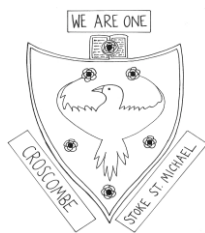




# Stoke St Michael County Primary School Little Roots @ Stoke St Michael

Moonshill Road  
Stoke St Michael  
Radstock  
BA3 5LG



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Headteacher: Mr Stephen Heath

11 October 2019

Dear Parent/carer

## Dates for the diary

Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> September - Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October (Every Tuesday)	Celebration Assembly <b>All welcome! Please join us at 2.45pm</b> (Refreshments available)
<b>Tuesday (DATE TBC)</b>	Green Gait Gardening Club – <b>Start Date TBC</b> 3.15pm – 4.15pm
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> September – Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> December (Every Thursday)	Holly and Hawthorn Forest School for Years 1 and 2
Week Commencing Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September - Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October ( <b>Term 1</b> ) (Every Monday)	Athletics After School Club Starts (Years 1 - 6) Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> September – Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October <b>£2 per child, per session to be paid termly in advance</b> (Maximum of 15 children)
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Acorns Class and Celebration Assembly. <b>Please join us at 2.30pm.</b>
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Superhero themed Scarecrow Trail around the village. 12pm – 4pm
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Oaks and Owls Class and Celebration Assembly. <b>Please join us at 2.30pm.</b>
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	Owls class cake sale – Cake donations welcome!
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Break up for Half Term</b>

Thursday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Secondary School Application Deadline
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Back to School</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual Pupil Photographs 9am <b>(Sibling Photographs can be taken at 8.30am)</b>
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day (School Only)
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	NHS Somerset SAINT Flu Vaccination Reception children – Yr 6
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Acorns Nativity with Oaks and Owls choir. <b>Afternoon performance 2pm</b> <b>Evening performance 6pm</b>



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 **Lola** for always working so well in pairs and in groups. You are great at using your **Topaz** power. Also, you always have a go at answering questions in class – great **Emerald** power!

#### **Oaks Class w/c 01/10/2019**

Awarded to **Elsie** for showing **Emerald** power by challenging herself in her learning for both Maths and English.

#### **Oaks Class w/c 08/10/2019**

Awarded to **George** for showing **Emerald** power by challenging himself to remember his Harvest Poem lines without reading them.

#### **Acorns Class**

Awarded to **Dorothy** for showing dazzling **Diamond** power by always being ready to learn and excellent **Ruby** power for showing kindness to everyone in Acorns Class. You are such a superstar!

### **Little Roots w/c 01/09/2019**

Awarded to **Jasper** for amazing sharing and caring at Little Roots.

### **Little Roots w/c 08/10/2019**

Awarded to **Luke** for being really kind and caring to his friends.

## **Our Wonderful Writing Wizards of the Week:**

### **Owls Class**

Awarded to **Ben** for great fluent writing. You have included conjunctions, modal verbs and description. Your **Sapphire** power is improving.

### **Oaks Class w/c 01/10/2019**

Awarded to **Roman** for showing super **Sapphire** power by focusing well in his Monster Tale writing.

### **Oaks Class w/c 08/10/2019**

Awarded to **Aeson** for showing super **Emerald** power in editing his harvest poem.

### **Acorns Class**

Awarded to **Logan** for persevering using **Sapphire** power to independently use finger spaces and full stops to write clearer sentences.

## **Our Magical Maths Magicians of the Week:**

### **Owls Class**

Awarded to **Emily** for fabulous **Emerald** power in maths when you are always ready to have a go and happy to change mistakes.

### **Oaks Class w/c 01/10/2019**

Awarded to **Lily C** for showing **Emerald** power in challenging herself with her Maths to think above and beyond.

### **Oaks Class w/c 08/10/2019**

Awarded to **Hope** for showing super Sapphire power with her excellent focus on counting numbers under twenty

### **Acorns Class**

Awarded to **Jayden** for using **Sapphire** power. You understand the place value of 1's and 10's at a deeper level.

