

Staplegrove C of E Primary School

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Issue 3

Staplegrove C of E Primary School
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Welcome back after half term, I hope you all had a lovely break.. I hate to remind you all but Christmas is rapidly approaching at the end of this half term!! We have had the calendars back from Art Projects for Schools and they look fabulous- I'm sure they will make really good Christmas presents along with the school photos which will be done on Wednesday 18th November.

See you all over the next few evenings at parents evening!

Kind regards,

Kirsti Nelson

The next Staplegrove staff baby!!

I have great pleasure in announcing that Mrs Hill is expecting a baby next April!! We are all very excited and wish her loads of love and luck in the coming months. Mrs Hill is always doing brain gym with her class so I am sure baby will be jumping around very soon! Congratulations to Katie and Martin on this lovely news!!

Healthy snacks

As you know we received healthy school status in July 2007. We agreed back then that all snacks for playtime should be either fresh fruit or vegetables. This is following on from the fresh fruit scheme offered to all Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 children. Children should be sent to school with a mid morning snack of either fresh fruit or vegetables. It is a long morning between having breakfast and lunchtime so it is really important the children have sufficient "fuel" to enable them to do their best learning. Having a bottle of water they can access through lesson time is also really important to good learning.

Lunch boxes should contain a good balance and should not include chocolate bars. The eating habits that children learn now will affect their later lifestyles.

Please help us to help your children.

First Aid procedures

We are constantly reviewing and revising our policies and procedures at Staplegrove to ensure the best provision for your children. And in response to your comments and new statutory guidance, we have made some changes. I have put the key changes down in this newsletter but the full guidance is available on the school website.

One of the main changes is to how we administer medicine in school. Prescribed medicine should only be brought into school when essential. Parents should where possible ask the doctor to prescribe in dose frequencies that fit outside the school day. If it does need to be taken during the school day and administered by a

member of staff, the medicine needs to come into the school office in the original container. This should have the name of the child and the clear dosage displayed on the pharmacy label. You will be required to complete a form giving your permission and the school will complete an agreement to do this. Medication will be stored in the staff room, either in the fridge or in a marked cupboard. It is your responsibility to come and collect this from the office at the end of the day.

The school rule still remains that if a child is ill enough to be put on a course of antibiotics they should have time to get well in the home environment where their progress can be monitored carefully. Children prescribed antibiotics MUST stay home for a full 24 hours after the first dose and can return any time after this as long as they are well enough. We do understand how difficult it is for working parents but children who are clearly not well enough to be in school will be sent home. It is not fair on school staff or the other children in the class.

The school will administer non-prescribed medicines (apart from any product containing Ibuprofen such as Calpol) with written permission of the parent. This should have clear instructions about the dose and frequency. These will be stored in a clearly labelled box in the staff room.

Calculations Evening

So many of you have said to us that “ maths is not taught the same as when we were at school!” For this reason we are running a special “calculations evening” which will be accompanied by a help leaflet explaining how addition, subtraction, multiplication and division are taught at the different stages at Staplegrove. Miss Bolton will run this session and it is open to all parents. The date will be Thursday 3rd December at 6.30pm. Please complete the attached sheet to book your place.

SCS-school dinners

We have just been informed of the annual price increase for SCS school dinners which will take effect from 1st January 2010. This will mean that a two course meal will be :

Key stage 1	£2.15 (main meal and dessert)
Key stage 2	£2.30 (main meal and dessert)

SCS are also offering from January an option where you can order just the main course :

Key stage 1	£1.85 (just main course)
Key stage 2	£1.95 (just main course)

FOSS

We had our best turn out for a long time at the FOSS AGM and it was brilliant to have several new members from Elm class join the committee. We have all classes

well represented apart from Cedar class. If there are any other parents that could join FOSS for Cedar it would give us a fair representation across the school. There are lots of new ideas flying round and if you have any ideas for fund raisers, even if you do not want to join the committee, please let us know. The aim of FOSS is not just to raise school funds, but also to enhance opportunities for all the children at our school by running events such as the discos, Father Christmas visits and Easter events.

The next FOSS event is the Christmas Bingo on Friday 4th December.

This will be a non-school uniform day and children are asked to bring a contribution of 50p which will enable us to get some prizes for the bingo.

Christmas Card Competition

The Gazette are again running their Christmas competition to design a Christmas card.

The winning entry will be featured on their special Christmas card for 2009 and the lucky winner will scoop a prize worth £50 with goodies worth £100 for their school.

The competition is aimed at children of primary school age in Somerset and designing the card could make a fun activity.

Judges will be looking for an eye-catching, colourful and creative design to evoke the spirit of Christmas.

Artwork must reach the Gazette office by 9am on November 20 and each entry should have the following details on the back: name, age, contact phone number, class and school.

Entries can be either posted or dropped off in person to the offices at Somerset County Gazette, St James Street, Taunton, TA1 1JR. All entries will be showcased in a gallery on our website – somersetcountygazette.co.uk – and readers will be able to vote by text for their favourite.

Pupils Clothing and Belongings

Please ensure that all items of school uniform and belongings such as water bottles and lunchboxes are clearly labelled. Any items of lost property can be collected from the school office.

Parking

Please be aware that parents should not park in the School Car Park (unless by prior agreement with Mrs Nelson). Please do not block the school gates or park on the yellow zig zag lines – access is needed to the school grounds by the services in case of an emergency and you could be liable for a financial penalty, some visitors have been fined recently for parking too close to road junctions. Please help the school and be considerate to the local residents in the community by parking with care, thank you very much.