



Stratford – Sub – Castle Church of England VC Primary School

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



Life in all its fullness

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Monday 9th September 2019

Dear All

Welcome back! I do hope you managed to enjoy some sunshine and recreation over the summer break.

I would like to welcome Mrs. Emily Richards to the staff. We do know her a little bit, as Mrs Richards did a bit of supply cover and PPA cover last year. She is now working on a more regular basis across the school teaching mostly art and DT. She will also release Mrs Waters from Butterfly Class on a Friday and Miss Smith on a Monday. Mrs Richards is very experienced and talented and I am very pleased to welcome her into our Stratford family! I would also like to welcome Mrs Ford who is working in Butterfly Class every morning. After a great deal of time volunteering in school, it's great to be able to welcome her as a Teaching Assistant and as part of the teaching staff. I know her care and enthusiasm will prove to be real asset to us all!

Just so you know the FOSS June Fayre raised a grand total of £1,850. This was a magnificent effort. Well done all involved. The money raised will go towards paying for our magnificent new outdoor classroom. Please do feel free to have a look at it.

Office news

The office is open in the mornings to people popping in from 08:40. However, we will take phone calls from 08:30. Please call in if your child is sick. This is vital and helps us to know they are safe and haven't got lost on the way to school!

Please sign up for Parentpay if you haven't already, as it really helps to reduce administration time. Something we do not have enough of, due to financial pressures. Parentpay is now available for lunch payments.

The office is closed from 15:30 until 08:30 the next morning. Anyone making late bookings for Early Birds or Night Owls is asked to contact Miss Hardiman or Mrs Webb between 15:30 and 17:00. **Please ring: 07974 957 055** or see them in person!

Information can be accessed on the school web-site: www.stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk

Welcome & Information Evening for New/Interested Parents (Support with learning and an explanation of some of the vocabulary we use)

In the interests of good communication we are holding a **"Welcome /Question and Answer Session for New Parents"** on **Thursday 26th September at 7pm** in the school hall. At this session we will go through routines and policies and basically answer any questions, having given everyone a chance to get into the swing of things! This session is designed to welcome EYFS parents, however we would like to extend the invitation to **all parents**. Please do come along if you wish to ask anything at all about how the school runs or learning etc!

PLEASE LET MRS M. MUNT IN THE OFFICE KNOW IF YOU WISH TO ATTEND OR COMPLETE REPLY SLIP.
MANY THANKS.



Termly Topic: The Termly Topic this term is to be based on **MY BEDROOM**. Take a look at your bedroom. You might like to ask yourself some questions...

Are the objects / things in your bedroom manufactured or natural?

Do the things in your bedroom have a function? Who invented them? How have things changed through history?

Is your bedroom similar or different to your parents or grandparents bedroom?

If they are manufactured which country were they made in? What material are they made out of?

If you have natural things in your bedroom what are they made of? Where did they come from?

Do all people in the world sleep in beds like people in our country?

Why is sleep important? What are the ingredients to a good night's sleep? How much sleep do children and adults need?

As usual be as creative as you like; but you must also write something and make a record of your Termly Topic in your book! Make it interesting, so you don't put the reader to sleep!!!!

This is to be completed in the book provided by the school and handed in on **Friday 18th October** to each class teacher. All children completing the task will be recognised with a certificate.

This is compulsory for Y4, Y5 and Y6 and optional for all other year groups. Pupils in the younger year groups will need to ask their teacher for a book to complete the work Termly Topic in as they will not automatically be issued with one.

Home Learning (Homework)

The main focus of home learning is reading, practising spellings and learning number facts.

Home Learning for EYFS & KS1 2019

Please note we teach your children to read but it is down to you to help them to PRACTISE!

Please remember phonics sessions happen daily and pupils learn reading and spelling patterns during these sessions.

EYFS: Reading (5 times a week) and words, counting backwards and one to one correspondence, (Counting things not just saying numbers).

Year 1: Reading (5 times a week), and maths booklet.

Year 2: Reading (5 times a week), spelling lists and maths booklet.

Home Learning for KS2 2019

Year 3: Reading (5 times a week), spelling lists and maths booklet.

Year 4: Reading (5 times a week), spelling lists, maths booklet and Termly Topic.

Year 5: Reading (5 times a week), spelling lists, maths booklet and Termly Topic.

Year 6: Reading (5 times a week), spelling lists, maths booklet and Termly Topic, SATs practise papers/activities rotation of comprehension, grammar, punctuation & spelling or maths. Y6 receive this sort of home learning it is given out on a Friday and handed in the next Friday.

Reading: Reading records will be checked once a week on a Monday. Children are recognised for reading 5 times with a sticker. If children read 5 times a week for a term their efforts are recognised with a certificate.

What does reading 5 times a week mean? Reading could be spread over the seven days in a week, or you may read twice in one day if that is easier. Reading will vary according to the age and reading skills of each child. Reading could be sharing a book together, not necessarily the scheme book or the child reading all the words in the book. Children may choose to read an article on the Newsround website (or similar) and this will count as long as a record is made in the Reading Record book. *The Reading Journey* (Helpful hints for reading) booklet is available in the 'Parent Workshop Information' section of the school website.

Spelling: Children will be provided with a weekly set of spellings. This will be in their Spelling Book. Once a week the children will be assessed on these spellings. Stickers will be given for 9 or 10 correct. Stickers will also be given to recognise the children who have practised their spellings regularly and have tried very hard.

