

January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Well it is lovely to come back in this New Year filled with the memories of an amazing term during the Autumn. The term finished with a range of fun festive activities and fantastic performances just before Christmas. I am sure you will all agree that there were some wonderful performances and it was a chance to be so very proud of our children. I must apologise about the standard of singing from one of the Queens in Snow White, more practice with Mrs Firth required, but she tried her best <sup>(3)</sup>!



Our New Website was launched just before Christmas and is still being developed. Please remember that most of the information about our learning in school will be updated on the website regularly. This includes information about learning in classes and support for phonics. We have also moved onto our Bromcom information management system over last term. Please keep an eye out for information from Mrs Dawson regarding updates with the My Child at School (MCAS) system to help us streamline bookings, payments and permissions.

## Wrap Around Care

<u>Our After School Stay and Play club now runs until 5PM every day that the school is open.</u> Please pass this information onto any prospective parents that you may know. Also please support our Stay and Play club so that we can sustain this fantastic provision. Our Breakfast club has now got a lot of customers but we would love more children in our stay and play club. Breakfast club and Stay and Play (after school club) operate every single day the school is open.

## <u>PTFA</u>

Again, a big thank you for all the support from the PTFA. They have continued to work hard to raise money for school and make memorable days and events possible. They funded our tickets for the courtyard Panto and held a very competitive Pub Quiz last term. (Second place again for my team.) They also supported all of the festive fun and had a great day of craft for the Christmas cards. Our recent Christmas Bingo raised over £2000 for the school. The PTFA are always welcoming to new members and if you can offer your help in any way it is always appreciated.

## Eco Warriors

Mrs McShee and her Eco-Warriors will continue to promote environmental action this year. Keep a look out for the Eco Newsletter. We will also be reminding families about not leaving cars running while waiting in the lane.

## <u>Attendance</u>

Attendance last year was 96%. This was lower than usual. There were a range of reasons for this, however term time holidays contributed heavily to this. I thank you for your support in this. Please remind yourself of the rules regarding term time holidays. (*Below*)

#### HOLIDAYS

Please remember that holidays cannot be authorised for pupils (except in exceptional circumstances) more details on this can be found in the TCAT attendance policy. The Local authority expects us to refer unauthorised absence for fixed penalty notices when absences reach the threshold of 10 sessions (that is 5 days AM and PM). More detail about this can be found in our attendance policy.

https://threecountiesacademytrust.com/policies-and-trust-documentation/policies

## START AND END OF THE DAY

Please drop off between 8:40 and 8:50. A good prompt start really helps in the morning. Some key lessons start as soon as the register is complete.

To aid collection and parking issues please remember that children in Monkey Puzzle and Maple class can be collected from 3PM. If you are collecting younger children, prompt departure in cars can allow parents and carers collecting Willow and Oak class pupils to find a space when they arrive at 3:10. If you have older children and younger children, you can collect at 3:10 to avoid waiting, and children can happily chat while waiting.

## Bad Weather

During this winter period please be aware that any closures will be notified on the school website homepage <u>www.stokeprior.hereford.sch.uk</u>

and the Hereford council School Closure page. <u>www.herefordshire.gov.uk/schools-</u> <u>education/school-closures</u>

# SATS WEEK

For year 6 children, this year the SATs week will be week beginning 12<sup>th</sup> May 2025. Term dates for this year and next year are on our website.

https://www.stokeprior.hereford.sch.uk/general/termdates

You can also subscribe to our calendar, if like me, you like to use your calendar on your phone or other devices.

https://www.stokeprior.hereford.sch.uk/calendar

Thanks again for your continued support. I love my job and enjoy being part of the wonderful community that is Stoke Prior School.

Yours Sincerely.

Mr M Lewis