

# Stow-on-the -Wold Primary School

## Newsletter September No 1, 2013

Dear Parents

### **Welcome to you all**

Welcome to the start of a new school year and a new term at Stow-on-the-Wold Primary School. What an amazing summer it has been with such beautiful sunshine. We hope you all had a fabulous break and are ready to start the term refreshed and ready for the fun and challenges of a new academic year. It is so lovely to see all the children back looking so smart and eager to learn. We are delighted to welcome our new reception children and their families in particular and hope that they will be very happy during their time at this school. I am sure that you will all make them feel very welcome and valued. As I write they are having a wonderful time in the sunshine and all the classes are settling in very happily with their new teachers or classmates.

As you may remember we are moving to five smaller classes this year and have additional teaching assistants in both infants and juniors so the children will benefit from lots of additional help and personal attention this year. As always please do come and see me if you have any questions or concerns or comments about this or any other aspect of school, my door is always open. We are looking forward to working in partnership with you all.

### **New staff**

We welcome Miss Kat James as a third teacher in the juniors. Miss James (not to be confused with Mrs Alison James in Class 2) will be teaching Class 4 and we hope that she will be very happy in her time at this school. I am sure you will all meet her soon and make her feel welcome.

Mrs Natalie Breeze Christian is joining us in the mornings as an additional teaching assistant in the juniors and Mrs Hayley Luney is moving to Class One to support a child in reception. There are pictures of everyone in the entrance hall at school on the tree and all school staff members will be wearing their lanyards with photos and names clearly marked so you can get to know who they all are.

### **Dates for the year**

I will be sending out the dates for the year this week, please bear in mind some may be subject to change nearer the time but it is useful for you to have a rough idea of when things will be happening so that you can plan ahead.

### **Clubs**

There are clubs most evenings this year and we have bought in additional specialist teachers this year who will be offering sports and drama provision and clubs. Please sign the clubs letter when it comes out for your child and return as soon as possible. Please assume you have a place at your

chosen club UNLESS we ring you if it is oversubscribed. Most clubs will start next week, see the letter for details.

### **PTFA**

The PTFA have been busy over the summer holidays and made a profit of £150.00 at The Cotswold Festival. Many thanks to the children and parents who supported the festival stall and who helped to make it such a great success.

The next PTFA meeting will be on Wednesday 11 September at 2pm where we will be looking at the activities for this term including a pumpkin disco and possibly a family Bingo Evening, watch this space!

### **Cotswold Festival**

Special thanks to organisers of this wonderful event which took place in the holidays. The event involved many of our children. I would really like to thank Mrs Cassie for all her help liaising between us all. Many thanks to the parents and children for all their hard work at the festival, creating fashion designs for the display in the church, making hobbits and taking part in the Fat Face fashion show. Special thanks indeed are due to Groovy2Shoes who are a children's shoe shop in Stow. Groovy2Shoes provided shoes for the fashion show that some of our children took part in during The Cotswold Festival. The shop kindly gave the shoes to the children to keep afterwards which was such a lovely gesture and a real treat for the children. Many thanks to Groovy2Shoes for their support at the fashion show.

### **Library Visits**

We plan to visit the library in Stow this term again with each child so please make sure that your child has their library card ready. If you are not a member please pop along and join up- its very simple and quick to do. Your child will then be able to borrow some books when we go on our visits, dates to follow later this term.

### **Swimming**

This year we have secured a much more convenient swimming time of 1115-1215 on Tuesdays. The curriculum expectation is that every child will be able to swim 25m by the end of Y6. With this in mind we have decided to focus on those children in Class 5 who have not yet secured this standard this term. There is a separate letter for parents in Class 5 regarding this matter. Those children who can already easily swim 25m will instead enjoy a Forest Schools session in school with Mrs Neville during this time. Swimming will start on **Tuesday 10 September** so the group going will need their kits in school on this day.

### **Childcare**

If you are looking for childcare this term I have been made aware of two local options which you may wish to consider. Sarah Beecham, registered childminder (and mum to Connor and Riley Beecham) has vacancies before and after school for school aged children. Her number is 07815449532.

In addition there is also another registered childminder in the area in Griffin Close Gemma Mackew who has

vacancies for daytime care for preschool children. Her number is 01451 830809 or 07951 238974

### **Winstons Wish**

We received a lovely letter from Winston's Wish thanking us for the grand final total of £1241.00 raised by Mrs Lancaster and the children during the sponsored events last term. There was also a super certificate which is now on display in the entrance hall in school. Well done again everyone. This year we will be supporting the children cancer charity LINC.

### **Villager Bus changes**

Mr Mike Clark we will be organising the villager bus this term, many thanks to him for taking this task on, and also thanks again to Mr Cassie for his years of organisation beforehand.

### **Nut allergies**

We have a couple of children in school now with **severe** nut allergies. Whilst staff are trained and very vigilant especially at meal and snack times, please could you be mindful of this when sending in snack or a packed lunch and avoid anything with nuts in it, just in case it falls into the wrong hands, many thanks indeed for your cooperation in this matter.

### **Uniform**

The children all looked so smart today with lovely uniform and proper shoes. Please make sure that your child has their PE kit in school and a book bag

and sunhat/raincoat as required!

Please also try to label everything so that we can return it to you if it goes astray! We are so grateful to you all for making sure they look so smart.

Please also ensure that long hair is neatly tied back for school with school colour fastenings and that earring s are of the small stud variety and remove for PE or covered with tape, many thanks for your support in this.

### **Guitar**

Please note guitar starts again next week on Thursday. There are currently spaces available for children to learn once a week with Mrs Mutsaars , you need to be at least Y3. Please ask at the office for more details. Please note there is a cots for these additional lessons in school.

So welcome back again all of you and I do hope that this will be a very happy and productive year for us all. Don't forget, please don't let little worries become big ones, I am here to help, come and see me anytime, my door is always open.

### **Together we can succeed!**

Rebecca Scutt,

Headteacher

