

## SOMERSET EDUCATION SERVICES

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**HEADTEACHER: NICOLA ROBERTS**

### NEWSLETTER 2 - OCTOBER 2017

#### Key Dates

##### **November**

- Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> Cross Country Event 3 – Aldon Hill  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Tempest Photos – Family and Individual  
Class 2 visit to the Orchard  
Can Do Football event - Bucklers Mead  
Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> PTA Coffee Morning in the Hall at 9.00am  
Swimming restarts Year 6, Year 4 and ½ Year 2  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> Non-Uniform Day – donation for Christmas Bingo  
Volleyball Y5/6 Bucklers Mead  
Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> Netball 2 at Westfield  
Friday 10<sup>th</sup> PTA Family Quiz Night  
Monday 13<sup>th</sup> Girls Football – Westfield  
Wed 15<sup>th</sup> Shoe Box collection  
Badminton – Stanchester  
Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Can Do Football Event – Bucklers Mead  
Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Children in Need  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Friday 24<sup>th</sup> – Parents' Evening Week  
Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Tag Rugby 2 – Martock Rec  
Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> Sports Hall Athletics – Yeovil College  
Tues 28<sup>th</sup> & Wed 29<sup>th</sup> Bikeability  
Thurs 30<sup>th</sup> Christingle service 11.30am in the Church  
Boccia – Westfield  
Netball 3 - Westfield

#### Farewell and Welcome

We said a sad farewell to Mrs Jane Delaney at the end of the first half term. We have found it difficult to say goodbye to such a well respected and liked member of staff however we wish her well and hope that she enjoys her new post. We have appointed a replacement, Mrs Maria Payne, who will be starting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Please be patient as we wait for her to start as we have cover until that date, but obviously it will not be as smooth as previously.

#### Early Bird and Late Bird Club

Please can you give your envelopes with bookings and payment to Mrs Wheeler or Mrs Rendall at the Early Bird or Late Bird club as they have taken on this responsibility. Hopefully this will make life a little easier and avoid duplication of work.



### **Visit to the Orchard**

Class 2 have a fun opportunity to visit Sebbie's orchard and to press some apple juice with the help of Heath's dad. Please ensure that you have returned your permission slip and are aware of what is needed.

### **Tempest Photographs**

Tempest photographers will be in school on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> November. During the morning, all children will have their individual photos taken and also one with siblings who are in school. If you wish to have a photo taken with siblings who are not in school then the opportunity for this is between 8.15am and 9.00am in the hall.

### **Asthma**

Please ensure that if your child needs an inhaler that it is in date. You can check this with your child's class teacher. We record the use of inhalers and will inform you if we are concerned that your child is needing to use it more than usual especially as the colder weather comes.

### **Erasmus + Project**

Mrs Woods, Mrs Maple and I went to the planning meeting in Bruges for our Erasmus + European project. We are excited about the work which will be done with our European partners finding out about different strategies of teaching language. We will be sharing ways that we teach the children English and look forward to learning of different approaches and methods that we may adapt for use in Ash. This offers interesting and stimulating professional development opportunities for the teachers and also should lead to exciting experiences for the children. The logos designed by children in KS2 are being shared and each country will be voting on their favourites. The winner will be the logo for the whole project. There will be opportunities later on for some of the children to act as ambassadors for the school meeting up with children from other countries face to face and online.

### **Church Services**

Our next church service will be our Christingle Service which will take place on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November at 11.30am. This is always a lovely service which starts the Christmas period for us. We hope that many of you will be able to join us for this event in the church.

### **Bikeability**

We had several children from Year 6 complete their Bikeability training to prepare them to successfully ride on the roads. This is a great opportunity and a second set of dates are now on offer for those children who were unable to join the first group who trained. The next dates will be on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November. Details of this will be sent out to Year 6 so that everyone who wishes to take part has the opportunity to do so.

### **Swimming**

If one of your children is swimming and you are coming to school early then you are responsible for any other siblings until there is supervision on the playground. The teachers are getting ready for the school day and it is not possible for them to look after children before 8.55am. If you wish to put your child into the early bird club, so that you can leave before supervision, then of course we encourage you to do so.

### **PTA Events**

Well done to the PTA who organised a very successful Halloween disco. They raised over £450 which will go towards the Trim Trail. We have had two quotes so far and are waiting for our third before deciding on the final design for this exciting new equipment. The disco was very well attended and everyone had a good time. These events take a lot of hard work and I wish to thank the parents and staff who gave up their time to make sure it was a success.



### **Safeguarding**

Please ensure that children do not run ahead of their parents to press the buzzer to request that the gate is opened. This is distracting for the office staff and also poses danger of a young child going through towards the car park unsupervised. If the adult cannot clearly be seen by the office staff then they will not open the gate.

### **Sporting success**

We continue to experience success in the cross country events. Well done to everyone who participates as it is demanding and many of the children have made excellent progress in these events. It is good to see so many children participating in the range of sports events that we enter. The KS1 children recently enjoyed the multi skills events and represented the school very well. Please ensure if your child is invited to attend an event that they return the slip as requested, whether they are able to go or not, as this avoids having to chase replies and last minute replacements.

### **Christmas Cards**

Thank you for the orders which have been coming in for the Christmas cards which your children have designed. Mr Ives has prepared them ready for printing and Mrs Morris is working hard to get them printed and packed ready to be distributed to you. This is an important fundraiser for the school and I encourage you to place your orders if you have not already done so.

### **Residential visits**

The children in KS2 all have the opportunity to go on a residential visit next Spring/Summer. The Year 3s will be going to Kilve Court in March, the Year 4s are going to Swanage in April, the Year 5s are going to the Isle of Wight in May and the Year 6s are going to the Mendips in May (letters to follow soon for this age group). We believe these residential opportunities provide many wonderful experiences which support the children as they grow up and offer memories to share. We hope everyone is able to take up the opportunities on offer. There is the chance to spread the cost of these trips over the year, so do not hesitate to come to see me if you are concerned about the financial demands.

### **DBS (the old CRB)**

Anyone wishing to volunteer in school needs to complete a DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) form. Please see the office for further details. The process is much quicker now as it is possible to do much of the process online.

