



# Chew Stoke Church School Newsletter



## INTRODUCTION FROM MR HEWETT

Week three already and we are now really settled back into school life and of course some fantastic learning! On Monday the final group of our 26 reception children started school. Well done to the children and to the EYFS team for settling down so well - it's like the children have always been here.

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October we will be holding our Harvest Service at St Andrew's Church, Chew Stoke, starting at 9.30am. Parents are most welcome to attend. We are inviting children to bring donations of tinned and dry food (in date please) which will afterwards be sent to the Bristol Food Bank for distribution. Food donations should be brought into school on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> or Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.



A huge thank you to everyone who walked, cycled or scooted to school yesterday. As we are currently taking part in our

Modeshift Stars TravelWise Week and it is the beginning of a new academic year with many new families joining our school community, we wanted to take the opportunity to remind you of our parking guidelines (see attachment). These guidelines are in place to allow families to safely travel to and from school at the start and at the end of the day.

We politely request that parents refrain from driving up or parking in School Lane in the morning (unless agreed with the school). We have an increasing number of children walking, scooting and cycling and adhering to this will allow their safe journey to and from school. We also ask that parents/ guardians do not park on the corners of roads/ driveways as our local residents sometimes find it difficult to safely leave or return to their properties.

**AUTUMN TERM  
2024/25**

20/09/2024

Chew Stoke Church  
School

School Lane  
Chew Stoke  
Bristol BS40 8UY  
Tel: 01275 332354  
[www.chewstokeacademy.org](http://www.chewstokeacademy.org)

Headteacher: Ben  
Hewett

Our Christian Value for  
this term is

**HUMILITY**

Our British Value for  
this term is

**THE RULE OF  
LAW**



Thank you so much for your support in actioning these guidelines and for also for your enthusiasm in taking part in TravelWise Week 2024.

### **MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING**

Our annual Macmillan Coffee event is being held next Friday (27th September) in the School Hall/Large Playground from 9am to 11.00am. This popular occasion transforms the school into a place where you can meet and talk together, a great chance for new parents to meet each other and catch up on school news while enjoying a coffee and cake, so please do come and join us! The funds raised all go to the Macmillan Cancer Support, having had first-hand experience this year of the amazing work of this charity, I hope we can raise lots of money for them.

**COFFEE,  
CAKE AND  
COMPANY**

As usual, we will welcome your yummy cakes (**please remember that we are a nut free school, so do check ingredients**). Please bring your cakes in on the afternoon before or Friday morning. All children will be offered a cake at morning break time, so some individual cakes/fairy cakes etc. will be especially welcome! At the last coffee morning, we had some fantastic raffle prizes; please could you spare a prize or two again this year?

This year we are also having a Non-Uniform day - the children will be invited to wear non-school uniform in return for a donation to the charity. Details of how you can make a donation to the charity will be sent out next week.

The annual Chew Stoke Harvest Home took place just over a week ago and we were 'wowed' by the brilliant entries from our pupils. The tent looked fantastic and it was wonderful to see so many people admiring the children's work and other entries throughout the day.

A big thank you to our Mrs Lewis, Mrs Priday and Mrs Yells who helped set up the tent in the morning, to the PTA and the villagers of Chew Stoke who organise the Harvest Home. So much work goes in behind the scenes to make the event such fun and a big success, we are really grateful.



### **REMINDER - BREAKTIME SNACKS**

May we please remind parents that children should only be bringing in fruit and vegetables for their snacks at morning break time. This is in line with Healthy Eating guidelines and also in support of our status as a nut-free and allergy-aware school.

### **IMPORTANT - FLOODING AT THE FORD - PLEASE READ**

After many weeks of fine weather it certainly feels like autumn has now arrived. I would like to set out the school's current position regarding flooding at the ford on Pilgrims Way and along School Lane.

### **MORNING DROP-OFF**

### **ACTIONS BY THE SCHOOL**

Parents will be alerted by text if the Environment Agency have indicated a risk of flooding. If an alert has been sent out, then a further update will be provided by staff when they reach the school - typically about 8.15am.

Please note however that the river level can change dramatically in a short space of time.

