



Chew Stoke Church School Newsletter



INTRODUCTION FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

The Festive season is finally upon us and next week sees the start of our Christmas celebrations with our Christmas Craft Day on Thursday. This is always a special day in school with a fantastic community feel; please note for this event we are unable to accommodate pre-school children. Children are invited to wear non-school uniform on Craft Day for which the PTA are asking for a donation of a bottle or some chocolates for the tombola stall at the Christmas Fair. The Christmas Fair takes place on Friday 8th December between 5.00-7.00pm - we hope you will be able to join us.



On Wednesday 6th December we will be holding our Christingle service. This is such a special event and really captures the spirit of Christmas. This year the school choir will be singing a few Christmas songs/carols at the service. We really hope that you will be able to join us. The service will be held at St Andrews Church, Chew Stoke, starting at 6.30pm. More details will follow and will include how to make a Christingle. The collection taken during the

service will be split between The Children's Society and our partner school in Uganda who are raising money to build new classrooms.

This week I have had the opportunity to observe some of the Christmas play rehearsals that have been taking place. The children are busy learning their lines and the singing is coming along well. If you are coming in to see one of our plays or concerts you are in for a real treat!



We had great fun raising money for Children in Need last Friday; we will let you know soon how much we raised for the charity - well done everybody.

**AUTUMN TERM
2023/24**

**VOLUME 6 -
24/11/2023**

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Our Christian Value for
this term is

COURAGE

Our British Value for
this term is

**THE RULE OF
LAW**



What an exciting day we had on Wednesday, when we had a visit from Dan Norris, the Metro Mayor. He had heard about all the work we have been doing with **Team Modeshift** promoting sustainable and active travel and came to see what we are up to for Road Safety Week. He met with Miss Hennessy, Mr Hewett and the PE Council who shared past and present road safety initiatives, visited Badger Class who were writing information leaflets about road safety and he selected two of his favourites.



We hope to send these home with our next newsletter. He also observed pedestrian training in Hedgehog and speed camera work in Kingfisher Class. We were so proud of how the children conducted themselves and how they could confidently share what they had been doing with our visitor.

Dates for your diary!

Term Dates

- Term 1: 01/09/2023 - 20/10/2023
- Term 2: 30/10/2023 - 15/12/2023
- Term 3: 02/01/2024 - 09/02/2024
- Term 4: 19/02/2024 - 28/03/2024
- Term 5: 15/04/2024 - 24/05/2024
- Term 6: 03/06/2024 - 23/07/2024

November 2023

- 24/11/23 - Badger Class Assembly
- 30/11/23 - Christmas Craft Day

December 2023

- 02/12/23 - PTA Wreath Making
- 05/12/23 - Fox Class Christmas Play
2pm
Fox Class Christmas Play
6.30pm
- Christmas Story Time
EYFS/Y1 5pm
- 06/12/23 - Christingle Service 6.30pm
- 07/12/23 - Key stage 1 Theatre Trip
- 08/12/23 - Hedgehog Class Christmas
Play 9.30am
PTA Christmas Fair 5pm
- 11/12/23 - Owl Class Christmas Concert
2.30pm
- 13/12/23 - Key Stage 2 Theatre Trip
- 14/12/23 - Christmas Church Service
led by Woodpecker Class
9.30am
- Christmas Lunch
- 15/12/23 - End of term

January 2024

- 02.01.24 - INSET DAY
- 03.01.24 - Start of Term 3

CHRISTMAS STORYTIME - TUESDAY 5TH DECEMBER, 5PM TO 5.45PM

On the evening of Tuesday 5th December Miss Hennessy will be hosting a Christmas-themed Storytime for all children in Hedgehog and Owl classes (siblings are also welcome). Children will be invited back in their pyjamas for a Christmas story with their parents, and a hot chocolate to truly get into the Christmas spirit! We hope activities like this will encourage a lifelong love of reading and will support parents in the types of questions that can be asked when reading with your child at home.

