

Staplegrove C of E Primary School

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Issue 6

Staplegrove C of E Primary School
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Dear Parents,

We have had a really exciting start to our Spring term this year. Children and staff were involved in our Burn's day celebrations on Thursday 24th and Friday 25th January and this was a fantastic experience!! Miss Moneagle organised 2 fantastic days for our school and she even played her pipes for us as we sampled haggis, neaps and tatties!! This sort of experience will hopefully stay with the children forever and help to make their education come alive. The only complaint received about Burn's day is that we don't have a Welsh, Irish or English celebration day planned!!!

Kind regards,

Kirsti Nelson
Headteacher

Christmas Quiz result

Lots of people entered our school quiz this year and sold quiz sheets to their friends and we managed to raise approximately £100 for FOSS. The winner of the competition was Mrs Norma Wood, who was sold a sheet by her daughter in laws mother who is a friend of one of the grandparents at our school - this goes to show how widely our quiz was circulated! For those of you who would like to know the answers, they are posted on the FOSS notice board at the front of the school!

FOSS update

We have now got a new FOSS committee that will oversee the FOSS events in the school. The committee is made up of a representative from each class (although we have not got anybody from Cedar class at the moment) and we have now elected the officers roles within the committee. A big thank you to all of the new committee, particularly the officers who have made it possible to rekindle our PTA this year!

Our new FOSS committee and Class Reps are : Mr David Hincks (Beech class) as Chair person, Mrs Jill Batstone (Rowan class) as Treasurer and Mrs Claire Dermody (Beech and Oak classes) as Secretary. Mrs Helen Smith (Elm and Cherry classes), Ms Sarah Jobling (Beech and Oak classes), Mrs Bee Barrington (Beech class), Ms Heidi Thorne (Beech and Oak classes), Mrs Nicole James-Burgess (Rowan class), Ms Alison Norris (Oak class), Mrs Di Rigby (Willow class).

Parents forum evening

I am running a parent forum evening on Wednesday 6th February at 6pm to obtain your views on how our school reports your child's progress. We are about to look at changing our report format for the end of year report and we would like your views on this, parents evenings and anything else you feel would improve the information you receive. Please support this evening, as your views are very important to us. A reply slip is enclosed in this newsletter.

Valentine Cake Sale and Non uniform day

You have already received a letter from James Kapp in Oak class asking for support in making cakes for his cake sale. Thank you for all of your offers of help, I think we will have lots of goodies for sale!!! James and I have also decided that it would be nice to make this an even more exciting event by holding a non-school uniform day based on a red theme as it is valentines! The penalty for not having to wear uniform will be 50p and all proceeds will go to James collection for outside furniture for the new pergoda. We encourage children to use their initiative and it is brilliant when they come to me with their ideas.

World Book Day

We are going to celebrate this event on Friday 7th March with a book character day! (A day later than the official day!!) All of the children are invited to come to school dressed as one of their favourite book characters and there will be a special assembly to parade the outfits and chose a winner from each class!! Parents are obviously invited to join with us in this celebration!! I hope by letting you know with lots of notice that you can help you child create a special outfit for the day!!!

School Records

Our box of school records has turned up. They were assumed lost but we now have all of the School Log Books dating back to 1872, giving us a continual record of our school's history. It makes fascinating reading and has lots of paper work, including registers to back this up. If you are interested in having a look, please contact me at the school.

Attendance Officer visit

Our Attendance Officer visited our school on Monday 28th January to review the levels of attendance at our school. She was particularly focussing on children who have got an attendance record of less than 92%, both authorised and unauthorised. Families with lots of unauthorised absences are liable for a penalty letter and potential fine. This does include children who are persistently late as these are all recorded for the officer to see. Children are marked as late if they are coming to school and having to be taken to the office, and late-unauthorised if this is after 9.10 a.m. All children who arrive at school after 8.55a.m MUST be taken to the office and will then be accompanied to their classroom.

Cool Milk

Many children at our school enjoy having a drink of milk with their snack at playtime. If you would like you child to have milk, please register them at www.coolmilk.com and they will start receiving this in school. If your child is under 5, they are entitled to free milk, if registered, until their 5th birthday!!

Mothering Sunday Workshop

Kate Taylor will be running a very special workshop on Saturday 1st March to celebrate Mothering Sunday. The times have not been finalised but we think it will be from 1pm-4pm. The children will do various activities including making some food to serve at a tea party for their mums at the end of the session! More details and a booking form will follow later. There are limited places so you will need to book to avoid disappointment.

Eco- committee

We are keen to encourage everybody at Staplegrove to be aware of environmental issues and we have now appointed an eco-committee at our school. This committee is chaired by Miss Potter and successful members had to write a letter to her, explaining why they would like the role! Our new committee members and their specialist areas are : Beth Littlejohns and Natasha Wilson (litter), Elsie Flowers and Melissa Harding (healthy living), Ellie McKay and Charlotte Nelson (water), Chloe Peters and Dulcia Sweet (energy), Tina Ly and Izzy Cope (conservation), Jack Arthur and David Kerr (pupil participation), Jacob Winkworth and Jordan Rideout (school grounds), Archie Walton and Rhys Coates (recycling), Maddy Morley and Leah Cox (transport). Well done to these children! They will receive their badge in assembly and their pictures will appear on the website very soon!!!

New Badges will also be awarded to those children who have represented the school in the Central Venue Leagues (CVL) and those children who are Playleaders.

Orienteering

Please see the poster on the school noticeboard for details of orienteering events this year in or near Somerset – have a great time trying something new !

Sainsburys MEND – FREE KIDS FITNESS CLUBS

MEND is Mind, Exercise, Nutrition.. Do It! MEND is a healthy lifestyle programme for 7-13 year old children and their families which will run twice a week at The Castle School for 10 weeks. Please phone 0207 231 7225 for more details.

Bear Mystery!

Finally, we have an exciting mystery to solve! A very lovely, very large teddy bear was left on the doorstep of the church recently and he has now arrived in Elm class! The children love him and we are having a competition to choose a suitable name for him! The mystery is that we don't know who delivered him to the church in the first place and we don't know who to thank-So, all I can do is say, if you do know who is responsible can you pass our thanks on!!!

NEWSFLASH.....ELM class have named the bear Fluffy!! This name was suggested by Joshua Lukins and voted for by the majority of his class!!!!!!!