If the river is high we will ask pupils in Badger Class and Fox Class to enter the school grounds via the vehicle entrance.

#### ACTIONS BY PARENTS

Until children reach the school gate, parents have responsibility for their safety.

If there is a risk of flooding, please ensure that:

- a) Your child is appropriately dressed
- b) That he or she is accompanied to the school gate
- c) That you follow the guidance from the EA regarding flood water (see below).

If in doubt - do not attempt to get to school and under no circumstances walk through water. An absence from school due to flooding will not be counted as an unauthorised absence.

#### DURING THE DAY AND EVENING PICK-UP

##### ACTIONS BY THE SCHOOL

If access along School Lane and at the junction with Pilgrims Way has become difficult, children will not be allowed to leave the school unless accompanied by an adult.

There is no record of the school ever being flooded - the school was not flooded during the 1968 flooding - and therefore children should be safe at school.

The Breakfast Club and the Out of School Club will normally follow the school's decision on whether to open or not and will contact parents accordingly.

If the river is high we will ask pupils in Badger Class and Fox Class to exit the school grounds via the vehicle entrance.

#### ACTIONS BY PARENTS

Do not take any risks in coming to collect your child. Your child will be looked after at school for as long as is necessary.

**Please ensure the school has your most up to date mobile number.**

#### Environment Agency Guidelines

##### **Stay out of floodwater**

- avoid walking or driving through flood water
- be aware that flooding can cause manhole covers to come off
- keep children and vulnerable people out of floodwater
- don't walk on sea defences or riverbanks.
- take care or avoid crossing bridges when water levels are high.
- take care crossing culverts as they are dangerous when flooded.

- look out for other hazards such as fallen power lines and trees.
- wash your hands thoroughly if you touch floodwater as it may be contaminated.

If you have any questions concerning any of the above, please contact Mr Hewett.

### MEETINGS FOR PARENTS OF PUPILS IN HEDGEHOG CLASS

Miss Hennessy will be leading two parent meetings this term to explain how we teach phonics, what a day would look like in Hedgehog Class and also to explain how you can be supporting your child at home.

On **Wednesday 25th September** at 5pm she will be leading a Phonics Information Session in the school hall. This will explain what Phonics is, how we teach it in school, some of the language and techniques we will be using with your children in our phonics lessons. We will also explain reading books and some resources which you can use to support your children's learning at home.

#### Dates for your diary!

##### **Term Dates**

- Term 1: 02/09/2024 - 25/10/2024
- Term 2: 04/11/2024 - 20/12/2024
- Term 3: 06/01/2025 - 14/02/2025
- Term 4: 24/02/2025 - 04/04/2025
- Term 5: 22/04/2025 - 23/05/2025
- Term 6: 02/06/2025 - 22/07/2025

##### **September 2024**

- 16/09/24 - Swimming starts for Fox Class
- 27/09/24 - Macmillan Coffee Morning

##### **October 2024**

- 03/10/24 - Harvest Service
- 09/10/23 - School photographs

On **Thursday 17th October** at 5:30pm she will be hosting a 'Day in the life of a Hedgehog' in our classroom. This should hopefully explain our day in a bit more detail as we know some of the children will probably say we haven't been up to much! We will also talk a little about Maths in class.

It would be great to see you there. If you are unable to make the meetings we will be putting our Phonics slides onto the school website.

### REPORTING ABSENCES FROM SCHOOL

We would like to remind parents that absences from school due to illness should be reported every day to the School Office, not just on Day 1. Messages regarding absence can be left on our pupil absence line which is open 24 hours a day; we do need to receive your message by 9am.

### HELP US TO KEEP THE BUGS AT BAY

Following on from the above item, if your child has been sick or has diarrhoea, they should be kept off school for 48 hours from the last occurrence. This helps reduce the spread of infection to other pupils and staff. Thank you.

### FIVE STAR KITCHEN!

We've always been very proud of our lovely kitchen staff and the delicious meals they produce but now it's official! This week our kitchen was inspected by the B&NES Food Hygiene team and we are delighted to announce that they have once again been awarded five stars for hygiene. Congratulations to Jess and Viv and thank you both for your hard work.



