



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

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Headteacher: Mr Stephen Heath

17 October 2019

Dear Parent/carer

Dates for the diary

Tuesday 10 th September - Tuesday 22 nd October (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
Week Commencing Monday 16 th September - Monday 21 st October (Term 1) (Every Monday)	Athletics After School Club Starts (Years 1 - 6) Monday 16 th September – Monday 21 st October £2 per child, per session to be paid termly in advance (Maximum of 15 children)
Sunday 20 th October	PTA Superhero themed Scarecrow Trail around the village. 12pm – 4pm
Tuesday 22 nd October	Oaks and Owls Class and Celebration Assembly. Please join us at 2.30pm.
Thursday 24 th October	HALLOWEEN DISCO 6PM – 8PM All Welcome!
Friday 25 th October	Owls class cake sale – Cake donations welcome!
Friday 25 th October	Break up for Half Term
Thursday 31 st October	Secondary School Application Deadline

Monday 4 th November	Back to School
Tuesday 5 th November	Individual Pupil Photographs 9am (Sibling Photographs can be taken at 8.30am in the School Hall)
Friday 8 th November	BAGS 2 SCHOOL Collections. (Please ensure all bags for donation are at school for collection by 9am)
Wednesday 13 th November	INSET Day (School Only)
Monday 2 nd December	NHS Somerset SAINT Flu Vaccination Reception children – Yr 6
Thursday 12 th December	Acorns Nativity with Oaks and Owls choir. Afternoon performance 2pm Evening performance 6pm



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 **Phoebe** 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

Awarded to **Lily S** for showing **Incredible Emerald Power** in persevering with her learning this past week.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Theo** for showing **Super Emerald Power** by setting a good example to his class friends in avoiding monster distractions and persevering in all that he does.

Little Roots

Awarded **Mason** for growing in confidence alongside his peers and confidently counting to 10.

Our Wonderful Writing Wizards of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Inara** for using your **Emerald Power** to have a go at writing complex sentences in your Beowulf story. Fantastic writing!

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Olivia** for showing **Super Emerald Power** in persevering with her set of instructions this week.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Mayci** for showing '**Engaged Brave Emerald Power**' in showing fabulous ideas for oral story-telling and expression in her voice.

Our Magical Maths Magicians of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Dylan** for using your **Amethyst Power** when multiplying four digit numbers by two digit numbers. Great focus.

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Émile** for **Super Ruby Power** by supporting others with their learning when rounding 4-digit numbers.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Charlie-Rose** for showing **stickability Sapphire Power** and now being able to independently compare numbers to ten using Charlie crocodile comparison signs.

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

SENCO availability for next week

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

Little Roots Dates for the diary

Sunday 20 th October	PTA Superhero themed Scarecrow trail around the village. 12pm – 4pm
Thursday 24 th October	Break up for Half Term
Thursday 24 th October	HALLOWEEN DISCO 6PM – 8PM All Welcome!
Monday 4 th November	Back to Pre-School
Tuesday 5 th November	Individual Pupil Photographs 9am (Sibling Photographs can be taken at

	8.30am in the School Hall)
Monday 11 th November	INSET Day (Little Roots Only)
Wednesday 15 th January 2020	Primary School Application Deadline

Little Roots News

Our Topic

Our Topic next week will be Halloween. There will be lots of exciting Halloween activities on offer and the children are invited to come in Halloween costumes all next week. Although we don't wear masks as these can be frightening for some children.

Linking to Halloween we will be sharing the well-known story by Julia Donaldson – 'Room on the Broom'. The children will have a chance to join in and help act out the story. If you have any special stories at home please bring them in to share with us.

Outstanding Fees

There are a few outstanding fees this term please pay directly to the school office ASAP. If you are unsure of your outstanding balance please do check with us and we can confirm the amount as the school office does not hold this information.