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 next week in Stoke on Wednesday and Friday and will be at Croscombe on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. Mrs Vincent, our senior teacher will be available as usual.

## SENCO availability for next week

Emma will be available next week in Stoke on Wednesday and will be at Croscombe on Friday.

## Little Roots Dates for the diary

Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Halloween Disco 6pm – 8pm in the School Hall.
Sunday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	PTA Superhero themed Scarecrow trail around the village. 12pm – 4pm
Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Break up for Half Term</b>
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	<b>Back to Pre-School</b>
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> November	Individual Pupil Photographs 9am <b>(Sibling Photographs can be taken at 8.30am)</b>
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	INSET Day (Little Roots Only)
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2020	Primary School Application Deadline

## Harvest Festival

We would like to say a very big thank you for all the wonderful donations of produce and to everyone who came along to our Harvest Assembly. We hope you enjoyed it! Following the Church auction of the produce the school received a fantastic £130 which we have decided to donate to Macmillan Cancer Support.



## Little Roots News

### Our Topic

Our topic is autumn. We have lots of autumnal activities planned. If you have any objects at home that are autumnal or related to autumn please bring them in to share with us. We will also be looking at the story of 'The Little Red Hen'.

## **Henry Bear**

We will be introducing Henry Bear this week, Henry is our Pre-School bear who love to come and have an adventure at home with you. All children will have an opportunity to take Henry home to spend the week with them. Please add details of any adventures you have into Henry's 'Special Book'. We look forward to seeing where Henry goes on his adventures!

## **Wellies**

Please bring a named pair of wellies for your child/children into pre-school that can be left here for when we play and explore outside.

## **30 Hours Funding**

Please check and update your funding if necessary every 3 months to ensure we receive the correct funding for your child/children.

## **Primary School Admissions 2020**

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

## **Acorns Class News**

Acorns have been busily learning their Talk for Writing text based on Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We have been measuring with porridge and without prompt the children have designed a house in the woods in our small world area. We have been learning some super sentence openers to help with the retelling of this and will be walking through the woods next week to inspire some descriptive language and to see whether the bears are still out and about. We have begun to document our oral retelling actions using photos attached. Children are building on their learning of number and have been using greater than and less than language whilst linking this to comparison symbols to show their understanding of place value using pictorial representations of number. Charlie crocodile always eats the bigger number! J

The 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' text has come home in their spelling folders for you to help and enjoy with your children at home. Spellings are very informal at this stage, we ask that the children practise them at home firstly on the sheet provided and/or one another piece of paper or whiteboard to further build confidence. We then encourage use of these spellings in their writing and congratulate them when we see them used independently and spelled correctly. Maths home learning will begin after half term once the spelling routine has been embedded fully.

There are so many unnamed P.E. items already in lost property. Please ensure labelling of ALL items in order for clothes to be returned to rightful owners easily and quickly. Lost property is kept in the corridor by the hall, you are welcome to come in to find lost items. Please also ensure P.E kits are in school on a Monday and a Friday. Children also need a spare pair of socks available in their P.E. kits. Many thanks.

Thank you for your support with the Harvest Assembly, the children were super and made us all feel very proud.



*Reception children practising their Talk for Writing*



**'First'**



**'Suddenly'**



**'The End'**

**Oaks Class News**

It's been another busy week in Oaks Class! In English the children have been learning a set of instructions on How to trap a dragon – an essential skill for everyone! They have come up with some excellent ideas for pictures and actions in our talk for writing approach including a little dance for the dragon.

In Maths the children have now moved on from place value to our next unit on addition and subtraction and are beginning to grasp the different ways that we can add or subtract using mental partitioning, base 10 equipment and number lines.

