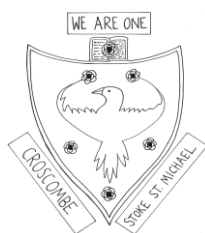




Stoke St Michael County Primary School

Little Roots @ Stoke St Michael

Moonshill Road
Stoke St Michael
Radstock
BA3 5LG



School Office: 01749 840470

Little Roots @ Stoke: 07565 931718

E-mail: stoke-st-michael@educ.somerset.gov.uk



Headteacher: Mr Stephen Heath

8 November 2019

Dear Parent/carer

Dates for the diary

Week Commencing Monday 4th November - Monday 16 th December (Term 1) (Every Monday)	Dance 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
Thursday 12 th September – Thursday 5 th December (Every Thursday)	Holly and Hawthorn Forest School for Years 1 and 2
Wednesday 13 th November	INSET Day (Little Roots, Acorns, Oaks and Owls)
Friday 15 th November	Mufti (Wear Spots) for Children in Need Acorns, Oaks and Owls
Tuesday 19 th November	Acorns Class trip to Earth Science Centre @ Wainwright & Co Ltd
Thursday 28 th November	Year 5 Primary Dance Festival at Whitstone School (Letter to follow shortly)
Friday 29 th November	Christmas Bingo! Doors open at 6.30pm for eyes down at 7pm

Monday 2 nd December	NHS Somerset SAINT Flu Vaccination Reception children – Yr 6
Wednesday 4 th December	Christmas Pantomime at Croscombe Village Hall (Further details to follow shortly)
Wednesday 4 th December	Reception and Little Roots trip to The Paint Room @ Westfield
Thursday 12 th December	Acorns Nativity with 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)
Wednesday 15 th January 2020	Primary School Application Deadline



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 **Emily** for

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Hope** for excellent **Ruby Power** in being a super helper in Oaks Class and a good friend to anyone in need.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Mara-Rose** for showing amazing independent **Diamond Power**.

Little Roots

Awarded **Delilah** for persevering with her fine motor skills. Well done Delilah!

Rainbow Readers:

50 Rainbow Reads

Maggie, Hywel and Olivia T have all been awarded their 50 Rainbow reads certificate.

Merit Badges

Jayden, Logan, Hywel and Olivia T are half way to obtaining their **Yellow** Merit Badges

Writhlington Leisure - Sports Team Winners:

Each term our PE instructors from Writhlington Leisure choose a sports team from Acorns and a sports team from Oaks/Owls from their PE sessions as overall winners for teamwork, co-operation and leadership.

Our winners from last term are:

Acorns

Jack L, Charlie-Rose, Theo, Logan, Mara-Rose and Jayden

Oaks/Owls

Thomas, Maddie, Hope, Jude, Florrie and Lily S

Head teacher availability for next week

Mr Heath will be available in Stoke on Tuesday and Thursday and will be at Croscombe on Monday 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 Croscombe on Wednesday.

Little Roots Dates for the diary

Wednesday 13th November	INSET Day (Little Roots, Acorns, Oaks and Owls)
Thursday 14th November	Mufti (Wear Spots) for Children in Need Little Roots
Thursday 12 th December	Christmas Jumper Day for Save the Children (Please bring £1 to wear your Christmas Jumper to help support Save the Children)
Wednesday 15 th January 2020	Primary School Application Deadline

Children in Need

On Thursday 14th November for Little Roots and Friday 15th November for Acorns, Oaks and Owls the children can come dressed in Mufti for Children in Need. We are asking that they wear something spotty to show their support in exchange for bringing in Silver/Gold coins to 'cover' our outline of Pudsey Bear.

School Lunches

We are a healthy school and encourage our parents and pupils to think about the benefits of a healthy, balanced diet. Children are encouraged to bring a snack to eat at break time and we ask that parents provide healthy snacks such as fruit, bread sticks, cereal bars etc. Children in

Reception and KS1 (Acorns) receive free fruit and free milk at school which they eat and drink each day at break time. Milk is also available at lunch time to all pupils who order a hot meal.

All of Reception and KS1 children are also entitled to a free school meal. However we encourage all of our parents to take up the option of a hot meal provided by New Manor Farm Kitchen. If your child/children prefer to bring a packed lunch from home, please ensure this a healthy, balanced lunch.

Please find attached New Manor Farm Kitchen's Autumn Term Menu. If your child/children would like a hot meal especially as we enter into the colder months, please complete the attached menu and return to the school office one week in advance of when you would like to starting to order for your child/children. This is a three week rolling menu which will last for the whole of the autumn term. Once completed menus are returned, we will continue to order lunch for your child/children on the day(s) you have specified unless you tell us otherwise.

We have to order lunches from New Manor Farm Kitchen one week in advance and will need to receive payment at least one week in advance. If we do not receive payment for your child's lunches will have to cancel their order until any outstanding balance is settled in full.

Please enquire at the school office if you think your child/children are eligible for free school meals whichever Key Stage they are in as this entitles them to additional funding known as Pupil Premium.

Little Roots News

Our Topic

Next week we will be looking at Carnivals and Fiesta's including Remembrance Day. We will be focusing on the story 'Pudsey's Great Fundraiser'. If you have any favourite stories at home that your child would like to share, please bring them in to share with us.