### AUTUMN CENSUS DAY MENU

Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> October is the day on which all schools undertake a school census; this is important for us as it impacts on future funding for our school. On this day we would like as



many pupils as possible to eat a school lunch and we have devised a special menu that we hope the children will like!

- Hamburger or Veggie Burger
- Chips
- Beans or Sweetcorn
- Brownie

Lunches can be ordered in the usual way on that date and do not need to be booked in advance. We hope you will support us. Thank you.

## PTA NEWS

**A Big Thank You** to everyone who came and supported the PTA at Harvest Home, the first school fundraising event of the year. It was lovely to see so many parents and children having a good time.

We had some very generous donations from local businesses that enabled us to hold a successful Promise Auction which raised over £1,600 for the school.

Thank you to: Wild Rose Flowers, King Skip Hire, Chew Kitchen, The Pony, NP Fitness, The Loft Beauty and Wellness, Rise Physiotherapy and Pilates, New Manor Farm Shop, Move Wild, The Wine Rooms, Cross Fit Chew Valley and Brook Farmhouse Butchery.

More Fundraising dates for your diary this term:

Friday 18th October - Fox Class Cake Sale

Friday 25th October - Halloween Movie night (we will be showing two separate films , one for KS1 and one for KS2). More information to follow!

There will be a PTA AGM on 14th October @ 2.30pm - if you are interested in getting involved with helping raise money for the school please come along - all are welcome.



*The Beauty Barn*  
BEAUTY AND AESTHETICS BY  
KADIE ALLEN

THE **PONY**  
*Chew Valley*



The Loft

BEAUTY & WELLNESS

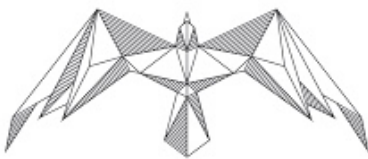
WILD ROSE  
FLOWERS

01761  
221246

**KING**

07887  
755949

Farm Contracting  
& Skip Hire



R I S E  
PHYSIOTHERAPY AND PILATES

CHEW KITCHEN  
TABLES & EVENTS



VALLEY ARTS PRESENTS .....

**The Old Pier, Sat 21st Sept, 2.30pm**

***The Old School Rooms, Chew Magna***

For more info and tickets - [The Old Pier - 21 Sep 2024 - Valley Arts Centre](#)

A ghostly steamship arriving in George's bedroom leads to a night of adventure, as the echoes of those who once roamed the pier come together for one last revel beside the sea.

Using live music, vocal soundscapes and poetic storytelling, Jordan weaves a tale of adventure that explores the forgotten memories of Weston-super-Mare's iconic Old Pier & the magic that can be found right on your doorstep.

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We also have another family show coming in October and we are currently running an offer of 10% off until 30th Sept using the following code - DEEPSEA10OFFER. The info for this is below.

**The Deep Sea Seekers, Sunday 13th October - 11am & 2pm**

***Dundry Village Hall, Dundry***

Alph, Betty and Gammo are back for another adventure! An exhilarating, warm, audience driven children's show that journeys through our oceans meeting incredible creatures, exploring unmapped shores and tackling unwelcome plastic. Full of songs, humour and lots of audience interaction, join Alph, Betty and Gammo for an enchanting, interactive journey across the seven seas where YOU take the steering wheel!

For more info and tickets - [Deep Sea Seekers - 13 Oct - Valley Arts Centre](#)

#### **ATTACHMENT LINKS**

Further items of interest can be found by clicking the following links:-

Free Healthy Family Courses:- [https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Summary\\_Course\\_Poster\\_Q3\\_and\\_4.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Summary_Course_Poster_Q3_and_4.pdf)

Parent Champions required!:- [https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/PC\\_Recruitment\\_Poster\\_Sept\\_24.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/PC_Recruitment_Poster_Sept_24.pdf)

Eating Well for Less:- [https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Eating\\_well\\_for\\_less\\_workshop\\_online\\_24\\_dates.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Eating_well_for_less_workshop_online_24_dates.pdf)

Cook-It cookery Sessions:- [https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Cook\\_It\\_New\\_Parent\\_Oct\\_24.pdf](https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Cook_It_New_Parent_Oct_24.pdf)