



Chew Stoke Church School Newsletter



INTRODUCTION FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

On my learning walk this week it has been clear how focussed our children are on their new class topics and the enthusiasm of the children is clear. During the morning sessions Literacy and Numeracy are taught to meet the specific learning objectives of each year group in a class, whilst in topic work, generally in the afternoons, we focus on building learning skills and knowledge through the topics taught. Although the class topic is different in each of our classes, the learning skills being developed are the same for each individual year group whichever class they are in.

On Wednesday we held our Harvest service in St Andrew's Church. Due to the pandemic this was the first time in nearly two years that we have been able to use the church; it was lovely to see the church full of children and lots of parents joining us. Thank you for all of the donations of food; these have now been delivered to the Bristol Food Bank for distribution.



**AUTUMN TERM
2021/22**

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I am sure you will join me in sending best wishes to Miss Milton and her partner on the safe arrival of Oliver on Tuesday.

As we mentioned a few weeks ago we are working towards achieving the silver level of the Rights Respecting Schools Award. This is a UNICEF award focussing on the rights of the child. Each week as part of the award we are given a focus, the recent ones have been:

Article 2: non-discrimination

The convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, gender, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

Article 12: respect for the views of the child

Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and have their views considered and taken seriously.

Article 29: goals of education

Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

Article 30: children from minority or indigenous groups

Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the minority of the people in the country where they live.

Well done to all of our children who have been awarded a golden heart or values certificate this week.



WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

Following on from the above, our school's Rights Respecting pupil group has decided that they would like to mark this day in some way.

They have requested that next Friday, 15th October, all children wear something yellow to school, such as yellow socks or a yellow hair ribbon. Please note that this will not be a non-uniform day, so normal uniform should be worn. Also, we are not fundraising, just marking the event to raise awareness, so parents do not have to send in any money.

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.

MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Well done to everyone for your efforts in raising money for Macmillan Cancer Support. The non-school uniform day raised over £700 for the charity.

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 8.00am.

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 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.

MEETING FOR HEDGEHOG CLASS PARENTS

There will be a meeting for parents of pupils in Hedgehog Class on Monday 18th October at 6pm in the school hall. It will give some insight into what happens in a day of the life of a Hedgehog and what we are doing/ how parents can support their child in Numeracy and Literacy. We hope to see you there.

SCHOOL PHOTOS

Proofs of the photos taken last week have now been sent home. Please ensure that your order is returned to school by Thursday 14th October at the latest, to avoid incurring additional delivery charges on your order.

ADVANCE NOTICE - HALLOWEEN DISCO

The PTA will be holding a Halloween Disco on Thursday 21st October from 5pm to 6.30pm. Further details to follow!

INSET DAYS

Dates have now been set for Inset days for the remainder of this academic year. These are as follows:-

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Monday 25th April 2022

Monday 6th June 2022

School will be closed to pupils on these dates.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

We are delighted to announce the return of class assemblies, after an absence of 18 months. The dates of assemblies planned for the remainder of Term 1 and Term 2 are as follows:-

Fox Class	Friday 22 nd October
Kingfisher Class	Friday 12 th November
Owl Class	Friday 19 th November
Badger Class	Friday 26 th November
Hedgehog Class	Friday 10 th December - Nativity Play

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A SCHOOL GOVERNOR?

Chew Stoke Church School are seeking new governors to join our friendly and committed team. A great opportunity to learn new skills and shape our children's future. We are particularly looking for members of the local community to join our team, especially if you have a background in accountancy, education or human resources. Applications from all members of our community will be warmly welcomed and we particularly welcome applications from BAME and disabled candidates. If you are interested in applying please email clerk@chewstokeacademy.org or telephone Liz Dagger on 01275 332354 for more information.

PTA NEWS

We have our "Cash for Clothes" collection on Monday 11th October. Please bring in all unwanted clothes (they must be GOOD quality, clean and wearable. NO bedding, towels, linen or uniform) by 9am. Clothes can be brought in any bag and please tie the top so that if it is raining the clothes don't get wet. The school are paid 40p per kilo of clothes collected and it is a great fundraiser. Paired shoes, bags and accessories are accepted.

We are having a PTA meeting on Tuesday 12th October at the Stoke Inn at 7.30pm. All are welcome and we would love to have some members from Reception and lower down the school. Thank you.

Please look for updates on the Chew Stoke Parents Facebook page (ask someone to add you if you are not on it) and texts from the school.

THE VIRTUAL CHEW VALLEY 10K IS HERE!

Feeling inspired by this year's Olympic and Paralympic athletes? Why not earn your own fabulous medal and join in this year's Virtual Chew Valley 10k? The Virtual CV10k can be completed at any time until 31st October 2021 - enter at www.chewvalley10k.co.uk Entrants can run, walk, plod or cycle on any route they choose and at a time of day to suit them - you can even do it over a few days - ideal if you want to do it with younger or older members of the family - all details can be found at www.chewvalley10k.co.uk Prices start from £5 for children, including delivery of medal.

All Virtual Chew Valley 10k entrants will receive a fabulous bespoke event medal and, if you enter before 2nd October, the option of a 2021 technical event T-shirt designed by Chew Valley Student, Bluebell, to wear with pride!

So, if you have been inspired by all the amazing Olympians and Paralympians, why not join in the fun, on your own or with family and friends and support the beneficiary charities in the process? This year, the Chew Valley 10k and Virtual Chew Valley 10k will help raise much-needed funds for Chew Valley School Society, Bishop Sutton School Society, Chew Valley-based NICU Support (which supports premature babies and their families and local Neo-Natal Units) and the Lymphoma Research Trust (www.lymphoma-research-trust.org.uk), in memory of Bishop Sutton resident, Mr Mark Wookey. Thank you for your support.