

STICKLAND'S C.E. V.A. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please take the time to read the newsletter, it contains lots of important information and dates.

Pupil and Contact Information

Just a reminder to ensure that the details we hold on Arbor are correct. We would also be grateful if you could ensure that we have at least two emergency contacts for your child/children.

Attendance/Lateness/Unauthorised holidays

There has been a marked improvement in attendance recently. There have been no unauthorised holidays taken or requested recently; this is positively impacting our overall attendance and also positively impacting individual children's learning journeys. Thank you for your continued support in this matter.

If you would like advice about whether your child is too ill to attend school please [click here](#).

Sporting Success

This has been a bumper term of sporting success for the sports teams at Stickland's!

Congratulations to our hockey team for winning the Beaminster and Bridport Area QuickSticks tournament for the first time ever!!

Also congratulations to our netball team who won the collaboration tournament.

Finally, yesterday our football team won the Kenway Cup Collaboration Tournament once again congratulations to the team!

We are very proud of the children not only for their achievements but also their fantastic behaviour and sportsmanship at both events.

Thank you to the parents who transported our teams and went along to support - we could not take part without you. Huge thanks also to Mrs Watson for her outstanding coaching skills and organising our participation in these events.

Hockey Team

Evelyn, Elsie, Charlotte, Finn, Josh, Bertie, Dylan (c), Olly, McKenzie

Netball Team

Eva, Elsie, Sophia, Lidy, Edie, Dylan, Mason, Zach (c), Jack, Dexter

Football Team

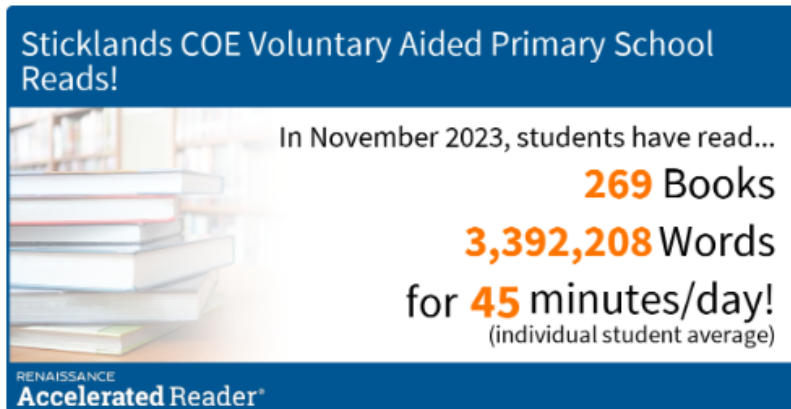
McKenzie ©, Mason, Dylan, Elsie, Zac, Dexter, Olly H, Finn, Patrick, Bertie



Sports For Champions Feedback

The sports for Champions event was an overwhelming success. Robert Mitchell was enthusiastic and inspirational. He explained his journey to becoming an international high jumper and we now have a school of budding athletes!!! We are going to put the money raised towards purchasing some high jump equipment. Thank you so much for supporting this fantastic event.

Reading at Stickland's - November 'Flash' Target of 2 million words - How did we get on?



The children have soared past the target of reading 2 million words this month; reading over 3 million words! This means that they have earned a well deserved whole school Forest School afternoon with campfire, hot chocolate, songs etc. This will take place on Friday, 8th December. Your child can come to school dressed in Forest School clothes, with a warm, waterproof coat, trousers, hat, scarf etc as it will be cold (and possibly wet!).

What a fantastic end to the Autumn Term and 2023!



Books make a wonderful Christmas present for your child and a great way to spend some quality time together over the holidays. If you would like any ideas about new releases and the most popular book choices, I am happy to help. (Email a.low@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk or speak to me in the playground after school).

Happy Christmas and keep reading!

Book Review Prize Winner - Lidy

Last summer, Kingfisher Class entered a book review competition run by the School Readers Association (who recommend adult volunteers to read in school).

One of our current Year 5 pupils, Lidy, won first prize with a beautifully written review of 'The Tale of Despereaux' by Kate DiCamillo. She has won a book bundle worth £200 of KS1 and KS2 books and an online author visit from Alan Macdonald for the school. Alan Macdonald is the author of the popular book series Dirty Bertie. Kingfisher & Raven Classes will be enjoying this on Tuesday 5th December.

Well done Lidy!



School Pyjama Day for Children with Cancer 6 November

Thanks to everyone for participating. I think you'll all agree that the children really enjoyed this. We raised £121.70.

