



# Chew Stoke Church School Newsletter



## INTRODUCTION FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

The Festive season is moving closer and the week after next sees the start of our Christmas celebrations with Christmas Craft Day on Wednesday 1st December, followed in the evening by the Christingle service at St Andrew's Church at 6.30pm. You will shortly be receiving a candle and collection envelope together with instructions for making your Christingle (spares are available from the School Office). We hope you will be able to join us for this magical and very special start to Christmas. The PTA are planning on holding an outdoor Christmas market at the school on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> December; alongside the stalls will be a hog roast, bar and a games room for the children. So please wrap up warm and come and join us for an evening of festivities - more details will follow.

Our annual Christmas Craft Day takes place on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> December; this is also a super day in school and certainly gets us all in the Christmas spirit. The children may wear non-school uniform; in exchange for wearing 'home clothes' we are asking children to bring in a bottle or box of chocolates which we will donate to the PTA for their Bottle Stall at the Christmas Market on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December. We are hoping that parents will be able to join us for Craft Day. To make this fit with our current Covid guidelines it will be necessary to limit the number of parents in a classroom at any one time, so please only sign up for either a morning session or an afternoon session. If necessary we will split the morning session into two parts. If you would like to help out on the day please sign up using this link <https://forms.office.com/r/1jPcprHb6n>

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Last Thursday the whole school came together for a 2-minute silence for Remembrance Day. Our Worship, Ethos and Equality Team led the service for us. Well done to our Year 6 children who raised over £400 selling poppies.



This week we marked Anti-Bullying Week by asking all the children to wear odd socks to school. This reminded us that we are all different and unique and that we should celebrate everyone's individuality.

### **PLEASE PARK WITH CARE**

I am sorry to be writing on this subject again, but we have received further complaints from local residents about inconsiderate car parking. On this occasion, the car in question was parked in front of a resident's garage in Pilgrims Way; this not only prevented the resident from leaving her house but also meant that a delivery lorry had to park in the middle of the road, blocking Pilgrims Way in both directions. I believe the local police were going to be informed about this incident and may well be patrolling the area in the coming weeks. Please take care when parking and be considerate towards local residents, who do so much to support our school.

### **FORTHCOMING CLASS ASSEMBLIES**

Badger Class will be presenting their class assembly next Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> November. The assembly starts at 9.10am but parents and guests should be seated in the hall by 9am. We hope you will be able to stay after the assembly to enjoy some refreshments.

Please enter and leave the hall by the large playground gate. Thank you.

### **NEW LUNCH MENU**

Starting from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> November we have a new lunch menu. Copies of the new menu have been sent home today with the children and a copy can also be found on our website at <http://www.chewstokeacademy.org/Parents/School-Meals/>

### **BADGER CLASS CAKE SALE**

Next Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November Badger Class will be hosting a cake sale. Cakes will be available to buy at the end of school. Donations of cakes should be brought into school on the morning of the 26<sup>th</sup> November - individual cakes or larger family sized cakes are all welcome!

### **PTA NEWS**

It's that time of year when things start to get really busy! Please put all these dates in your diary. 🌲🌲🌲

The very popular **CHEW STOKE FESTIVE WINDOWS TRAIL IS BACK!!!** ❄️❄️ Walk the trail between 4pm and 6pm between 4<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> December and marvel at the beautifully lit up windows and get into the Christmas spirit. There is also a clue to solve with a prize for the winner. **WE NEED ENTRIES FOR THIS EVENT!** Decorate your window with something festive, the more color and lights the better. Snowmen, Santa, candles, tinsel, advent scenes, holly, wreaths are just some ideas to get you started. There are also prizes to be won for best

dressed windows. Email [chewstokeschoolpta@gmail.com](mailto:chewstokeschoolpta@gmail.com) to obtain a trail map and/or enter your window. We are asking for a £5 donation for each. Look us up on Facebook and Instagram @chewfestivewindowtrail. Fliers advertising both these events are at the end of the newsletter. 🧑‍🎄🌲❄️🪄🎅