Scarecrow Trail

Don't forget our PTA Super Scarecrow Trail around the village this Sunday 20th October. Little Roots have made a scarecrow so be sure to come along and see it.

INSET Day

Due to having just one INSET day at the start of this term, we are due to have our next. This takes place on Monday 11th November where we will be doing many preparation activities including a Talk for Writing session, where we will be planning to link in with the school oral story telling scheme.

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 performed their Talk for Writing 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' beautifully in their class assembly this week, the oral story telling version and the lovely song that they sang so sweetly. Reception have been sequencing the stages of the story using pictures to describe language, such as 'small' chair, and the elements of the Talk for Writing. All of the children have begun to work on their ideas for characterisation and story setting for their own cumulative tale and I look forward to sharing their finished pieces with you.

In Maths we are coming to an end with our learning on the place value of tens and ones which has been a long unit but it is surprising how much goes into learning place value.

These skills will support them in their next Maths topic of addition and subtraction. Reception have begun their new Maths topic of sequencing and sorting.

The children have been learning more about the location of Stoke St Michael in our world and have drawn maps and keys to help them understand the names of places and countries in the United Kingdom.

Today, we have sent home our new 'Flying with Phonics and Hand-Writing' flash card books. The children are prepped ready to show you how they use them. There is a parent note at the beginning to explain further how to use these along-side home reading time. Happy Reading!

The children would like to send their thoughts and love to their lovely friends Lily and Willow Stott for tomorrow, our thoughts are with you.

Oaks Class News

Congratulations to our certificate winners! As we head towards the end of this half term, it becomes harder for the children to stay focused with tiredness creeping in. Nevertheless, they are doing so well and I'm very impressed with their enthusiasm for the 'Dragon instructions'! We look forward to showing you some of their learning at assembly next week.

Our Anglo Saxon model houses are continuing to take shape with the children showing good understanding of colour mixing and stippling effects. The Anglo Saxons used natural materials and the children have been able to demonstrate this knowledge in their colour palette choices.

Our scientific investigations this week have involved testing different materials for 'blackout' properties to see which one would make a good pair of curtains. The children have learned the difference between Opaque, translucent and transparent and can now sort objects into these categories. The children have also observed that light travels in a straight line by trying to guide torch beams through pin holes in black card. Tricky!

Year 3 are beginning to develop mathematical thinking by understanding that there can be several different ways to work out an answer to an addition or subtraction problem as we continue to work with 3 -digit numbers, whilst Year 4 are becoming more confident with using a number line to aid their ability to round a number to the nearest 1,000.

With renewed emphasis on reading, the children have embraced our guided reading sessions and are challenging themselves with their reading, phonics and comprehension. Please do continue to support their reading at home. Very soon they will be reaching 50 rainbow reads, if they haven't got there already!!

Finally, Oaks Class have been especially supportive of Lily S this week and we all join together in sending a special class hug to her on Friday.

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 31st 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

Lunches

Please return your child/children's order for after half term to the school office with payment by Wednesday 23rd 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...

PTA News

Halloween Disco

The Halloween Disco takes place on Thursday 24th October in the School Hall. 6pm – 8pm. DJ Pete is back to get you in the groove and give everyone a chance to win some SWEETIES! There are prizes up for grabs for the best fancy dress costume in age ranges 2-4yrs, 5-7yrs and 8-11yrs. As usual there will be a bar and refreshments available and a chance to win some fantastic prizes in the raffle. The cost of entry is £1.50 per person or £5 per family. All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Superhero Scarecrow Trail

Don't forget our Superhero Themed Scarecrow trail around the village takes place on Sunday 20th 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 or stokepta@yahoo.com to book your scarecrow in. Please come along and support this fantastic event!

Christmas card designs

All of the children's wonderful Christmas card designs have been sent home today. If you would like to place an order please ensure your order form and full payment are returned to the school office by Wednesday 23rd October, Many thanks!

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!

Many thanks

Steve Heath
Headteacher