South Stoke Primary School



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**Headteacher – Miss Amanda Rogers**

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Wow what a start to the new year.  A new King and a new Prime Minister.  Today in assembly we reflected on the passing of Queen Elizabeth II and her influence on our lives and environment.  We talked about her kindness, humanity, the values she lived by as well as her role as Head of State.

With this in mind, we would like to ask your views on the values that our school represents and how they are taken into the wider world.  We would like you to write up to 5 values which the school represents.  The school already celebrates the British Values of democracy, mutual respect, rule of law and individual liberty, but we know that the school represents so much more to parents, children and staff.  Once all the values are collected, we will choose the ‘top 7’ to create a calendar of values which we can celebrate throughout the year.

Our Calendar of Values will be the focus of our assemblies this year so please come along to our family assemblies every Friday at 9am in St Andrew’s Church.

**\* \* \* THE VALUE FOR SEPTEMBER IS DEMOCRACY \* \* \***

Please email your thoughts to the school office by Monday 19th September.

SCHOOL COUNCIL ELECTIONS – 16TH SEPTEMBER 2022

The School Council will start again this term and we are determined to make a difference to the school this year!

Elections will be held in assembly on Friday 16th September where children will have the opportunity to vote for the person who best represents their views.  There will be two representatives from the infant class and four representatives from the junior class.

Children - If you would like to put yourself forward to be elected, please write a short speech (5 minutes max) on how you could make the school a better place to be.  Thinking about the values of democracy, rule of law, liberty, respect and tolerance might help you with your ideas.

Miss Rogers will be chairing the first School Council Meeting on Tuesday 20th September where the School Council will decide three goals for the year.  Each term the School Council will feedback their actions to the school in an assembly.

HARVEST FESTIVAL – 30th SEPTEMBER

Harvest Festival will be held on Friday 30th September at 9am.  Please bring any harvest goods to the church at the end of the day on Thursday 29th and they will be displayed ready for the assembly the next day.

Please come along to our assembly to see the children’s art work and perhaps join us in a song or two!

CURRICULUM DAY – MONDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER

We would like to invite parents and carers to our curriculum morning to see some teaching and learning in school.  The focus will be around phonics, early reading and re-creating the love of reading.

The school will be open to visitors from 9-10.30am to see the different teaching strategies we use to support the learning of reading.  For those of you who cannot attend we are offering you a question and answer session from 3.30pm-4pm where Miss Rogers and Miss Wadsworth will be available to talk you through the developmental stages of reading from phonics to fluency and answer any questions you may have.

Please let the office know if you are interested in attending either session so that we can plan accordingly.  Please respond by Thursday 22nd September.

CURRICULUM NEWSLETTER

Please find attached our curriculum newsletters which outline what the children will be learning this term.  I hope you enjoy reading these and hopefully they will help with the ‘What have you done at school today?’ conversations!  Please let us know your thoughts on the success of the newsletters by emailing the office.

GOVERNOR INFORMATION

At the end of each term the governors will be sharing the work they have been doing.  Governors will be available at parents evenings for you to talk about the school and the provision for your children.  Parent governors, Clare Wortley and Sophia Cleverly, are always around at the end of the day and are more than happy to chat with parents.  Please don’t be strangers.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS COURSE FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

Oxfordshire Youth is delivering an online **Mental Health Awareness Session** specifically for **Parents and Carers** of children and young people. **The sessions are FREE for Oxfordshire residents.**

Our Mental Health Awareness Training for parents and carers aims to aid understanding of relevant topics surrounding young people's mental health today. The training also explores how parents/carers can talk to their young people about the struggles around ill mental health and where they can seek support.

Please share the two links below for the parents and carers in your school to sign up:

**13th September:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-online-mental-health-awareness-session-for-parents-and-carers-tickets-296905380987>

**27th September:**

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-online-mental-health-awareness-session-for-parents-and-carers-tickets-296936744797>

**In order for parents and carers to receive their ticket for free, please inform them to use the first part of their postcode as the promo code in capital letters (e.g: OX4).**

SCARLET FEVER ALERT

There has been an increase of cases of Scarlet Fever in Oxfordshire and for further information please refer to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scarlet-fever-symptoms-diagnosis-treatment/scarlet-fever-factsheet>

Any adult or child with suspected Scarlet Fever symptoms will not be allowed to attend school 24 hours after the commencement of the appropriate antibiotic treatment.

Key dates:

SEPTEMBER 2022

2nd/5th&6th               INSET DAYS

7TH                          TERM STARTS

26TH                         READING/PHONICS DAY (FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!)

30th                       HARVEST FESTIVAL SERVICE 9AM (ST ANDREW’S CHURCH)

OCTOBER 2022

21ST                         END OF TERM (3.15PM FINISH)

24TH-28TH                 HALF TERM BREAK

31ST                         TERM STARTS

NOVEMBER 2022

4TH                          BONFIRE NIGHT (FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!)

22ND                         FLU VACCINATIONS (FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!)

28TH                        PARENTS EVENING

DECEMBER 2022

1ST-31ST                    READING CHALLENGE MONTH (FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!)

9th                         SCHOOL COUNCIL ASSEMBLY

16TH                          END OF TERM/CHRISTMAS PARTY (2PM FINISH)

19TH& 20TH               INSET DAYS

21ST-3RD JAN           CHRISTMAS BREAK  
JANUARY 2023

4TH                          TERM STARTS

FEBRUARY 2023

1ST-28TH                   MATHS CHALLENGE MONTH (FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!)

3RD                          NSPCC NUMBER DAY (FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!0

10TH                          END OF TERM (3.15PM FINISH)

13TH-17TH                  HALF TERM BREAK

20TH                        TERM STARTS

MARCH 2023

2ND                          WORLD BOOK DAY (FURTHER INFORMATION TO FOLLOW!)

27TH                        SATS PREPARATION MEETINGS FOR YEAR 2&6 PARENTS

31ST                         END OF TERM (1PM FINISH)

APRIL 2023

3RD-14TH                   EASTER BREAK

17TH                          TERM STARTS

MAY 2023

8TH-19TH                   ASSESSMENT WEEKS

26TH                         END OF TERM (3.15PM FINISH)

30TH- 2ND JUNE       HALF TERM BREAK

JUNE 2023

5TH                          TERM STARTS

JULY 2023

7TH                          SPORTS DAY

12TH                          YEAR 5&6 SUMMER FETE (TO BE CONFIRMED)

19TH                          YEAR 6 LEAVERS ASSEMBLY

20TH                        YEAR 2&6 SPECIAL ASSEMBLY WITH MISS WADSWORTH AND MISS

TOWNSEND

21ST                         END OF YEAR ASSEMBLY IN ST ANDREWS CHURCH

END OF TERM 1PM FINISH