



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

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

Summer Lane  
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March 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

## 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!

## 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.

## Reading at Stickland's -

### February 'Flash' Reading Challenge

The children have read more than **2 million words** in February and have achieved their wordcount target. A huge well done to all of them!

Their well-deserved reward will be taking place on Friday, 8th March and children will have half an hour of 'Golden Time' where they can choose the activity that they would like to take part in; from art to construction to outdoor games and PE.

## World Book Day – Thursday, 7 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.

For information about dressing up ideas that do not involve buying a new costume (for reluctant and enthusiastic children) please see last month's newsletter and recent emails. [Please could you ensure that your child is wearing sensible footwear and a warm costume, as we will still be spending time outside \(weather permitting\). Kingfisher Class will still be in the Forest School area in the afternoon.](#)



**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 small 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.

Thank you to the couple of volunteers who have already offered to come in. If you are not confident to read to a whole class - it would be lovely to have more volunteers who could read to a small group of children.

Please email Anna Low on [a.low@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:a.low@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk) if you are interested.

**FOSSA AGM 7 March 2024**

As you are all probably aware, FOSSA fundraises to provide events and resources for the school that we would otherwise be unable to afford. It would be great if you could support them by attending the AGM. It is being held in the Discovery Centre at school and has been arranged to coincide with the books at bedtime event on Thursday 7th March 6- 7.00pm.

Please email the office if you would like to attend virtually and a link for the meeting will be sent to you.

**Comic Relief Friday 15 March 2024**

As you know the children love to celebrate Comic Relief however, we understand that times are difficult for families at the moment with the cost of living increasing.

We would like all of the children to come to school in non-school uniform for the day and if you would like to make a voluntary donation to comic relief then we will put a pot in the hall for children to put any donations in. Please do not feel obligated to make a donation.

**Fossa Bingo Sunday 17 March**

Fossa are holding a family bingo event at 1.00pm on Sunday 17 March 2024 at Halstock Village. Please go along to help support Fossa and their fundraising for the school.

**Whole School Visit to the Theatre 22 March 2024**

On Friday 22 March we will be taking the whole school to the Lighthouse Theatre in Poole to see David Walliams "Awful Auntie". We will be travelling by coach and will return before the end of the school day.

We are very lucky that the cost of the trip has been met by three large donations including one from Fossa and one from Daniel Singleton in memory of Katharine Singleton-Smith, a former governor of the school.

This is a fantastic opportunity for the children therefore, we would be very grateful if you could login to Arbor and provide your consent for your child/children to participate in this trip.

**Parents' Evening 25, 26 and 27 March 2024**

Parents' evenings are being held in the last week of term. You are able to make bookings on Arbor for these. If you cannot make the given times, please do contact your child's class teacher as they may well be able to offer an alternative appointment - face to face, online or over the phone.

**Easter service - 28 March 2024**

Just a reminder that we would like to invite you to this year's Easter Service at St Osmund's Church in Evershot on Thursday 28th March at 11 am which will be followed by tea and cake back at school.

We will be open until 3pm, however, if you do wish to start your holiday early, you may collect your child/children from school after 12pm. If you are going to collect your child/children early, then please e-mail [hometime@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk](mailto:hometime@sticklands.dorset.sch.uk) to indicate what time this will be.

**Hot lunches will not be available, but a packed lunch will be provided if your child is in receipt of means tested free school meals.** If you have already ordered a meal, we have cancelled it.

### **Parents' Maths Information Session 3.30-4.45pm 15 April 2024**

Another reminder that Miss Stone will be leading a maths session to explain the progression of addition and subtraction in Maths across the school, from Reception to Year 6. Each class teacher will share what is carried out within each class, looking specifically at resources and methods.

Please book your free tickets on Arbor Shop if you can attend this session - There will be a creche available for this session which will also need to be booked on the Arbor Shop.

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

### **Upcoming Events**

4th - 6th March - Stickland's STEM Week

Wednesday 6 March Woodpecker's visit to the Fleet Air Arm Museum

Thursday 7 March - World Book Day & Books at Bedtime

Friday 8 March - Kingfisher's Showing Assembly

Thursday 14 March - Football Festival at Beaminster School

Friday 15 March - Raven's Class French Cafe

Sunday 17 March - Fossa Bingo

Friday 22 March - Whole School Visit to the Lighthouse Theatre to see "Awful Auntie".

25-27 March - Parents' Evenings

Thursday 28 March - Easter Service

Friday 29 March - Easter Holidays Start and Good Friday

Monday 15 April - Parents' Maths Information Session 3.30-4.30pm

**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