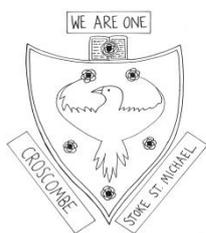




Stoke St Michael County Primary School Little Roots @ Stoke St Michael

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Acting Headteacher: Mrs M Vincent

13 March 2020

Dear Parent/carer

Dates for the diary

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 22 nd 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
Monday 2 nd March 2020 - Monday 30 th March 2020 (Every Monday)	After School Football Club (Years 1 - 6) Monday 2 nd March - Monday 30 th March £2 per child, per session to be paid termly in advance (Maximum of 15 children)
Tuesday 3 rd March 2020 - Tuesday 31 st March 2020 (Every Tuesday)	Celebration Assembly All welcome! Please join us at 2.45pm (Refreshments available)
Tuesday 3 rd March 2020 - Tuesday 31 st March 2020 (Every Tuesday)	Miss Foord's Year 6 Marvellous Maths Club 3.15pm - 4.15pm
Wednesday 4 th March 2020 - Wednesday 22 nd April (Every Wednesday before Easter Break and first Wednesday back after)	Reception and Little Roots children Music with Mummy (Term 1) 10.00am (45 minutes) (Please note change of start time)
Friday 20 th March 2020	PTA Mothers Day Afternoon Tea 3.15pm
Wednesday 25 th March from 1.30pm - 3pm	Free Themed Stay and Play Session for Pre-School Aged Children in Acorns Class (All Welcome)

Friday 27 th March 2020	Easter Bingo in the School Hall (Doors open at 6.30pm, Eyes down for 7pm)
Friday 3 rd April 2020	Finish for Easter Break at 1.30pm
Friday 3 rd April 2020	PTA Easter Egg Hunt 1.30pm £1 entry
Monday 20 th April 2020	Back to School
Friday 8 th May 2020	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 20 th May from 1.30pm - 3pm	Free Themed Stay and Play Session for Pre- School Aged Children in Acorns Class (All Welcome)

Little Roots Dates for the diary

Wednesday 4 th March 2020 - Wednesday 22 nd April (Every Wednesday before Easter Break and first Wednesday back after)	Reception and Little Roots children Music with Mummy (Term 1) 10.00am (45 minutes) (Please note change of start time)
Friday 20 th March 2020	PTA Mothers Day Afternoon Tea 3.15pm
Wednesday 25 th March from 1.30pm - 3pm	Free Themed Stay and Play Session for Pre- School Aged Children in Acorns Class (All Welcome)
Friday 27 th March 2020	Easter Bingo in the School Hall (Doors open at 6.30pm, Eyes down for 7pm)
Thursday 2 nd April 2020	Finish for Easter Break at 1.00pm
Thursday April 2nd 2020	PTA Easter Egg Hunt taking place during session. £1 entry
Monday 20 th April 2020	Back to Little Roots
Friday 8 th May 2020	Bank Holiday
Wednesday 20 th May from 1.30pm - 3pm	Free Themed Stay and Play Session for Pre- School Aged Children in Acorns Class (All Welcome)



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** for using **Ruby Power** to support your friends with their learning, despite nobody asking you to do this. Furthermore, you are really stretching your brain and coming up with some great answers to class questions!

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Lily S** for always showing amazing **Ruby Power** in being a good friend and a helpful member of Oaks Class!

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Mara-Rose** for showing such a positive attitude to her learning and finding ways to improve in all areas.

Little Roots

Awarded to **Billy H** for his amazing ability to answer 'How?' and 'Why?' questions about how plants grow and what they need to grow.

Our Wonderful Writing Wizards of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Dylan** for using your **Sapphire Power** to stay focused on your great book review. You love your reading and this shows in your thoughtful writing about your favourite book - The Secret Seven!!

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Roman** for **Super Sapphire focus** in English to produce some much improved descriptive writing for the suspense genre!

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Jayden** for showing **Super Sapphire Power** when using his best handwriting skills to identify and write high frequency words as well as words containing digraphs 'au' and 'aw'; and using **Emerald Power** to put them into sentences.

Our Magical Maths Magicians of the Week:

Owls Class

Awarded to **Maddy** for using your **Emerald Power** to face new challenges in Maths. You are great at using your logical thinking brain and testing out your strategies.

Oaks Class

Awarded to **Hazel** for **Excellent Emerald Power** in challenging herself to think of alternative ways to solve multiplication and division problems.

Acorns Class

Awarded to **Olivia** showing amazing **Emerald Power** when representing different values using coins and for showing lots of **Ruby Power** in helping her friends understand too.

