



Stratford – Sub – Castle Church of England VC Primary School



Headteacher: Mrs Kay Bridson B.A (Hons) PGCE

Learning for life in a positive and caring Christian community



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Monday 27th February 2017

Dear All

As you already know the next few weeks are incredibly busy. A couple of extra ‘things’ have come up to add to the mix, which are very important and you need to know about, so **please read this letter!!!**

Local Authority inspection (Mock Ofsted Inspection): Tuesday 14th March and Wednesday 15th March 2017

Three inspectors will be in school on these days in order to put the staff and governors through their paces before the real thing. It will prove extremely intensive, but I am sure it will be an invaluable tool in the development of our school. If you have a burning ambition to talk to the inspectors please catch them at the gate or get in touch with me and I will make arrangements for you to speak to someone!

Mrs Wareham: Eye operation: Thursday 22nd March

I am sorry to inform you that Mrs Wareham requires some very important eye surgery. Sorry for Mrs Wareham and for Kestrel Class! I know Mrs Wareham feels awful about her being away from her class at this time, but she really needs the operation quickly, in order to protect her sight. It is anticipated that Mrs Wareham will need recuperation time of approximately two weeks, so she hopes to be back at school just before the Easter break.

Luckily we do have the wonderful and very experienced Mrs Williams to step into the breach. Many of you will know that Mrs Williams taught the Y5/ Y6 class previous to the appointment of Mrs Wareham so I have no doubts that she will be able to slot into the role very easily. Of course all the children know her well already so that is an added bonus. Mrs Williams teaches Robin Class on a Wednesday at the moment and she will continue to do this. I will teach Kestrel Class on a Wednesday (I already do the afternoon) all day. Boosters and clubs will also be covered and will continue as usual.

THIS WEEK

Menu Change for Tuesday 28th February There will be pancakes instead of carrot cake!

PTA Meeting: Wednesday 1st March @ 7pm in the staffroom.

World Book Day: Thursday 2nd March 2017: www.worldbookday.com

We shall be celebrating World Book Day in school by dressing up as a character from a book! You should have already received your special WBD token which is redeemable against a book or audio book. Take it to any bookshop participating in the initiative. This offer is valid 27th February until 26th March inclusive. (See the back of the token for more details). This year will be asking the children to take part in a quiz during the school day. All will be allowed to enter for free. All entries go into a hat and a winner drawn at random. The winner will be announced in Smiley Face Assembly on **Friday 3rd March 2017**.

We would also like to encourage all children and staff to bring a treasured book to school with them that day to share with another pupil in the school.



Comic Relief / Red Nose Day: Friday 24th March 2017

This year we are holding a non-uniform day with a twist in order to raise money for this worthy charity! As well as a choice of clothes we also thought it might be fun to add in the choice of hair style or hat! Donations in a bucket by the gate please. As always, you do not have to join if you feel this is not for you! Uniforms are accepted on that day too! Red noses if you want!

Other dates:

VIP Days: Friday 17th March 2017 and Friday 24th March 2017: (Places allocated, now closed)

PTA Meeting: Wednesday 5th April @ 7pm in the staffroom

Stratford Sing Up Day: Thursday 6th April 2017: (More details to follow, but please come and sing with us in the afternoon @ 2pm)

Finally on a more serious note....

As a staff we feel that we are increasingly trying to spread ourselves more and more in order to make the budget go further. Last year we had to cut the PSA (Parent Support Adviser) and both Mrs Watkins and I have to maintain a high teaching commitment due to the difficulties in recruiting 'top notch' teaching staff. This means that we are not always as available to parents as we would like to be. This will get more difficult when Mrs Wareham is away due to her operation so please bear with us! Please phone or e-mail if you can't get in touch face to face. As always we are prioritising the children.

You may have heard lots of discussion in the news about the formula for funding schools and how some schools stand to win and some to lose. We stand to gain. Next year it is proposed that we be funded £2,998 per pupil, which is an increase of 8.85%. As you can see it is important to us that funding is recalculated.

As always please do get in touch if you have any worries, concerns or questions. I do want to help that's what I'm here for!

Kindest regards Kay Bridson