What does learning your spelling mean? We do not expect children to just go through the motions of learning their spellings, but to actually take responsibility for their learning and to extend their spelling skills by making an effort to learn new words. Children will be provided with ideas of how to learn spellings.

Maths Booklets: Each maths booklet is named after a different planet and is stuck in the back of Spelling Books. The aim of the booklets is for the children to be able to recall number, measure and geometry facts quickly and without thinking. This means being able to say multiplication tables in about 20 seconds and to recall isolated times table facts immediately.

In Key Stage 2, children will be given a challenge by their teacher to know all the times tables in order, to know them mixed up and also to know division facts. Inside the booklet are the other number, measure and geometry facts your child needs to know. As parents, please tick and initial the boxes 3 times (1 tick/initial = 1 box) to verify your child is able to recall the maths facts being focussed on.



Swimming has been bumped into the Spring Term.

PE lessons

Please ensure your child has their PE kit **every day as things do change**. There are so many events each week which may cause us to have to change things around! Please note we will not be able to provide spare kit as in previous years.

The general plan is:

Butterfly Class: Friday (EYFS and Y1) and Wednesday (Y1 with Owl Class)

Owl Class: Monday / Wednesday

Woodpecker Class: Tuesday/ Thursday

Fox Class: Thursday and Friday

Robin Class: Monday / Thursday

Bikes and scooters

If you collect a bike or scooter at the end of the day please wait until the rush of pedestrians has cleared the school site. Unfortunately we are unable to extend the path below my office window (due to drains), so we will have to work round it for the foreseeable future. If you wait for a few minutes, it also allows the traffic outside school to die down and be a little safer for you!

School Meals

School meals are **£2.50**. This service has to be subsidised by the school budget when the uptake is low or when children do not have their Universal Free School Meal. The subsidy gets less as more children have hot meals. The meals are delicious and are really good value for money at £2.50. The governors have a duty to provide meals but they do not have to be hot. Please support our hot meal service; it will not survive if we as a school are unable to meet higher and higher subsidies. This takes money from the education budget!

Recorder Lessons

Both Woodpecker Class and Fox Class receive recorder lessons from Mr Walker on a Friday morning.



PLEASE REMEMBER...

School rules **DO** apply before and after school. Children (and adults!) must **NOT**

- climb on fences or gates (use gates)
- climb under fences (use gates)
- play on the field*, track or in the den area (before and after school). *The field is subject to duty staff permission on a day by day basis
- venture into the garden area
- get out play equipment (except for that provided in the morning)
- stand on picnic benches (people don't want to sit on your muddy foot prints!)
- cycle or scoot on the premises, please wheel your cycles and scooters to the gate.

Adults please do not...

- bring buggies into school (park in the hall on very wet days), we just don't have room
- use your mobile phone in school buildings (to safeguard yourself and our children)
- remain in school when the bell has rung in the mornings (we get into trouble if you do)
- come into school after the bell has rung (we get into trouble if you do)
- park on the zig-zag lines.

Please do not get involved with 'telling off' other people's children. Please come and see myself or Mrs Watkins if you have concerns about anyone's behaviour.



School Photographer- Monday 23rd September 2019.

This time of year the individual and family portraits are done (in time for Christmas), whilst the class photos are taken in the summer. Please note, you are under no obligation to buy. All the children will have a photo taken individually (for school records) but please indicate if you wish to have a family portrait taken. Pre-school children are also invited to come along and these will be taken as near to **9am** as possible. If you wish to have a family portrait/pre-school photo taken please come along to Nest (round the back near the bike sheds) on **Monday 23rd September at 9am.**

FAMILY GROUPS WILL ONLY BE TAKEN IF THE REPLY SLIP IS RETURNED TO SCHOOL. TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT PLEASE RETURN THE SLIP! A PAPER COPY WILL BE AVAILABLE IN YOUR CHILD'S BAG ON TUESDAY.

PLEASE NOTE, SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN (OURS!) NEED TO REGISTER AS NORMAL. A MEMBER OF STAFF WILL COLLECT THEM WHEN THEY ARE NEEDED FOR A FAMILY GROUP PHOTO!

PLEASE RETURN REPLY SLIP ATTACHED TO THIS NEWSLETTER BY FRIDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!!!!



Both Mrs Watkins and I are committed to being here for you, so please leave a message for us in the office, if you are unable to grab us, when you want us! We will get back to you. Please do not let concerns become major worries.

Kindest regards

Kay Bridson

SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS: INDIVIDUAL AND FAMILY GROUPS

I would like my pre-school child/ren to be photographed with my child/ren attending Stratford-sub-Castle Primary School.

NAME OF CHILD _____ CLASS -----

NAME OF CHILD _____ CLASS -----

I would like my children attending Stratford-sub-Castle Primary School to be photographed together.

NAME OF CHILD _____ CLASS -----

NAME OF CHILD _____ CLASS -----

PLEASE RETURN REPLY SLIPS BY FRIDAY 21ST SEPTEMBER TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!!!!

Welcome & Information Evening for New/Interested Parents (Support with learning and an explanation of some of the vocabulary we use)

SIGN UP FOR...

Welcome & Information Evening for New/ Practically New or Interested Parents.

Name of pupil(s).....

Class(es)

I wish to attend the session on **Thursday 26th September at 7pm**

PRINT NAME (s) PLEASE:

.....

PLEASE RETURN REPLY SLIP BY WEDNESDAY 25TH SEPTEMBER 2019