The Sportsmanship Cup

Awarded to **Maddy** and **Phoebe** for helping the younger children understand how to play football so they could join in with the games at play times.

SENCO availability for next week

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

Little Roots News

Our Topic

Next week we will be developing our 'self health and care skills'. We will be encouraging the children to put on their own coats, shoes and wellies. We will also be learning about the importance of washing our hands and how to wash them the correctly as well as making some special cards for Mothering Sunday.

Our Story

We will focusing on the story 'My Mum' by Anthony Browne which is all about how amazing Mum is!

Acorns News

Acorns have been busy finishing their learning about the Victorians this week. The children have been able to share their knowledge of their experience as a Victorian at the Museum of Radstock and link it to their investigations of Victorian pictures from the past and modern pictures from now.

Reception children have been telling funny stories about animals in order to learn about the part, part, whole model in Maths. They have also been learning to include digraphs in their spellings; now being sounding and blending specialists.

Year 1 have been problem solving with numbers to 20 and Year 2 have been learning how multiplication works. In addition they have all had a fabulous sports relief day. Acorns participated in an outdoors sporty Maths lesson using timers and counting.

Oaks News

It's been a quieter week for Oaks after the excitement of Friday's performance and we have been able to focus on writing a class story: Adventure on Wild Mountain. It's a mysterious tale with intrigue and suspense! Ask your child to tell you the story so far. Will they scare you?

In maths, the children are getting to grips with division, thinking about visual representation to show sharing and groups. Learning the language of maths is key to their understanding. How many groups? How many in each group? How can we partition a number to make it easier to divide? These are the questions we've been working on this week.

The children have been fascinated by skeletons this week in Science and were able to identify a number of different animals from just their skeleton image. They enjoyed the matching activity and discussion about similarities with our human skeleton and sat and listened well to each other as some children presented their posters of famous scientists. Thank you for supporting your child with this research at home for British Science Week.

New language has also featured in RE as the children have been learning about the Jewish Festival of Yom Kippur and looking at how they prepare and celebrate for this important feast in their calendar. With Easter ahead of us we will be drawing comparisons with this Christian feast.

Forest School was particularly eventful yesterday with a sudden burst of wind, hail, rain and thunder, but Oaks coped well and were rewarded for their patience with pancakes cooked on the fire, once we were able to get it going again! Thank you for ensuring your child was well wrapped up this week and for also finding a sports kit for today's Sports Relief Mufti day. We had a dancer, netball player, gymnast, rugby player, tennis player amongst others!

Finally, a huge welcome to Maddison who has joined us in Year 3 this week. The children have shown super Ruby Power in being kind and considerate, showing her the routines and including her in their games. Well done Oaks! Maddison is already finding her feet as an active member of the class.

Owls News

This week began with an exciting visit from Bambi the therapy dog who came in for cuddles from all of the children in Key Stage I and II. What a lovely surprise! Continuing the book celebration from World Book Day, Owl Class completed their book reviews about stories that they have previously read. Making the book reviews into a book, is the next step!

In Science and French, we have been learning about a healthy life-style. Remember – "Lave toi les mains!"

Meanwhile, some of Key Stage II have had the wonderful experience of bringing to life Bee Batiks. This style of flour resist batik, re-uses plastic bottles to squeeze out the paste of flour and water in the shape of a bee – how beautiful! Our Bee pictures will then be on display in Shepton Mallet Library, along with artwork from other schools in our learning partnership in an effort to bring more art to our community.

In maths lessons, Year 6 have been multiplying decimals – a challenge they are achieving and enjoying. Year 5 have been dividing four digit numbers by two digit numbers which is stretching our minds but it is entertaining!

Finally, we are focusing on exercise and keeping healthy for 'Sports Relief' today. With a 'Wake and shake' session and an obstacle course planned, we finish the week with more fun. Newsletter by HRH Queen Elizabeth (**Lola**) and HRH Zara (Phillips) Tindall. (**Libby**)



Stoke St Michael School News

World Book Day

Our mufti together with Little Roots raised £35.10p for The World Book Charity. Thank you for your support!

Getting our kit on for Sports Relief

Thank you to all of the children coming to school this morning dressed as their favourite sports people for this year's Sport Relief campaign to use the power of sport to help raise money to tackle some of the world's biggest issues, including homelessness, protecting children's futures, fighting fear, violence and discrimination and championing mental health. We will let you know how much we raised next week.



Twinkl access for parent in the event of school closure due to Coronavirus

Dear Parent/Carer

As the Coronavirus spreads, we're aware that more schools are closing and pupils' learning is being disrupted. Parents, carers and teachers are looking for ways to ensure the continuity of education during school closures so that no children miss out on valuable learning time.