PARKING IN PILGRIMS WAY

It is a shame to have to put a moan in the newsletter so close to Christmas, but we have received a complaint from a resident about parents parking on pavements, which reduces visibility for anyone trying to pull out of their driveways onto the road.

This also causes the additional, even more serious, hazard of forcing pedestrians to have to walk on the road. The complainant also said her garage had been blocked by a parked car on more than one occasion. May we please ask everyone to be considerate when deciding where to park. Thank you.

MENU CHANGE - WEDNESDAY 29TH/THURSDAY 30TH NOVEMBER

We have been notified by the kitchen staff of a change to the published menu on Wednesday and Thursday. The menus for these two days are being swapped, so Wednesday's menu will be Penne Pasta or Jacket Potato (as per the menu published for Thursday 30th) and Thursday's menu will be Roast of the Day (as per the menu for Wednesday).

LONG HAIR!

Staff have asked us to remind parents that, for health and safety reasons, children with long hair should tie it back for school. Thank you.

PTA NEWS

Christmas Fair

There are only two weeks to go until our School Christmas Fair on Friday 8th December 5 - 7pm (see poster) - there will be games, food, stalls, crafts and a bar - entry free! We need lots of help please to make the fair and other festive fundraising opportunities as successful as possible.

Below is a **wish list** of things the PTA is in need of this month - if you can help out with donations it would be amazing . Perhaps an opportunity to have a pre Christmas sort out and get rid of unwanted items! Please hand in to the office or class teachers or any of the PTA - thanks in advance!

- Unwanted wrapping paper
- 'Nearly new' gifts that could be re-gifted and toys for the tombola
- Unwanted Pokémon or Football cards
- Old jam jars filled with 'lucky dip' items (the children love these and they sell well!). For example sweets, rubbers, party bag fillers, stickers etc! You don't need to fill a jam jar if you don't have enough, please feel free to just donate what you do have and we will collate with other items. Thank you!
- Second hand Christmas jumpers that can be sold on our uniformd website
- A fish bowl or fish tank just for use at the fair - we would return it afterwards!

Fair Volunteers

The PTA needs volunteers please to help on the evening of the fair -please take a look and sign up if you can!



Christmas Fair 2023

signupgenius.com

Christmas Raffle Tickets

There are some amazing prizes to be won this year! Books of raffle tickets will come home in every child's bag soon. Tickets are £1 each - please return to the office or class teachers. Payment can be made in cash or via BACs to the PTA account.

PTA account:
67214321
08-92-99

Father Christmas Visit

Santa will be visiting all the children during the school day before the end of term - if you are able to please donate £5 per child to help cover the cost of his visit and his goodie bags! (PTA bank details above)

Christmas Wreath Workshop

Places are still available on the Christmas Wreath Workshop which will take place on Saturday 2nd December @ 3pm. Bookings can be made via Lucy 07784 375215 or Amy 07585 708702.

Christmas Craft Day

Donate a bottle or chocolates for the tombola and wear non-uniform for Christmas Craft Day.

Rags to Riches



Friday 1st December - Rags to Riches collection

🕒 Time for a pre-Christmas clear out to make money for the school.

🕒 Please bring any unwanted (but good quality) clothes to school by 9am on the morning of 1st December, and the school will get 50p per kilo. Bags will be provided via the children.

Previous collections have had 200kg - 600kg of clothes so all our stuff adds up!

More information is on the link - they do not collect underwear, socks or any uniform.

<https://rags2riches4schools.co.uk/>

Phew! That's it :-)) Thank you for your support! *Your PTA*

ATTACHMENT LINKS

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

7 questions to help you start a conversation with your child about online safety -

[https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/7-questions-to-help-you-start-a-conversation-with-your-child-about-online-safety_\(1\).jpg](https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/7-questions-to-help-you-start-a-conversation-with-your-child-about-online-safety_(1).jpg)

Bishop Sutton Preschool Christmas Fair - https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Gold_Simple_Christmas_Border_A4.png

E Scooter Letter to Parents - https://files.schudio.com/chew-stoke-church-school/files/documents/Escooter_Letter_Schools_Christmas.pdf