. Please bring along your favourite book to share with everyone!

Paediatric First Aid Training

We have been offered an additional 5 places on our paediatric first aid course at a reduced rate for parents who wish to gain the skills and the qualification of paediatric first aid. This is a 12 hour course over a period of 3 sessions in the school hall, the first takes place on Friday 14th February in the from 9am - 3.30pm. **(Including half an hour for lunch. You will need to provide your own lunch).** The second session is on Monday 2nd March from 3.30pm - 6.30pm and the third and final session is on Monday 16th March from 3.30pm - 6.30pm. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity there will be a cost of £30.00. Please pop into the school office as soon as possible with payment to secure your booking.

Coronavirus

Advice from The Department of Education

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal. We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above.

What action you can take

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus.

Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

PTA News

Upcoming Events

Monday 24th February Pancake Day – after school, stay and take part in pancake decorating. More details to follow soon!

Friday 20th March Mother's Day – Inviting all mums, aunts and grandmas to join us for Afternoon Tea.

Friday 27th March Easter Bingo – A fun night for all the family! Fabulous prizes! With the best caller in the West!



Friday 3rd April Easter Egg Hunt – After school, start your Easter holiday in style with our fabulous Easter Egg hunt.

Many thanks

Steve Heath
Headteacher

Miss Foord's Yr 6 Maths Club

I\We give permission for to attend Year 6 Marvellous Maths club.

- I will pick my child(ren) up at 4.15pm.
- My child(ren) will walk home.

Signed:
(Parent\Carer)

Forest School Sessions Year 3 and 4

I/We give permission for to travel by mini-bus to weekly Forest School sessions from Thursday 27th February – Thursday 2nd April at the Earth Science Centre with Holly and Hawthorn Forest School.

Signed
(Parent/Carer)