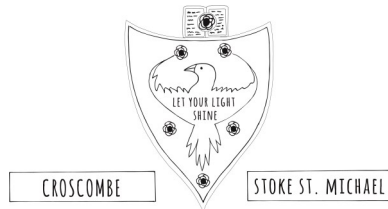


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Mrs. Mel Vincent, Co-Headteacher

www.croscombestokefederation.co.uk

10th December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Only one more school week to go. Thank you to everyone for your amazing support and co-operation as we near the end of a busy term!



We would like to remind you that we continue to follow Somerset County Council's Amber Covid-19 guidance for schools. All schools in Somerset have been directed to maintain the current restrictions until the end of term. We are very disappointed that we have not been able to allow parents in school for our festivities, however given the high number of cases in our area we know that this is the safest arrangement for the time being. We will let you know as soon as we can, of any restrictions that may be in place for the new year.

Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day

We have had wonderful Christmas Jumper Day today and have loved seeing all the bright festive jumpers that staff and pupils showed off. Thank you for your support of this excellent cause and for all of the money you have donated to Save the Children.



We also enjoyed our school Christmas lunch today. A big **THANK YOU** goes out to the PTA and FOCs, who provided Christmas crackers for all the children as well as festive favourites for the children to add to their fun experience. It has been a Christmas cracker of a day!

The Tail of The Charming Rat

On Monday this week both school's KS2 classes enjoyed a workshop with The Tall Tails Theatre Company; the same company who performed the recent outdoor pantomimes. The sessions were hugely enjoyed and provided a great experience for the pupils.



Our thanks to the actors and Make the Sunshine for helping to arrange and fund the performance and workshops. For more details on these wonderful experiences, please take a look at the latest news page on our website: www.croscombestokefederation.co.uk

Tips for Looking After Ourselves This Festive Season

While Christmas is often a joyous time of year, this may not always be the case for everyone and this family holiday can be a tricky time for some, for many different reasons. We have listed below some advice from www.mind.org.uk on how to look after yourself over the coming weeks:

- Be gentle, generous and patient with yourself
- Take some time out just for you
- Talk to others, tell them that you are struggling.



If you need some support over the holiday you can always reach out to Mindline Somerset.

There are also a number of apps designed to aid mental health such as Calm or NHS' distrAct. We have attached a flyer with more information and support. Please also remember that you can always reach out to us at the school either via the school email or through the class teachers or school office.

Nativities

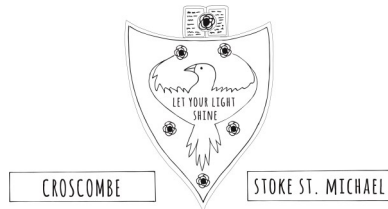
Both schools performed their Christmas Nativities this week and recordings were made so that you can all enjoy them too. We will ensure these are available for you to watch as soon as possible!



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Good bye & Good Luck

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs. Hunter in Chestnuts Class who has been covering for Mrs. Bloom whilst she is on maternity leave. We wish her all the very best and thank her for all of her hard work and enthusiasm over the past months!

We are also saying good bye to Miss Eaver in Bluebells Class who is starting an exciting new job closer to her home. We wish her all the very best and will miss her energy, her amazing Disney knowledge and her wonderful way with the children! Thank you and good luck with everything.



Carols & Cakes

On Sunday 5th, many of Stoke St Michael pupils joined the Swan Singers for a Carol Concert at St Michael & All Angels Church. We would like to say how proud we are of everyone who represented the school and the concert was a great success! A huge thank you must to The Swan Singers for inviting our pupils to perform with them as well as all of those who attend this festive event!



Croscombe Christmas Carols

Croscombe parents and carers are invited to a socially distanced carol service. This outdoor performance will take place on Wednesday 15th at 1.30pm on the school playing field. Please remember to provide the children with wellies in a bag ready to change into before they go up to the field to avoid soggy feet! We look forward to seeing you all there.

School Application Deadlines

Please remember that if your child is starting primary school next year the application deadline for school places is the 15th January 2022. For more information please visit the Somerset County Council website www.somerset.gov.uk/education-and-families/#starting-school or the Somerset School Admissions Facebook page [@Somersetschooladmission](https://www.facebook.com/Somersetschooladmission)



Facebook

We are pleased to announce that both schools have recently started new Facebook pages! We are planning to phase out the old public pages by the February half term. We will be posting updates including upcoming events at the schools, children's learning, pictures of their activities and any relevant information such as the weekly newsletters. Links to the new pages are below so make sure you 'like' us!

- www.facebook.com/croscombecofepriamry
- www.facebook.com/StokeStMichaelPrimary

End and Start of Term Dates

As mentioned in previous newsletters, the last day of term will be **Thursday 16th December at 3.15pm**. The new term will start on **Wednesday 5th January 2022 at 8.45am**.

All the very best for a wonderful weekend!

Mel Vincent & Bill Moore
Co- Head Teachers

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Dates for the Diary

Stoke St Michael	
Wednesday 15th December	Annual nasal flu vaccinations
Thursday 16th December	Last day of term! 3.15pm finish
Friday 17th December	School Closed for Queen's Platinum Jubilee bank holiday.
Friday 24th December	St Michael & All Angels Crib Service, 4pm
Saturday 25th December	St Michael & All Angels Family Christmas Communion Service, 10am
Wednesday 29th December	Deadline for booking school dinners for the 1st week of term.
Monday 3rd January	New Year's Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4th January	INSET Day
Wednesday 5th January	Start of the Spring term!
Thursday 13th January	Year 5 & 6 start Forest School!

Croscombe	
Saturday 11th December	Croscombe Village Market. 11am-2pm, Croscombe Village Hall.
Wednesday 15th December	Croscombe Carols - 1.30pm: Parents/Carers are invited to join pupils on the school field for Covid-safe Christmas Carols!
Thursday 16th December	Years 1, 2, 3 and 4's last swimming session
Thursday 16th December	Last day of term! 3.15pm finish
Friday 17th December	School Closed for Queen's Platinum Jubilee bank holiday.
Sunday 19th December	St Mary the Virgin, Croscombe, Carol Service 4pm
Saturday 25th December	St Mary the Virgin, Croscombe, Christmas Family Communion 11am
Wednesday 29th December	Deadline for booking school dinners for the 1st week of term.
Monday 3rd January	New Year's Day Bank Holiday
Tuesday 4th January	INSET Day
Wednesday 5th January	Start of the Spring term!
Wednesday 12th January	Year 3 & 4 start Forest School!

Dates for the Diary: Please note that we will do everything we can to ensure that the dates above are correct however, with rising cases of COVID-19 in our area, they may be subject to change. Thank you for your understanding.



Let Your Light Shine

