

Croscombe C of E Primary School
Long Street Croscombe, Wells
Somerset, BA5 3QL
School Office: 01749 343114
croscombe@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Mr. Bill Moore, Co-Headteacher



Stoke St. Michael Primary School
Moonshill Road, Stoke St Michael,
Radstock, Somerset, BA3 5LG
School Office: 01749 840470
stoke-st-michael@educ.somerset.gov.uk
Mrs. Mel Vincent, Co-Headteacher

www.croscombestokefederation.co.uk

17th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

WELCOME BACK! We hope that you all had a fun summer and that you are feeling refreshed and ready for this new term.



Congratulations also to everyone for such a successful and calm return to school after the holidays. As lovely as it is to have a long break, it can also cause some anxiety for both parents and children when we return to school and new classes, new teachers, and getting up early! We are delighted with how well all of our children have settled in, especially our new Reception classes. Well done everyone.

Wrap Around Care



Don't forget that you can now book your children into Breakfast and After School clubs at both schools on ParentPay. Mr D and Sam at Croscombe, and Christa at Stoke do a range of fun activities with the children both before and after school. If you need any help booking then please contact the office.

Doodle Home Learning

We wanted to remind you that all of the children in our Federation have Doodle Accounts and would like to encourage you to use them with your child at home. To help with this, DoodleLearning are hosting free 20 minute parent webinars to help you make the most out of your child's Doodle subscription! These are being run at 8pm on 21st and 28th September. In the webinar, you will learn:

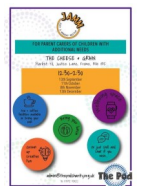
- How Doodle works
- What the programmes look like from a child's perspective
- How to use the Parent Dashboard and Parent Connect app to monitor and motivate their child
- How to get help with anything Doodle related



To join the webinar, please [visit this page](#) 5 minutes before the webinar start time and click on the link to join.

SEN Parents & Carers

JAMM (Just A Monday Meetup) is a lunchtime club for all SEN parents and carers. They are offering the opportunity for a FREE 15 min wellbeing treatment on a first come first served basis. They will also be doing a small craft activity but people are also free to bring their own e.g. knitting, sewing, drawing if they prefer. They also request that people bring lunch and, because of continuing Covid restrictions, booking is recommended by either emailing admin@thepodcharity.org.uk or ringing/texting 07592 501022. For more information please see the attached poster.



School Uniform

Thank you all for making such an effort with the children's school uniforms. They have started the term looking smart and ready to play an active part of our school communities. We ask that you ensure these high standards are maintained as we go forward in the term and that we consistently encourage our children to take pride in their appearance.



We also wanted to remind you that children with long hair must have their hair tied up neatly, with a plain band or clip (no bright colours or elaborate hair accessories) and that the children are not allowed to wear make-up, nail varnish, or jewellery other than small/stud earrings.

Be Smart Be Proud!

Sara Bannister
Co-Head Business & Premises
sbannister@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Let Your Light Shine



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COVID-19 Update

Here is a link to the latest COVID-19 guidance for parents: www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak

We recognise that the wearing of masks is not mandatory so there will be no expectation for parents to wear a face covering (unless you choose to) when waiting outside the school, but we request that you do wear one when entering the school building and if you are having a one-to-one conversation with a member of staff.

Food & Drink

We would like to take the opportunity as we start our new term to encourage you all to ensure that if your child has a packed lunch that it contains a balanced and healthy range of food. All of our children can also bring in a fruit or vegetable snack for breaktime, although our KS1 children (Reception—Yr2) do have one provided through the free government's School Fruit & Vegetable Scheme. Please also ensure that your children bring in their water bottles every day so that they can stay hydrated and ready to learn!



We have also noticed that some of our children are coming to school without having had breakfast. These children are then struggling to stay focused and alert for their morning classes so we would urge you to ensure that your children eat breakfast before they come to school in the morning. Thank you for your help with this!

Drop-off & Pick-Up

Thank you to all of you who have adjusted so well to our school start and end times. These are:



- **Gates open: 8.45am**
- **Gates close: 8.55pm**
- **Lessons begin: 9.00am**
- **School ends: 3.15pm**

We also wanted to remind you that there will be an **INSET day on 1st October 2021** and the school will be closed to all children.

PTA & FOCS

For all of our new parents we would like to introduce our wonderful PTA & FOCS. The PTA (Parent & Teacher Association) & FOCS (Friends of Croscombe School) play an active role in the daily life of our schools and we all benefit from the financial and practical support they offer. The chair of the PTA at Stoke is Lucy Stott and the FOCS at Croscombe is chaired by Shaun Horan.



The first joint event that they are helping out with is the 40 For The Federation! walk which is on course to raise an amazing amount of money for our Federation. At Stoke the PTA are also currently planning lots of fun events including some Halloween and Christmas fun as well as the bags2school collect at Stoke on 26th November 2021. For all new parents or those who have not yet had an opportunity to get involved with the PTA/FOCS we will keep you updated in our newsletters of upcoming events or you can visit the Facebook pages and our website.

Stick Insects!

At Stoke we have a very healthy (!) collection of stick insects... If anyone from either school would like to have some to take home please contact the office and we can arrange a time for you collect them. All you will need is a tank for them to live in and a supply of tasty bramble leaves!



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40 For The Federation!

With only a week to go to the Live Event on Saturday 25th and the end of the Virtual Event on Sunday 26th we wanted to let you know about some of our amazing walkers and how you can support them!



So far, we have raised a fantastic **£3722.00** for our schools and we have nearly 50 people taking part in both the virtual walk and the Live event on Saturday. They include many parents from both schools, as well as some of our wonderful pupils, and family and friends from around the globe. In fact, we have people walking and raising money for our schools in Switzerland, Australia, and Zimbabwe!! Walkers from our school communities include:

Croscombe

Nick Cramp: Live Event
Bill Moore: Live Event
Nicola Morris: Live Event
Richard & Caroline Morris: Virtual Event
Anna Hay: Live Event
Katharine Little: Live Event
Caroline Booth: Live Event
Rachel & Ben Summerhayes: Virtual Event

Stoke St Michael

Mel Vincent: Virtual Event
Charlotte & Lily Corbett: Virtual Event
Kelsey Todd: Live Event
Sarah Jenkins: Live Event
Matt Rice: Live Event
Kirsty Lanfear: Live Event
Rachel McEntee: Live Event
Jamie & Siobhan Cargill: Live Event
Rachel Clark: Live Event
Vicky Brett: Live Event
Craig Evans: Live Event
Steve Mynard: Live Event
David Richardson-Aitken: Virtual Event

We are also planning on having a cake stall at Croscombe school (checkpoint 3) to encourage visits from the village community and donations to the fund. **Any cake donations would be very welcome!** If you would like to sponsor any of the walkers please go to: <https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/40forthefederation>.

Finally, if anyone is free on Saturday and would like to come and support the event and these amazing people please feel free to join us:

- At the start line at Stoke School at 8am
- At Croscombe school between 2.30 - 5.30 - especially up Thrupe Lane (!) and
- At the finish line at Stoke School from about 4pm - 7pm!

They will certainly need cheering on so whistles, drums, and enthusiastic whooping will be most welcome!!

And Finally...

We hope you all have a restful weekend after our first full week back. Please do not hesitate to contact the schools if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for a really fantastic start to our Autumn Term 2021!

Bill Moore & Mel Vincent
Co- Head Teachers

WELCOME BACK!

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