



SLIMBRIDGE

primary school

Newsletter 3– 10.10.17

Dear Parents/Carers,

The weather and number of leaves on the playground are making the school look very autumnal, can I take the opportunity to remind parents that the children need a sturdy pair of shoes and a waterproof coat. We go outside whenever possible, even in the rain! Please ensure all clothes and shoes are named, we will always try to reunite named clothes with the owner.

I had some queries about water bottles in class. Our policy is that we encourage children to drink water during the day, scientifically we know that children learn better if they drink regularly. The children can have a personal water bottle kept in the classroom, please make sure these are named. However, we recognise that these drinks bottles are also the children's lunchtime drinks and that some children don't like water. Therefore, we will not pour away the contents of bottles, equally, if we need to refill bottles we will only use water.

This Friday we will be have an **OPEN CLASSROOM** session with a focus on writing. Parents and family members are very welcome to visit classrooms from 9.00—9.30 to see what the children have been learning.

Regards
Mrs Cooke

Governors Update

Firstly, a huge thank you to Laura, who has stepped down as Chair of Governors and a Parent Governor after an amazing nine years – nine years that have seen huge successes in the achievements and progress of the school. Thank you very much, Laura – a very tough act to follow!

We have two new governors joining us this term – the Governing Body is very pleased to welcome Adrian Jordan onto the team as our newest Parent Governor and Linda Dibley becomes our latest Co-Opted Governor (what used to be called Community Governors).

For the first time in over a year, this means we now have a full complement of governors. With a number of relatively new recruits in the team – Emily, Lucy, Linda and Adrian have all joined us within the last six to eight months – this influx of 'new blood' will be invaluable, providing fresh perspectives on the challenges we face through the year.

We have had good results from last year – attainment and progress improved on the previous year, with the focus on reading and spelling having significant effect. The staff and governors will obviously be looking to maintain this momentum across the school this year.

Tricia Carrington and I are now sharing the role of Chair of Governors, with Sarah Kiddle as Vice-Chair. As you know, Sarah also set up the Parents' Forum last year, with parent representatives from each class involved. This gives a great opportunity for parents to have their say – and I believe there is still a vacancy for a parent from Reception class if anyone is interested?

Communication is always a key issue, and we are going to be looking at the best ways to communicate children's progress to parents. We are always keen to hear your thoughts about the school, so please either contact Sarah through the Parents' Forum or, if you would rather contact Tricia or me directly, email us on chair@slimbridge.gloucs.sch.uk, or contact us via Nikki Elliott in the Office.

Steve Williamson
Co-Chair of Governors

IMPORTANT DATES.

Friday 13th October—School Council Cake Sale To help us adopt an otter. **CAKES FROM ALL CLASSES PLEASE.**

Tuesday 17th October - Flu vaccinations for Reception, Y1,2,3,4.

Wednesday 18th October—**Book Share morning.** Children to share their favourite books

Friday 20th October—School photographs (individuals), **HARVEST FESTIVAL** And **SCHOOL DISCO**

W/B 24th October—Half Term

Monday 30th October—INSET DAY

Tuesday 31st October—Knex Challenge for Year 5 & 6.

Friday 11th November - Band and Curry night

Friday 1st December—FOSS Christmas Fair

Thursday 14th December—Pantomime (in school)

Harvest Festival

Friday 20th October at 1.30 at the Church.

Donations of tins, food or toiletries will be distributed by the Church to the local area.

FOSS

The new team have settled in and following our first meeting we've got lots planned between now and Christmas.

This is one of the busiest terms for fundraising so there's lots going on for your diaries, and plenty of ways you can help us no matter how small.

On the last day of the half term (Friday 20th October) FoSS will be serving refreshments at the Harvest Festival at the church. The festival starts at 1.30pm however we will be open for business from about 1pm. **We'd really appreciate donations of cakes - bring to school in the morning or straight to the church.**

That evening we're holding a half term disco. Little Otters & Key Stage 1 from 5-6pm (parent supervision required) Key Stage 2 from 6.15-7.15pm. Entrance is £3 and you can pay on the door. There'll be face painting & glitter, glow bands and refreshments so remember to bring some pocket money.

The Tudor Arms are supporting the school by hosting a great Live Music & Curry Night Friday 3rd November at 7.30pm. We've been so lucky that blues & soul band 'The Broken Stones' (featuring the lovely Mrs Elliot) will be playing. For just £8 per ticket you'll have a curry & rice and some fantastic live music & dancing. Tickets are available in the school office - please support our event it promises to be a great night!

TBC non-uniform day. To help us with our Christmas Fair, in exchange for a non-uniform day we'd like Key Stage 1 Children to bring in a chocolate bar each and Key Stage 2 Children to bring in a plastic bottle (drinks, bubble bath, shower gel) each.

Christmas Cards - The children have already been hard at work designing and creating some beautiful cards you can buy. Look out for the proofs and order forms in bags soon after half term.

Our Christmas Fair is on Friday 1st December. If you are a parent or friend at the school with a small business or crafty skill we'd love for you to have a stall. They're just £5 a table. Let us know!

On Sunday 3rd December we're teaming up with the Dursley Round Table Santa Sleigh as it makes its way from Box Road through the Village. We're looking for as many runners as possible to carry buckets and take donations door to door. It's a fun and energetic night!

Lastly on Friday 15th December (Last day of term and Christmas Jumper Day) we are holding a 'Breakfast with Father Christmas' at school. We'll have an early morning festive breakfast with a special visit from the man himself. Each child will get a photo to take home at the end of the day. Tickets will be limited. More information on this to follow soon.

If you want to attend or are able to help with any of the above events then please see one of the team or leave a message with Mrs Elliot in the office.

Thank you

Slimbridge Cubs

Wednesdays at the WWT, 6.30pm

Come down for lots of fun and activities.

The first term is free!