



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

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

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February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

Congratulations to our Cross Country who did exceptionally well last week. Particular mention to George who came 2nd in the year 3 & 4 race and Evelyn who came 3rd in the year 5 and 6 race. The year 3 and 4 boys team came third overall. Well done everyone who took part.

A huge 'Well done!' to all the children who took part in the MTC Competition; we are incredibly proud of the children's hard work and dedication to this event.

There were many of our children that achieved high positions on the leaderboard. A big congratulations to Mason, who took 1st Position on the leaderboard (for all schools involved) for points earned and Patrick who came second, as the competition came to an end - well done boys! Stickland's did incredibly well and out of 1200 schools that took part and they made it to the national final where they finished 12th out of the top 60 schools!

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!

Eco Club

As mentioned previously we received a grant for some raised flowerbeds and with the help of Emma Hodgkinson and Eco Club they are now almost ready for planting (weather permitting).

Mrs Will has asked if anyone has any of the following that they would be willing to donate to school any of the following:-



- Planks of wood for making some signs
- Spare plants
- Cuttings
- Bulbs
- Seeds

RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch

This weekend (26th -28th Jan)hundreds and thousands of people all over the UK will take part in the RSPB's Big Garden Birdwatch. This annual survey plays an important role in understanding how garden birds are faring. You can join in and it's really easy to do.

You don't need a garden and if you go to <https://www.rspb.org.uk/whats-happening/big-garden-birdwatch> they have lots of tips for you. It would be great if you could join in. A bit later in the term we are going to be joining in with the Big school's birdwatch!

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.

Reading at Stickland's - World Book Day – Thursday, 7th March 2024

To celebrate World Book Day this year, we will be taking part in a selection of online sessions delivered by the children's author, storyteller and comedian, James Campbell. Each class will take part in one live session aimed at their age group with James, have the opportunity to ask questions of James and other authors (including Saena Tetlow who has just published her first book age 16!) and try illustrating. If anyone would like to know more about James and what the children will be experiencing; please follow the link below.

<https://www.jamescampbellauthor.com/world-book-day>

Dressing Up

We know that dressing up can be tricky for many - either with pressure to buy a costume for their child or with a child who does not like dressing up. This year, we would like children to have the opportunity to dress up as their favourite book character to make the day special if they would like to, but please do not buy a costume for the day. Here is a link to some easy ideas from items that you have at home already:

<https://wharfedale.mumbler.co.uk/easy-costume-ideas-for-world-book-day/>

We understand that some children also don't like dressing up, so I have attached a link to a site with simple ideas for just this situation; including wearing black to be Peter Pan's shadow or blue jeans and a red top to be George from George's Marvellous Medicine!

<https://wharfedale.mumbler.co.uk/world-book-day-ideas-for-kids-who-dont-like-dressing-up/>

Please could you ensure that your child is wearing sensible footwear and a warm costume, as we will still be spending time outside (weather permitting).

Books at Bedtime

This year, we are bringing back 'Books at Bedtime' where we invite the children to return to school from 6 to 7pm. The children will have the opportunity to listen to a different story in each classroom and will be given hot chocolate and biscuits. They may come dressed in pyjamas and slippers and bring a cuddly toy with them. There

will be a small charge for this event of £1 per child to cover refreshments, and any profits will be put towards new books for the school library. You can sign your child up on Arbor (in 'Trips') from today until Thursday, February 29th (one week before the event).

Would you like to share a story?

We would love to welcome any family or friends to share their favourite children's story with a group of children from Goldfinch, Woodpecker or Kingfisher Classes from 2.45pm on World Book Day. It is great for the children to have new faces reading to them. Please email Anna Low on a.low@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk if you are interested.

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.

Parents' Maths Information Session 3.30-4.30pm 25 March 2024

Miss Stone will be leading a maths session to explain progression in maths across the school from Reception to Year 6.

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>

Message from Public Health Dorset Regarding Measles

Measles is an infection that spreads very easily and can lead to serious illness and complications, which is why it's important to get your child vaccinated.

The MMR vaccine is safe and offers the best protection for children. If you are unsure whether your child has had their MMR vaccines, check their personal child health record (red book) and speak to your GP practice to book a free appointment to catch up.

For advice on measles, including symptoms and what to do if you think you or your child has it, visit publichealthdorset.org.uk/news/advice-on-measles.

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 Fossa School Disco and the cake sale - get them into your diary as soon as possible.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday 6 February	- Cake Sale (Kingfisher's providing the cakes)
Thursday 8 February	- Fossa School Disco
Mon 12 - Friday 16 February	- Half Term
Tuesday 27 February	- FILM CLUB CANCELLED
Monday 4 March	- Parents Information Evening
Tuesday 5 March	- FILM CLUB CANCELLED
Thursday 7 March	- World Book Day
Friday 8 March	- Kingfisher's Showing Assembly
Thursday 14 March	- Football Festival at Beaminster School
Friday 15 March	- Raven's Class French Cafe

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