



Little Stoke Primary School

Little Stoke Lane
Little Stoke
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Dear Parents,

Once again, welcome you all back to a new school year and a special welcome to our new Reception children and their families who will be joining us over the next few weeks. We are very happy that you are joining our school community and very much look forward to getting to know you all and building a strong, working relationship with you over the coming years. It is such an exciting time – for you and your children and for us as well.

The first week has been a time of settling down, getting to know each other and establishing positive routines in class. The children have adapted to being back well and across the school there is a happy and productive atmosphere – a great start everyone.

THEMES

New themes will begin in week 2 following an introduction at the end of week 1. The themes are as follows:

EYFS	We are Super!
Year 1	All in a Spin
Year 2	Let the Adventure Begin
Year 3	Illuminate
Year 4	Mischief Managed
Year 5	Deep, Dark Depths
Year 6	I wander, I wonder

Look out for the curriculum overviews which should arrive home by Monday. These will give you an idea of the key areas of learning for your children this term. The children are already talking excitedly about their new themes.

BOOK SALE

We find that we have lots of books in school which, for a range of reasons, we can no longer use. We have decided to have a second-hand book extravaganza which will be held on Friday 20th September, straight after school until about 4.30pm. We will be selling off these books for children to take home at ridiculously low prices - everything will be 10p, 20p or 30p. To encourage all children to come along, we will be allowing all children to choose one book for free. FOLs will be selling their normal Friday refreshments as well. So for just 50p children could come home with several books. We are very keen to get these books into homes rather than just getting rid of them and in the process make a little bit of money for school for buying more up-to-date books. Do come along and support us if you are able. More information will come out in the next two weeks.

2020/2021 RECEPTION INTAKE

If you have children due to start school next year, or know anyone who may be deciding on a school for their child, please note that our three open day events are on the following dates

Thursday 26th September 9.30am

Tuesday 22nd October 9.30am

Wednesday 20th November 6.00pm



We very much look forward to welcoming you on one of these events.

YEAR 6 TRANSITION

It seems very early in the year for talking about year 6 transition to secondary school but the deadline for applications to your preferred school is October 31st 2019. If you miss this date your application will be 'late' and you will reduce the likelihood of receiving an offer at one of your preferred schools. Offer of a secondary school place made to parents and carers resident in South Gloucestershire will be on 2 March 2020. I have compiled a list of the names and addresses of some of the key local secondary schools which our children have historically moved on to and the dates of Open Days. These are all fairly soon. Please ask in the office if you would like a copy. It is not an exhaustive list but may help, particularly if you are new to the area. We cannot advise you which secondary school will be best for your child but strongly suggest you attend open days, visit the school (more than once if necessary) to get a feel about what is right for your child.

There are some key Term 1 dates we would like you to put in your diaries:

We will give you more information about these events during the next two weeks but I wanted to let you know about some key dates as early as possible so you can get these in your diary.	
Week beginning 9 th September	New Sports Clubs begin: Dodgeball, Multi skills, Football
Tuesday 10 th and Wednesday 11 th September	Key stage 1 and 2 Science Bug clubs begin
Friday 20 th September	First Celebration of the year – everyone welcome
Friday 20 th September	FOLs meeting 2.00pm – All welcome
Friday 20 th September	Second hand Book Extravaganza 3.30pm
Week beginning 23 rd September	Year 5 block swimming – all week
Tuesday 24 th September	Individual and Sibling Photos
Wednesday 25 th September 6.00pm	Maths activity session for parents and children
Tuesday 15 th and Wednesday 16 th October	Parents Evenings
Friday 25 th October	Harvest Celebration and last day of term 1

SCHOOL VISITS

I do hope you will be able to support us this year by contributing with the visits class teachers are organizing to support your child's learning. We understand that these are expensive but they do provide a real opportunity for children to understand and make links between areas of learning. Unfortunately, in common with most schools, we are increasingly unable to run trips at a loss and when several families in class do not contribute, this will inevitably mean the trip will be cancelled. This year, we would encourage you to follow the £1 a week scheme! If you were to save £1 every week, it would amply pay for the two trips which we attempt to run for each class. Come in and talk to us if we can help you with this.

READING CREW

This term we will be restarting our Reading Crew – our loyal band of parents and grandparents who offer to give us an hour a week to hear a small group of children read individually. This is invaluable support for our school and makes such a difference to children's progress. There will be a letter coming out next week. Do let us know if you can help. The best time for us is afternoons.

FOLs

FOLs are meeting on Friday 20th September starting at 2.00pm. You are warmly invited to come along and join our very friendly group of parents who are working so hard to make such a difference to the school and your children. They will be talking about forthcoming events and fantastic plans for the year ahead.

2019/2020 promises to be a very exciting year with plans going ahead to convert our old IT suite (since making the move to mobile technology), the development of our STEM and Science work and interesting plans to develop the outside environment starting with our gardening area. All the staff at Little Stoke Primary School very much look forward to working with you all again this year.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Sargent
Head Teacher