Children In Need

The cake sale and non-uniform day raised a total of £150.18 for Children in Need. Thank you.

Fossa Christmas Raffle Tickets

It's Christmas Raffle time and we have some excellent prizes thanks to the generosity of many local businesses which include The Acorn Inn, Summer Lodge, Farmer Palmers, Waitrose, Evershot Bakery, the Log Man and Halstock Village Shop.

Tickets cost either 50p per ticket or one strip (5 tickets) for £2 and are only available to purchase directly through the school shop on Arbor.

The draw will be made in the last week of term to enable you to collect any prizes during that week. **The deadline to purchase tickets is 3.00pm on Thursday 7 December.**

We do not actually issue tickets to parents but a list of numbers will be kept in the office for when the draw is made. Please [click here](#) for guidance on how to buy tickets and also how to check your purchase.

Please support Fossa as the money raised will go towards supporting activities that the School would not otherwise be able to afford.

Key Stage 1 Nativity play - 2.00pm on Tuesday 5 and Wednesday 6 December

This year's performance is called "The Big Little Nativity" and we are hoping that you will be able to join us.

Tickets can be booked on Arbor and are limited to two per day, per child in Key Stage One until today, this is to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to reserve tickets. After today you should be able to book any extra tickets if there are any seats left.

Key stage 2 Christmas party - 11 December

Party time for KS2! The party will be held during the afternoon (1.30 - 3.00pm), the children will take part in a range of party games and have some festive fun with their friends. **Can all children please remember to bring their party clothes to school with them on this day, to get changed into.**

Key stage 1 Christmas party - 14th December

Party time for KS1! The party will be held in the afternoon 1:30-2:30, the children will play games, sing and dance. **Please can you send your child in party clothes on this day.**

Christmas jumper day - 13 December

Don't forget to dig out Christmas jumpers for children to wear or add some decorations to ordinary jumpers. If you would like to make a donation of £1 this will be sent to the Save the Children charity.

Local Food Links Christmas Meal - 13 December

This is a lovely occasion when all staff and children eat together in the hall with Christmas music.

Just to remind you that we have ordered the main meal for all of the children. **If you require the vegetarian option then you will need to go in and change the order for that day before next Wednesday.**

Finally if your child suffers from a food allergy and you have not already told Local Food Links please can you contact the office for an allergy form so that we can inform Local Food Links.

Christmas service - 15 December

The annual service for the whole school will be held at St Osmund's Church in Evershot between 11.00 and 12.00.

There will then be tea, coffee and cake available for parents and relatives in the Discovery Centre from 12.00 to 1.00pm. If you would like to start your Christmas holidays early you will be able to collect the children from 1.00pm. It would be extremely helpful if you could let us know in advance what time and

who will be collecting your child. This will enable us to have your child ready to go home at the right time.

Reception Children for September 2024

Can I remind parents with younger children born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 that the closing date for the first round of applications is 15 January 2023. You can apply for a place by [clicking here](#). If you know of any parents outside of school who have children in this age range, we would really appreciate it if you could also mention it to them.

Lost Property

There is an increasing amount of lost property in the foyer so please, if your child has lost anything, please come and claim.

Free trips / visits and uniform!

With the current economic situation, and following on from the welcome letter, please remember that if you are entitled to claim certain benefits, then you can claim for free school meals at school, and that this will also entitle you to certain other financial help.

<https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/education-and-training/schools-and-learning/at-school/free-school-meals>

School Dates

Can I just remind you to check the school calendar for details of inset days, school events and school holidays. These dates are usually set before the start of the new academic year and are generally available on the school diary from June onwards. Dates include the Nativity and Christmas Service - for you to get them into your diary as soon as possible.

Upcoming Events in December

5th December	KS1 Nativity play
6th December	KS1 Nativity play
11th December	KS2 Christmas party
13th December	Christmas jumper day
13th December	Christmas lunch
15th December	Christmas service

Please remember to keep an eye on the website calendar for school dates!

Safeguarding

At Stickland's we are committed to safeguarding children. It is the duty and responsibility of everyone to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

If you have concerns surrounding a child's safety contact Dorset's Children's Advice and Duty Service (CHAD) on 01305 228866 immediately.

If you would like to talk to someone in school about safeguarding issues

Please email or speak to

- **Designated Safeguarding Lead: Ruth Adler**
- **Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads – Marie Stone or Kath Will**
- **Nominated Safeguarding Governor – Gay Lewis (g.lewis@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk)**
- **Please also see the E-safety page on our website for information on how to safeguard children online.**

Yours sincerely,
Ruth Adler
Headteacher