To support you during this period, Twinkl is offering every teacher in England access to all Twinkl resources with a One Month Ultimate Membership, totally free of charge. We're also extending this to every parent and carer in your school so your pupils can still have access to high-quality learning during any periods of disruption.

Setting this up is really easy to do - go to www.twinkl.co.uk/offer and enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS

At the moment it remains unknown if our school will be affected by closure. However, we urge all of our parents to go to the Twinkl website as soon as possible and sign up using the link above to ensure we can continue to support you and your child's learning in the event of a school closure.

We've also put together some helpful guidance to outline a few ideas for how you can support parents and carers during school closures, ensure high quality learning continues and support teachers, parents and carers to make the most from this offer of help.

It's easy to arrange access yourself through our website. If you do have any questions please get in touch with our TwinklCares team. As we are supporting people globally please bear in mind that we are receiving a large number of enquiries so please only get in touch if your enquiry is of an urgent nature at twinklcares@twinkl.co.uk

You can also visit our website - www.twinkl.co.uk

Our thoughts are with everyone affected by the Coronavirus outbreak and we hope that this will go some way towards helping.

Best wishes,
Jonathan Seaton
Twinkl CEO

Nicola and her therapy dog Bambi

Thank you to Nicola for coming to see us with Bambi, her therapy dog. The children were delighted to have a visitor in their assembly on Monday morning. Bambi then went to the classrooms where he showed and shared with the children who wanted to, a lot of love.



Great Big School Clean as part of Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean

This year our school has signed up to the Great Big School Clean 2020, the country's biggest mass-action environmental campaign. Which takes place from Friday 20th March until Monday 13th March which gives us an opportunity to Win £1,000 of Wilko products for our school.

When it comes to taking action on the environment, children and young people are leading the way and this is never more true than with the Great Big School Clean, part of Keep Britain Tidy's Great British Spring Clean.

Harnessing the passion of young people is key to making the massive difference we want to see. All of our individual actions can help to transform our country for the better, creating cleaner streets, parks and beaches, protecting our wildlife and, ultimately, stopping the tide of plastic that is doing so much damage to our oceans and marine life.

Our very own 'Eco Warriors'; Phoebe, Dylan and Libby have been championing this in our school for a while and encouraging all of our children to get involved with school litter picks and helping to ensure we are recycling as much of our waste as possible.

As part of the Big School Clean we will be holding litter picks at break times and lunch times around our school grounds everyday from Friday 20th March until we break up on Friday 3rd April.

Coronavirus Update

We receive daily updates from Public Health England about the impact of Coronavirus and the actions we should be taking in schools.

The current advice to schools is that they remain open and that all children and staff should attend as normal. The Department for Education has made it clear that schools should only close if directed to do so by Public Health England.

Please find attached a poster from Public Health England for your information.

Please be assured that The School will continue to monitor the advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education. If advice changes we will update our families as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support!

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:

This week...

Ofsted/CQC inspection update - you can still get involved

All this week we are being visited by inspectors from OFSTED (Office for Standards in Education) and the CQC (Care Quality Commission) who are assessing our SEND services - there's still a chance to get involved if you're a parent carer or young person.

COVID-19: Where can I get an easy-to-read guide?

If you're a parent carer of a young person or child with SEND you could probably do with some easy to understand info on Coronavirus/COVID-19.

Talented young musicians wanted

The National Open Youth Orchestra is looking for talented musicians 11-25 with special educational needs and/or a disability. Audition date is 31 March.

Improve your ability to communicate with pupils

If you're a teacher or classroom assistant looking to improve your communication skills there's a great opportunity coming up.

Have you checked out our Effective Support Document?

Everyone needs a bit of help sometimes – especially if you're a parent of a child or young person with special educational needs and/or a disability (SEND).

Please click the following link or copy and paste in to your browser

<https://choices.somerset.gov.uk/025/send-news/> If you would like to know more...

PTA News

Fundraising

With your help and the help of our wider village community we raised a fantastic £124.00 for our school with 'Bags 2 School'. As always a big thank you for your continued support!

Upcoming Events

Friday 20th March

Mother's Day – Inviting all mums, aunts and grandmas to join us for Afternoon Tea. Gift Bags are also available for £5 each. Please speak to a member of the PTA or the school office to order yours by Friday 13th March at 3.15pm. These will be distributed at the Afternoon Tea on Friday 20th March in the school hall.

Friday 27th March

Easter Bingo – A fun night for all the family!



Friday 3rd April

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

Many thanks

Melanie Vincent
Acting Head of School