

# Staplegrove C of E Primary School

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Issue 2

Staplegrove C of E Primary School  
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Dear Parents,

Another half term has flashed by and it is lovely to have Elm class in full time now. They have really settled in well to the routine of school life and hopefully so have their parents!!

I hope you all have a lovely half term!

Kind regards

Kirsti Nelson

### Welcome to Mr Chiczewski

Karl Chiczewski (Father of James in Willow class) has taken over as our School Site Manager from Monday 19 October, after a week working alongside George Hendry for a handover period. He is already proving to be a brilliant appointment and we wish him well in this new role.

George Hendry had a special assembly last Friday when he was presented with book tokens as a leaving gift. He is an avid reader and loved the thought of being able to spend loads in Waterstones!! George has given 100% to our school in the past 5 years and will be very missed. We wish him a very happy retirement and hope that he will be in to visit us lots!!

### Prefects for 2009-10

Every year I appoint Year 6 prefects that have the duty of helping me represent the school at different events. They have already been to the local Church to participate in the Harvest Service and their next duty will be to help at parents evening.

It is a very important role and the children have to apply in writing for the job explaining why they think they should be chosen.

This year our prefects are Maddy Morley, Hari Wade, Stuart Parke, Leah Cox, Emma Dermody, Joe Morris, Lucy Bailey, Jai-yi Qu, Jesse Mooney, Caitlin Pengelly, Tom Arthur, Kayleigh Fry, Jade Powell, Emillie Prouse and Jacob Winkworth.

Well done to all of them, I know they will take their role very seriously and do a brilliant job.

### FOSS dates

Thank you to all of the people who attended the FOSS AGM last week. It was a record turn out and it was brilliant to see so many of the Elm Class parents there. FOSS has a really important role in our school and enhances school life for all of the children by providing the extras. They also make sure that we have exciting events for the school to enjoy such as school discos, bingos and quizzes to name but a few!! (I must say congratulations to the staff team who won the quiz on Friday. Well done Miss Huddy, Miss McInnes, Mrs Parker, Miss Power and Miss Evans!)

A special thanks must go to the committee for the time they put into the different events and a particular thanks goes to Jill Batstone who has decided to stand down after several years of very hard work. Thank you all, your efforts are very much appreciated.

### Bags for Schools

A blue bag has been sent out to you this week to fill with any old clothing or materials. These bags will be collected on the morning of Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November, please ensure your filled bags are in school in the outside classroom by 9.30am on the day. Thank you.

Again, thanks goes to Mrs Smith( her daughter is Amy in Oak Class) who got us involved with this fund raiser. It has been brilliant and raised over £500 for the school so far.

If you have any fund raising ideas, please let myself or FOSS know!!!

### Teaching Assistant Appointments

Just for your information, an advert will appear in the Somerset County Gazette this week for Teaching Assistant positions within our school. The application form is available on the school website and should be accompanied by a letter of application if you are interested in applying.

### Facebook

As you are aware, many of our school community are Facebook users!!! It is a fantastic social networking site and brings lots of people together.

Teaching Unions have advised that it can cause problems within a school community if Teachers and Teaching Assistants are on friends lists of parents, as information can inadvertently be passed on. For this reason, I have asked Staff not to accept friendship requests anymore.

I can assure you that we are not being off-ish and unfriendly and we will still be just as approachable around school and out of school time but I feel that we need to take this advice seriously.

### Collection from Clubs

We have lots of after school clubs running for the children at our school. Staff who run these clubs often have other commitments after the club which they need to get to. Please ensure you pick your child up promptly. If your child has to be taken to Grovers, this will incur a cost to you.

### Change of Charging for Grovers

Our Grovers Before and After School Club has become increasingly popular, so much so that on several nights we have reached our maximum number of pupils. When this is reached we have to turn other people away. There is now a cost implication of cancelling places at late notice so for this reason we will no longer be able to offer a refund for places cancelled with less than 48 hours notice (with the exception of a child being absent from school due to illness). The service is non-profit making and all monies go towards paying the overheads occurred.

### School Link vouchers

Today School Link catalogues will be going home, this offers you the chance to order books at bargain prices and at the same time raises funds for the School. You can either order direct online or return your orders to the School Office. If you return the order to School then you will not have to pay postage and packing! Please return any orders to the School Office by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

### Date changes from original dates list

Apologies we have changed the last INSET day for the academic year 2009/10. The school will now be shut to pupils on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June, and not Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April.

The Kilve dates have had to change due to the transition meetings for secondary schools so this will now take place the week beginning Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July (Cedar and Willow Classes only). This has a knock on effect to our school open day which will now take place Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July.

### Elaine Duley- our Parent Family Support Adviser

Last year we were lucky enough to be allocated some time for a PFSA (Parent and Family Support Advisor). Elaine Duley started this role and it has been a real asset to our school. Elaine is there to offer support on parenting and support for parents, child behaviour and as a link to other professionals (amongst other things), a leaflet is available from the office. She used to come into school every other Tuesday morning but from now she will only come in when requested. If you feel she could be of help to you and your family, please pick up a leaflet or ring her on 07887 947966 during school hours, or leave a message on her answer phone.

### Scout Group Firework display

Staplegrave Scouts have got their fireworks display on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> November. The gates open at 6.00pm, bonfire is being lit at 7.00pm and the fireworks are from 7.30pm. There is a charge of £3.50 per adult and children £1.50 payable at the event.

### Staplegrave Remembrance Service

The 11<sup>th</sup> hour of the 11<sup>th</sup> day of the 11<sup>th</sup> month will again fall upon a school day this year and Kate Taylor is going to lead a special remembrance service in school on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. It will be at 10.30 and we will all join together for a minutes silence at 11 o'clock. If you would like to come and join us for this service and for coffee before 11 o'clock, you are very welcome.

Poppies will go on sale the week after half term and prefects will be going round to each class on a daily basis to sell them to everybody.

Poppy day is a reminder to think of all of people serving our country in the past but also at this current time. Lots of our families have an involvement with the forces and we are thinking about them even more than usual on this special day.

### Tempest Photos

Just a reminder that the Tempest Photographers will be in school from 8.30a.m Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November to take family portraits. If you would like your children to be photographed with siblings who are not at the school (or with yourselves!!), please come to the school hall at 8.30am. Children will have their photos taken individually and with siblings in other classes during the school day and the photographs will be ready for you to give as that special Christmas present!