



# Chew Stoke Church School Newsletter



## INTRODUCTION FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

As we head towards the midpoint of the school year I would like to update you on our latest attendance figures. The school is judged by Ofsted on how we compare to national statistics. For this academic year we currently have an attendance figure of 95.6%; this compares to a national absence figure of 93.4%. Although our overall attendance figure is above national data, our percentage of unauthorised absences (when holiday is taken) is below the national average. These figures don't include absences due to Covid-19. Ofsted also measures us on the percentage of children arriving to school late and for us this is any child not in their classroom by 8.55am. Evidence supports that only a small drop in a child's attendance can have a significant impact on their learning; with this in mind please can I ask all parents to help us to continue to improve attendance. It is the school's policy to refuse any term time holiday.

On Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February we will be holding a non-school uniform day. This is to raise money for Chelwood Bridge Rotary Club's water box appeal. The charity sends boxes around the world to events such as natural disasters. The box contains equipment to support a family to survive; it contains equipment to purify water and essentials such as cooking equipment and tarpaulins for shelter. Each box costs around £150 to put together and ship around the world and we would love to raise enough to provide a water box. You may recall that the Rotary Club supports the school by presenting our Year 3 children with a dictionary each year.

Next week, across the school, we will be having a focus on 'road safety'. On Wednesday each class will take part in a workshop run by South Gloucestershire Council. On this day we will also be holding a 'Walk to School Day'. We would like to encourage everyone to park a little way away in the village and walk up to school. On this day children may wear something bright 'to be seen' along with their normal school uniform



A reminder that each week on a Friday we hold a celebration worship during which we hand out certificates and birthday bookmarks. Certificates can be for achievements from school or from home. If your child has been awarded a certificate or trophy and would like it handed out on a Friday please send it in to the school office. Our Golden Hearts which are awarded in recognition of an achievement in school are hung on our Values Tree which is

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located in the Hall. We also hand out weekly value certificates for children who have demonstrated one of our Christian values. Well done to all of our children who received a certificate or a Golden Heart this week.

### **SUPPORTING YOU - Tea & Coffee Drop In Session**

Mrs Hope, our special needs co-ordinator, will be hosting a drop-in session for all parents and carers on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 from 2.30pm to 3.15pm. This is a chance for parents of children, who have additional needs or if you just have a concern about your child, to come along and have an informal chat with each other or with Mrs Hope. Our school speech and language therapist, Bryony Mann, will also be on hand to answer any questions you might have. Everyone is welcome to come along to this informal session. Free tea, coffee and biscuits.

#### **Dates for your diary!**

##### **Term Dates**

Term 1: 01/09/2022 - 21/10/2022  
Term 2: 31/10/2022 - 16/12/2022  
Term 3: 03/01/2023 - 10/02/2023  
Term 4: 20/02/2023 - 31/03/2023  
Term 5: 17/04/2023 - 26/05/2023  
Term 6: 05/06/2023 - 21/07/2023

##### **February 2023**

1<sup>st</sup> - Walk to School Day - 'Be Bright'  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Non-school uniform day  
3<sup>rd</sup> - PTA Valentine Disco  
8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> - Fox Class visit to Mill on the Brue  
10<sup>th</sup> - Woodpecker Class Cake Sale  
11<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> - Half Term Holiday

### **WALK TO SCHOOL DAY & ROAD SAFETY DAY**

As part of our Road Safety Day, which supports our work with Modeshift Stars, we will be having a 'Walk to School' morning on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February. We would like to encourage children on this morning to walk, scoot, cycle to school to kick off our day considering being safe on our roads. We would be so grateful for as many families to take part as possible. Staff will be out on School Lane that morning to support the safe journeys of the children to the school.

Throughout the day, classes across the school will be having workshops linked to different aspects of road safety e.g. holding hands, pedestrian training and scooter training. We hope these activities will

support children's confidence and safety when choosing to cycle, scoot and walk to school in the future. South Gloucestershire Council, who will be running our Road Safety Day, have asked if children on this day could wear something bright and colourful. We don't want parents to go out and buy anything specific but children can wear a bright cardigan or jumper with their UNIFORM next Wednesday.

### **ECO TEAM NEWS**

This term we are looking for spaces for hedgehogs. We are focusing on hedgehogs and we are thinking of buying a wildlife camera. Another thing we are looking at is access to water and shelter. We are looking at potential habitats in our school grounds like big log piles. We talked about composting. We are also looking at a website called Hedgehog Street.

Mrs Gauthier is working with us and we are trying to get a map of the school grounds to identify different areas and ways to encourage wildlife. *Harry Badger and the Eco Team*



### **PARKING IN SCHOOL LANE**

May I please remind parents that they should not be parking in School Lane when dropping off/collecting children, and especially not on the yellow zig-zag lines where parking is strictly prohibited. The ideal place to park is in the Stoke Inn car park and then walk to school via Quarry Hay.

## **SCHOOL KITCHEN VACANCY**

Our caterers, Edwards & Ward, are currently recruiting for a kitchen assistant to join our catering team here. If you would like to find out more, or to apply, please contact:-

Liz Wilton, Operations Manager

**Mobile: +44 7973 815898**

Email: [lwilton@edwardsandward.co.uk](mailto:lwilton@edwardsandward.co.uk)

## **FEBRUARY 13TH TO 15<sup>TH</sup> - GET SPORTEG FEBRUARY HALF TERM CAMP**

Come and join us this February at 'Winford C of E Primary School', Winford where your children will have an amazing time growing in confidence, building skills and having an experience they won't stop talking about!"

GET Sported (ages 5-12)

We offer a huge variety of different sports, including football, cricket, netball, rugby, gymnastics, basketball, hockey, dodgeball, volleyball and more! We also offer fun activities like dance, music, arts and crafts and much more! Find out more about GET Sported camps on our CAMPS page.

### **How to Book**

visit [www.getsported.org](http://www.getsported.org) for booking online

If you need more information please contact Akeel Yousaf  
([akeel@worldsportministries.com](mailto:akeel@worldsportministries.com)) 07809650743

## **KID CARPET'S EXTRA SUPER MEGA ROCKIN' ROCK SHOW!**

**Saturday 4th February 2023 - 3pm**

*A fun packed interactive rock show suitable for small kids, big kids and animals!*

Come and experience all the hits and very best bits from Kid Carpet & The Noisy Animals string of ridiculous shows. Featuring the catchiest songs, games, puppetry and video projection!

Whether this is your first experience of a live rockshow or your last, it's sure to be the gig of a lifetime. Kid Carpet & The Noisy Animals will guide you energetically and safely through episodes of their world of silliness. Come and get involved. Extra points for dressing up.

For further information and to book:- <https://www.valleyartscentre.co.uk/Events/kid-carpets-extra-super-mega-rockin-rock-show-4-feb-23/>