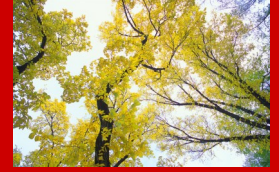




# Slimbridge News

09.09.14

[www.slimbridgeprimaryschool.ik.org](http://www.slimbridgeprimaryschool.ik.org)



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the new academic year. We have been really busy over the summer changing the entrance hall, (no more playing sardines whilst waiting for Mrs Elliott) and having emergency work done on the roof.

We have been joined by Mrs Wood, who is teaching the Year 1 in the hall every morning. The children have settled into their routine very quickly and if anybody would like to see the classes in action make an appointment with Mrs Cooke for a quick tour.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Ms Jade Sturt, Mrs Fielder and Mrs Wilde at the end of the year. Jade had been with the school, as a volunteer, student and then playgroup assistant for quite a number of years, and her enthusiastic character will be much missed. Although Mrs Fielder had only been with us a year and Mrs Wilde a matter of months, both were valued members of the team. We wish all three all the best for the future.

We have lots of new projects starting this year. We started to make changes to the playground rules at the end of last year, allowing the children to use most of the site. This was part of OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning), a project we hope will change the focus of playtimes from traditional games to something that looks more like Forest School, with den building, imaginative games and construction. This has been kindly financed by FOSS fundraising, thank you. There will be a parents meeting about OPAL soon, all are welcome.

Our staff training this September was from Philosophy for Children, and was all about developing questioning skills and discussion techniques. We will be sending out some BIG questions for you to discuss with your children later in the year, but watch out for your child wanting to discuss 'When are you old?' or 'Do I have to be friends with everyone?'. We are hoping they will start to say..... I understand what you are saying, however, I think..... I am sure you agree this would be a seriously useful life skill.

In addition, we will be working with Stone School on a project to develop the childrens' aspirations (one of our key values). This is a post Olympic, 21st Century legacy project called 'Be the best you can be', have a look at the website for more details on <http://www.21stcenturylegacy.com/>. We will also be continuing with Chess in Schools with Year 3 and 4, starting later this term.

Finally, we will be launching our **new website** later this term, we are very excited about the way it is looking. We have used a local web designer to set up and a local artist for the graphics. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the governors, particularly Mr Chris Meadows who has been managing the transition. Watch out for the launch date.

Regards  
Alison Cooke

## Top Tips

Please make sure all your child's new uniform is named clearly. We always try to return misplaced named clothing to the children. If clothes are not named they will be put in a box in the new foyer, please feel free to come and look through at any time.

## Calendar dates for 2014-2015

W/B		Term 1
<b>01.09.14</b>	Monday	INSET
	Tuesday	INSET
	Wednesday	First day for all years except New Reception
	Thursday	First day for Reception 14 (8.45- 11.45)
	Friday	Celebration Assembly all welcome 2.30pm
<b>08.09.14</b>	Monday	Clubs start Reception in until 11.45
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	Celebration Assembly all welcome 2.30pm
<b>15.09.14</b>	Monday	Reception in until 11.45
	Tuesday	Yr 6 trip to South Cerney with the Tyndale Cluster New Reception SHARE meeting 11.15am on Phonics
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	Celebration Assembly all welcome 2.30pm Cake Stall Class 4
<b>22.09.14</b>	Monday	Reception in until 1.00
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	Celebration Assembly all welcome 2.30pm
<b>29.09.14</b>	Monday	Reception in until 1.00
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	Harvest Festival at the Church
<b>06.10.14</b>	Monday	No Clubs – ‘Have a go’ maths calculations for parents! Reception in until 1.00
	Tuesday	
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	Celebration Assembly all welcome 2.30pm Cake stall Class 3
<b>13.10.14</b>	Monday	Reception in Full-time
	Tuesday	Yr 6 SHARE meeting TBC
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	Celebration Assembly all welcome 2.30pm
<b>20.10.14</b>	Monday	
	Tuesday	New National Curriculum Information Meeting
	Wednesday	
	Thursday	
	Friday	Celebration Assembly all welcome 2.30pm

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

**We will be changing our INSET training day from 23rd February to Monday 3rd November. The school will be closed to pupils on this day.**