The children were delighted to observe the effect of light and dark conditions on their partner's eyes in science this week. They designed some amazing sunglasses in response to their brief for sun safety items.

In PHSE, we focused on happiness and what makes us happy. The children shared their own experiences and reflected on times when they had been especially happy. Day trips and ice cream were particularly popular!

On Thursday afternoon, we had a super school trip to watch Paddleboat Theatre Company perform 'Clare Hollinghurst - The Scoop of the Century'. The performance was very exciting, funny and educational. We all learnt a lot about Clare's discovery of the invasion of Poland in WW2 and her amazing career as a journalist. The children were a credit to the school, sitting beautifully and participating confidently! Well done Oaks Class!

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Have a great weekend.

### 'Clare Hollingsworth The Scoop of The Century'



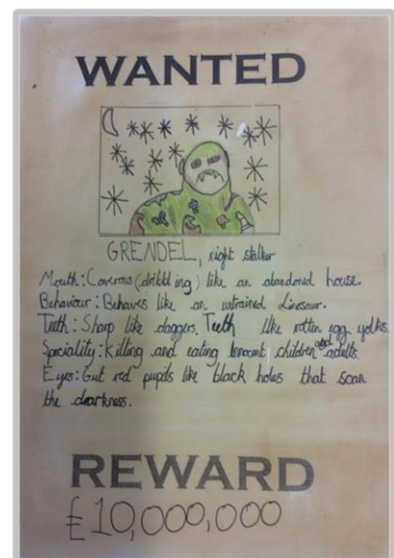
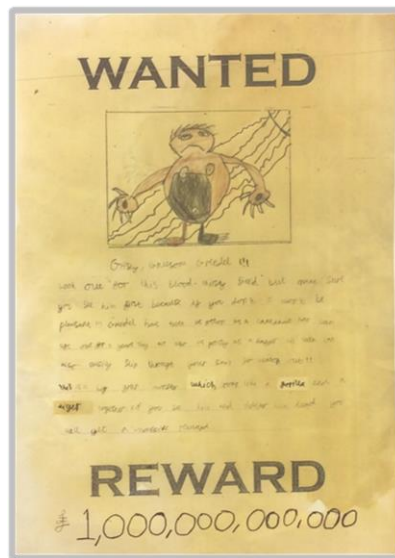
## Owls Class News

Hear, and listen well, my friends, and I will tell you a tale...

Is one version of the beginning of 'Beowulf'. It is the interpretation of Michael Morpurgo and the one which we have been reading in class. As we come to the end of this famous, historic story, Owl Class is now writing their own dramatic, epic legends.

...so gather 'round dear friends and companions and wait patiently for this tale to be told. ...  
Next week!

Meanwhile, please have a look at some 'Wanted' posters depicting the evil villain of this uncomfortable saga.



Also, in preparation for the 'hot write', children have been practising some of the text, with actions, off by heart. More confident members of the class were able to perform their stories in assembly – well done children; you did so well.

In maths, Year 6 has been learning a range of strategies to multiply four digit numbers by a one digit number. Children are so good at using their Amethyst and Topaz power when they support each other with great gusto during these lessons. Year 5, meanwhile, has been using their knowledge of Roman Numerals to read and write dates and answer word problems.

This week saw the completion of the Saxon style buckles and brooches. They look amazing. Also amazing, are the two harvest banners that all the children of Stoke St Michael helped with. While some of our older pupils drew tractors and wheat etc. everyone else was able to have a go at the autumn colour painting. It was such a lovely opportunity for the children from different classes to get together and the finished products are on display in the local church for anyone who would like to see them.

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Another speedy week of fun learning has passed but we look forward to the next one. Happy weekend everyone.