Wellies

Please ensure all children have a named pair of wellies for outdoor play. We will be encouraging the children to out on their own coats and wellies.

Change of INSET date

PLEASE TAKE NOTE: Little Roots INSET day has now been changed to co-inside with the main schools INSET day. This will now take place on the Wednesday 13th of November instead of the Monday – please see dates above!

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

Acorns have had a busy start to the term. We have been investigating in our African village and discovering what is the same and what is different between Stoke St Michael and a village in Kenya. We have tried tropical fruit including PAPAYA! Some interesting description came

from this session and it created an excitable atmosphere when we introduced our new 'Talk for Writing' text which is an amusing African journey tale called: 'The Papaya That Spoke!'

In Maths Year 2 have been using part, part whole models and apparatus to help them write four inverse operations per model. For example:

$$7 + 5 = 12$$

$$5 + 7 = 12$$

$$12 - 7 = 5$$

$$12 - 5 = 7$$

It wasn't always easy making sure we began with the correct number. More practice at home with this would greatly help. Merits for children who bring some in to show me!

Year 1 have been learning about ordinal numbers (1st 2nd 3rd etc.) and linking these to the date we write each day and to sports day. They have ordered rosettes and pictorial models of numbers and began practising writing them down in the correct order.

Reception have been continuing their 'sorting' topic in maths and linking this to the tropical fruit they have been tasting.

A fun week! Well done Acorns!

Oaks

Oaks Class are already working hard in Autumn 2 and have grasped our Viking Topic with relish! We are looking at how Anglo Saxons were initially taken by surprise by the Vikings before Alfred the Great rallied his army to defend Wessex. Our Shield Maiden text is helping us to look at developing characterisation in our writing and Oaks Class have enjoyed acting out the beginning of the story so far.

Year 3 are getting to grips with column addition and subtraction whilst Year 4 are learning to read thermometers to aid their understanding of negative numbers. Our Science topic this term is 'sound' and we have been very lucky to be able to borrow some African drums from another school which have arrived today so next week could be noisy! Have a good weekend and keep up the great reading!

Owls

After an exciting end to last term with a time travelling play, cake sale and pumpkin prizes, we are having a calm start to the new term. Everybody has settled back into their learning with a great, focused attitude and enthusiasm for our Vicious Vikings topic – Part II.

Drama, in the hall, has got us in the mood to write diary entries, in the first person, for an Anglo-Saxon slave to the Vikings. This diary writing is a gripping read so far; I can't wait until they are finished.

In maths, Year 6 have been learning to divide large numbers by a two digit number. After sneakily scanning the pages ahead, two pupils discovered that there are six strategies for this! Meanwhile, Year 5 have been busy learning strategies to add large numbers.

To round off the week, we will be walking to the local church where we're looking forward to seeing displays of arts and crafts that have been designed and made to commemorate the fallen.

With a school trip planned to the Avalon Marshes and Christmas on the horizon, this term is promising to be yet another busy and exciting adventure.

Governor News

Dear all, we will be holding our annual silent auction and raffle to raise funds for our schools during November and December. The first prize will be revealed w/c November 11th; the bidding will open on Dec 2nd and end on the evening of December 12th. Winners will be notified on December 13th. There are always great prizes for the auction and you can either bid via Facebook or by directly emailing Nicola Morris (Governor) - details will be provided nearer the time.

We will also be holding a Christmas raffle week commencing December 9th further details to follow.

Support we need from you: Your children will be given tickets to bring home in early November and as usual there will be a prize for the child who has sold the most tickets - please support them with purchasing and persuading relatives and friends to buy! Additionally any raffle or auction item donations would be gratefully received. Raffle items: Cakes, bottles of wine, hampers, chocolates, luxury biscuits, luxury toiletries, cinema tickets, vouchers etc would be marvellous! Auction items: Typically popular items which receive high bids are - Holiday homes/Caravan Holiday's, Objects d'Art, Experiences money can't buy, Memberships (Longleat, Kilver Court, Bishop's Palace etc.) and tickets to events or venues etc. If you have useful contacts please pass them to Tanya Tyreman (Governor) via email: toconnor@educsomerset.gov.uk.

PTA News

Christmas Bingo Donations

The PTA has been busy organising this year's Christmas Bingo, to help fundraise towards essential resources for the school. In keeping with tradition we will be making a luxurious hamper for our Grand prize as well as some smaller hampers for other prizes. We would like to request a donation from parents. To ensure we have a variety of produce and not too many duplicates, we would like to request specific items from each class as shown below. (Please note: If you have more than one child in the school, we do not expect a donation from each child just choose an item from any class category below to donate.)

Little Roots & Acorns Class – Savoury (For example crackers, crisps, cheeses, soups, jams, chutneys etc)

Oaks Class – Chocolatey Goodies (For example chocolate biscuits, chocolate sweets, chocolate cakes etc)

Owls Class – Cards, Wrapping Paper, Gift Tags, Decorations etc

Please bring any donations to the school office by Friday, 15th November.

Many thanks for your continued support!

Christmas Bingo

We will be holding our annual Christmas Bingo on Friday 29th November in the school hall. Doors open at 6.30pm for eyes down at 7pm. As usual there will be a raffle, bar and refreshments available. We hope to see you all there!

Have a fantastic half-term break everyone!

Many thanks

Steve Heath
Headteacher