Christmas Wreath Workshop- Lucy Brown and Amy Maggs are hosting a wreath making day on the 27<sup>th</sup> November. The sessions are 3pm-5pm or 5.30pm to 7.30pm. They will provide the foliage and beautiful embellishments plus hot drinks/Prosecco and mince pies. The session costs £40 per wreath. It's a lovely thing to do with a child or a group of friends. Please contact Lucy on 07784375215. All profit goes to the PTA. Thank you Lucy and Amy for doing this! A flyer advertising this event is at the end of the newsletter. ❤️❄️🌲🧑‍🎄🎅

We need donations for the Christmas raffle so please contact your Class rep if you have something to offer. This is a good one if you work for a local business, for example flower arrangements, meal vouchers, meat box voucher...

Santa will be visiting Chew Stoke in the last week of term! Date to be confirmed. We hope to have the Christmas Fayre on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December as already mentioned but even if we do, we will be keeping Santa's visit separate to this. In previous years we have set up a grotto at the Fayre but after last years successful Santa visit to school we have decided to carry this on. We ask for a voluntary donation of £6 per child and EVERY child will receive a gift. 🧑‍🎄🎅🎁🎁

\*\*\*\*\*BADGER CAKE SALE FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER\*\*\*\*\* Please bring all your cakes and bakes to the school in the morning or at pick up. Shop bought cakes are gratefully received. PLEASE NO NUTS! And if you do make a gluten or dairy free cake please can you label it as such. Don't forget to bring in your £1 to buy a cake that day. Further reminders will be sent out. 🍰🧁🍪

If the Christmas Fayre does go ahead we will need lots of jam jars for the sweet tombola so please start saving. We will also need good quality or unused gifts for our present room. We will let you know more nearer the time. 📢📢

Another great and easy way to help raise funds for the PTA is to use Amazon Smile every time you shop. It's so easy and means that each time you buy something from Amazon, the school gets a percentage. Individually it's a small amount but over the whole school it can be considerable and it all helps.

**Head to your Amazon account, find settings on the main menu, tap on Amazon Smile and follow the on screen instructions to set up "Chew Stoke Parent Teacher Association" as a beneficiary of your spending. Please try to do it now so that the Christmas shopping can be taken into consideration.**

Please check out the **Chew Stoke School Parents Page** on Facebook for updates and info about events but we also try to keep everyone informed via the WhatsApp groups.

Your PTA Team ❤️

### **A SHOUT OUT FOR THE LIBRARY!**

Libraries are BRILLIANT. You can borrow endless books for yourself and your children and all completely free. Not having to buy books will save you space, money and improve your environmental impact. What's not to love?

With each membership, you can borrow up to 20 books at a time. The best thing is you can find books you especially like on the easy-to-use app and order them in to your local branch. You can choose from the entire library catalogue of South West England! When they are ready to pick up, you get an email, and you can easily renew them using the app as well. Plus, most children's books don't have late return fees.

Did you know we have two services to choose from in the Chew Valley?

There is the Chew Valley Library (previously known as Bishop Sutton Community Library), based at the Methodist Church in Bishop Sutton. It's open every week Thurs 2-4.30pm and Sat 10-12. There is a cafe, sofas, toys and often craft activities, all run by lovely volunteers who make you feel so welcome while you browse and read with your children and catch up with friends. It's a great option for getting out of the house on a wet weekend! Weblink here: <https://chewvalleylibrary.org.uk>

There is also a Mobile Library Service, which visits Chew Stoke School fortnightly on Fridays 2.30-4pm. The next two dates are 26th Nov and 10th Dec. You can order books to pick up at the same time as collecting the kids - so easy :) Get the full timetable here: <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/mobile-library-service>

And as another bonus, with your membership card you can walk into any library in the South West and pick out books to borrow then and there. Books can be returned to any branch in the network.

Please take advantage of our brilliant library service - if we don't use it, we may lose it!