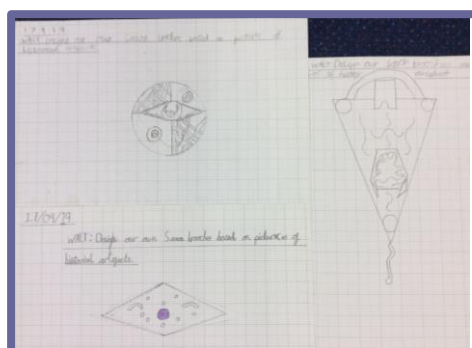
From Owl Class.

Here are the Saxon style buckles and brooches.

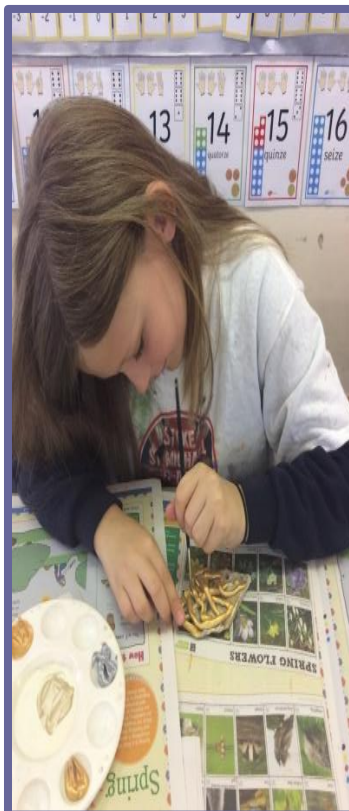
The first step was observing pictures of real ones in the British museum.

After that, children drew their own designs.

Modelling techniques were used to manipulate the clay then once the craft work was dry; children painted them in gold and silver then finally added jewels.







## Secondary School Admissions 2020

Applications are now open for admissions for Year 6 children starting secondary school in 2020. The deadline for applications is Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019. For more information or to apply please visit: [www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/starting-at-a-secondary-or-upper-school-in-september](http://www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/starting-at-a-secondary-or-upper-school-in-september)

## Lunches

Please find attached the new lunch menu, which start after the half term break. There are new choices available. Please return your child/children's order to the school office with payment by Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> October to enable the order to be sent to the kitchen.

## Finance

We are looking into a new online way of ordering and paying for lunches, school trips and clubs making the school a 'cashless school' from the New Year. Further details to follow shortly...

## SEND News

The latest edition of the SEND Newsletter has been uploaded to the school website. The Newsletter shares some information about Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Some of the highlights are listed below:

### **Awards joy for Avalon at National SEND Awards**

Congratulations to Avalon School in Street - they've scooped the 'Excellence in Special Schools Award'.

### **Right support, right place, right time!**

We've produced the SEND Effective Support Working Guidelines for practitioners working with children and young people.

### **Changing places**

The Short Breaks Team and Parent Carer Forum are busy mapping changing places in Somerset and the surrounding area.

Check out the website if you would like to know more...

## PTA News

### **Halloween Disco**

As you know we recently received some very sad news of bereavement within our school and PTA family. Paul Stott sadly passed away after a long and difficult fight. His funeral takes place on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> October. In light of this we are postponing our Halloween Disco in support of our Chair, Lucy and their children Lily and Willow. We will confirm the new date shortly. We know that everyone will join us in sending our heartfelt sympathies to the family and wish to support them at this difficult time.

### **Superhero Scarecrow Trail**

Our Superhero Themed Scarecrow trail around the village takes place on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October. 12pm - 4pm. The Knatchbull Arms have very kindly let us have use of a table in the pub where you can come to sign up for the trail on the day for £1 per person. We will also be selling a selection of cakes and sweets. Drinks will be available to purchase from the pub. We hope lots of you can join in and create a 'Super Scarecrow' to be found on our trail. The cost of scarecrow entry is £5. Please contact Hannah in the school office on 01749 840470 to book your scarecrow in. Please come along and support this fantastic event!

## **Christmas Bingo**

We will be holding our annual Christmas Bingo on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> 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!

Many thanks

Steve Heath  
Headteacher