



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

Aspire Believe Belong and Achieve  
Let your light shine - Matthew 5:16

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Miss Ruth Adler

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January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year! We hope that you have all enjoyed the Christmas festivities and enjoyed some quality time together away from school and the usual routines.

Please take the time to read the newsletter, it contains lots of important information and dates including what happens if the school needs to close

## IMPORTANT -School Closures

As most of you will be aware, in previous years we have needed to close the school due to snow and I wanted to remind you of the procedure for letting you know if we need to make the same decision this year.

We will update the Dorset County Council website to show that we are closed and this in turn notifies the local radio stations :- <http://mapping.dorsetforyou.com/closedservices>

A text and email will be sent to all parents and the website will be updated to show that the school is closed. Please bear in mind that the decision is never made lightly and closure is not only reliant on the weather in the village but also the ability of staff and children to travel to school safely!

## Job Vacancy - Cleaner

We are really sorry to say that our current cleaner will be leaving us on 28 January 2024. Our cleaning contract is with Glen Cleaning Ltd and they have asked to let parents know that they have a vacancy for a cleaner at Sticklands. The contract is for 12.5 hours a week and the rate of pay is £10.42 p/hour. If you would like more information then please either phone Vince on 07919 215520 or email him on [vincenthoaereu@glengroupltd.com](mailto:vincenthoaereu@glengroupltd.com)

## Christian Values

This half term we will be focussing on perseverance as our Core Christian Value. This will be discussed and explored during our Collective Worship, and followed up by relating it to our everyday lives in the classrooms.



### **Fossa Christmas Raffle**

Thank you to everyone who entered Fossa's Christmas Raffle. This raised a fantastic £365.19 which will go towards providing resources and trips for the children in school.

### **Christmas Jumper Day**

Thank you to everyone who donated, we raised £31 for Save the Children.

### **After School Clubs**

Just a reminder that although the after school clubs start next week, **Film Club does not start until the following week.**

### **Pupil and Contact Information**

I'm sure some of you got new phones and devices over Christmas so this is 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.

### **Uniform reminder**

- PE days - Please ensure your child only wears a school jumper or school sports hoodie for PE with suitable shorts or tracksuit bottoms (black/navy/grey)
- School uniform days – long hair tied up, no jewellery except small studded earrings, school jumper and t-shirt, school trousers or skirts (not leggings/tracksuit bottoms) and black school shoes.
- Forest school days – old home clothes and shoes, waterproofs and wellies in a bag.

**Please ensure all clothing is named.**

If you are struggling to get uniform/wellies etc please let us know as we have spare available. See also the information about free second hand uniform below.

Also, if your child has been out to play and has muddy shoes when they come to school please could you ensure they have a clean pair of shoes to change into. It is unfair to expect the cleaner to have to try to remove mud that has been trodden into the carpet. We will be asking children to leave muddy shoes in the cloakroom.

### **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](#).

### **Reading at Stickland's - Let's get 2024 off to a flying start!**

The whole school enjoyed a fantastic Forest School session at the end of term in recognition of the progress and achievements in reading over the Autumn Term.



Please remember to read a minimum of 3 times per week (ideally daily until your child is a fluent reader) and to record this in your child's reading journal or homework folder. These are still checked each week in school and regular reading at home is vital to your child becoming a confident reader.

Watch this space for news of our next 'Flash' Reading Challenge for the Spring Term.

#### **Final Reminder to Apply for a School Place for 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.

#### **Parents' Evening 25, 26 and 27 March**

Just a quick note to let you know that the next parents' evenings will be the last week of term. We will send out more information nearer the time.

#### **Parents' Information Evening 4th March**

Our next parents' information evenings will be on the 4th March. (4.15-5.15pm). This will be an opportunity to discuss and explore our new school vision -

Aspire, Believe, Belong and Achieve - Let your Light shine Matthew 5:16.

This will also be an opportunity for parents to learn more about the school's curriculum; what is being taught and when. Further information about this will be sent out nearer the time.

#### **Lost Property (Please name your childrens' school uniform)**

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**

2 January	Inset Day
3 January	Inset Day
8 January	Extreme Earth & Electricity Workshop for KS2
<b>9 January</b>	<b>Film Club Cancelled</b>
15 January	Closing Date for Applications for Children Starting School in September 2024
1 February	Drama Club Performance for Parents
6 February	Cake Sale
8 February	Fossa School Disco
12-16 February	Half Term

**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](mailto: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