



Chew Stoke Church School Newsletter



INTRODUCTION FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

A very warm welcome to the start of this new school year; I hope you and your family have had a good summer. This year we have twenty seven children starting in Hedgehog Class; I am sure you will join me in welcoming these new families into our school community.

Over the next few weeks you will receive a curriculum overview sheet from your child's class teacher detailing the learning for the term up until Christmas. Over the last few months the teachers have been busy redesigning our curriculum, it is topic based and is designed to specifically fit the needs of our children at Chew Stoke Church School. Each class will have a theme for the term based on a topic or a book. This terms themes are:

Hedgehog Class	-	This is me!
Owl Class	-	Explorers
Kingfisher Class	-	Good communicators
Woodpecker Class	-	What did the Romans do for us?
Fox Class	-	The Victorians
Badger Class	-	The Atlantic slave trade

This year we would like to include more photos in the newsletter of the learning that is taking place in the classrooms. To do this we need permission for your child/rens photo to be published in the newsletter. Please note that we do also put a copy of the newsletter on our website. Please could you let us know via this link whether you give permission or not:

<https://forms.office.com/r/BENVMuEx1G>

As you will be aware from my communication last week we have a number of children joining the school who have severe nut allergies. It is imperative that we ensure that any food brought to school is **nut free**. To help us with this we ask that only fruit or veg is brought as a snack for morning playtime.

Please could we ask that all uniform and items of PE kit are named, it really helps us to return lost items to the correct children if they are labelled. As the weather turns colder over the next few months we also recommend that your child has a tracksuit to wear as we will use our outside spaces as much as possible.

On Monday we held our first indoor assembly for 18 months. Whilst we have come together outside over the last year it was lovely to be together as a school in the Hall. We talked about the year ahead and what we are looking forward to. This year we will be continuing to focus on a different Christian value each term. This will be our focus for Worship and will also permeate

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Chew Stoke Church
School
School Lane
Chew Stoke
Bristol BS40 8UY
Tel: 01275 332354

www.chewstokeacademy.org

Headteacher: Ben
Hewett



into many other aspects of school life. This term's Christian value is 'humility'. We will also focus on a different British value each term, with the first one being 'The Rule of Law'.

AHOY, ME HEARTIES!

As a school, we like to do something fun to celebrate our love of reading early on in the year. This year, it's **Talk Like a Pirate Day!**

We would like to invite all your young pirates to dress up for a day of pirate-themed books, nonsensical vocabulary and nautical activities with their classes on **Wednesday 29th September**. Go pirate crazy if you like, but a pair of jeans and a stripy t-shirt will do just as well...



PE OPPORTUNITIES

We are hoping to arrange some activities for pupils between now and Christmas:-

Climbing - run at the Redpoint Climbing Centre in Bedminster. Open to pupils in KS2
After school at either 4pm or 4:30pm. (TBC). Each session lasts 1.5 hours.
We are looking at either a Wednesday or Thursday.
£75 per child for 5 sessions (groups of 6).

Skiing - run at Mendip Activity Centre. This is open to pupils in Years 5 and 6
After school on Thursdays. 8 spaces available.
The cost of the session would be £20+VAT per child for a 1.5 hour lesson.
Sessions will run for 6 weeks starting after the October half term moving towards Christmas.

For both clubs parents will need to make their own arrangements to transport children to and from the venues as we cannot offer any school transport.

At this stage we need to establish whether there is sufficient interest in both the above to go ahead and make firm arrangements. If you would like to express an interest please click on the relevant link below and complete the form by next Monday, 13th September.

<https://forms.office.com/r/x8kXFEepNr> - Climbing Club

<https://forms.office.com/r/mwLqVPAB3b> - Skiing Club

UNWELCOME VISITORS!

We have been notified of cases of headlice in some classes. I am attaching guidance on treatment for headlice from our School Nurse for your information.

We would be grateful if you could check your child's head for headlice and take appropriate action as soon as possible, so that we can eradicate these unwelcome visitors.

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING - FRIDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

Our annual Macmillan Coffee event is being held on Friday 24th September in the School Hall from 9am to 11.30am. 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! The funds raised all go to the Macmillan Cancer Support charity. Parent help is very welcome for this event.

As usual, we will welcome your yummy cakes (which are always so fantastic). **If you are making cakes at home to donate, please be allergy-aware and label baked goods accordingly.** Please bring your cakes in on the afternoon before or Friday morning. This year we are also having a Non-Uniform day. Last year we had some fantastic raffle prizes; please could you spare a prize or two again this year? If your child wishes to buy a cake at morning break time and participate in the non-school uniform day please send in a donation to support the Macmillan charity.

CHEW STOKE SCHOOL SOCIETY STALL AT HARVEST HOME

Lucy Chalk, who chairs our School Society (for former students and their families) is running a stall at this Saturday's Harvest Home to raise funds for the Society. She will be selling nearly new/excellent condition children's toys and books. If you have any items you would like to donate please deliver them to Lucy at home or bring them along to the show early on the day. Thank you.

PTA NEWS

Welcome back to a new year! Our first fundraising event of the year takes place this Saturday! The PTA are running a fundraising event after the Harvest Home on Saturday 11th Sept. Harvest Home have kindly offered us the use of their marquee from 7.30pm and there will be a cash bar/hog roast. Ticket price is £12.50 per person, available from PTA reps.

We hope it will be a nice opportunity for parents and friends to get together for a catch up after the summer holidays/Covid restrictions, and raise some money for the school.

Next month, on the 11th October, we will be holding another Rags2Riches collection, so if you have had a clear-out over the summer holidays this will be an ideal opportunity to pass on old clothing and raise money for the school at the same time! More details to follow.

IT'S TIME TO REGISTER A SCARECROW FOR HARVEY'S SCARECROW TRAIL 2021!

Harvey's Scarecrow Trail is an annual community event for all the family to enjoy and involves residents, schools and businesses making scarecrows and displaying them around the Chew Valley. It's similar to a giant treasure hunt. Scarecrows will appear from 3rd October to 31st October 2021 and a map plotting all the locations of Harvey's scarecrows will be sold for £4 by local businesses kindly supporting the trail.

The event is in aid of A Sibling's Wish <https://www.asiblingswish.com> The charity, founded in memory of 9-year-old Harvey Hext a former pupil of Winford Primary School, fundraises for projects to help children nationwide cope with bereavement.

Register a scarecrow

Anyone can join in wherever you live. The theme for Harvey's Scarecrows this year is Screen Time Unlimited; we hope it will inspire our fabulous scarecrow builders to get creative. Simply register at <https://harveyscarecrow.com/register> or complete and return the attached registration form before **18 September 2021**.

Thank you for your support and we hope you are able to join in the fun!

Best wishes

Aunt Sally <https://harveyscarecrow.com>