Stone Church of England Combined School

Newsletter – Friday 16th December 2022

Dear Parents & Guardians

I hope you have had a good week and stayed safe in the cold, icy weather. The snow has provided a lovely backdrop to our Christmas activities.

This week KS1 and EYFS presented our 2022 Nativity performance, Lights, Camel, Action! The performance included speaking, dancing and singing and was truly exceptional – well done and congratulations to all the children acting. A big thank you to all the parent and guardians for providing costumes and supporting the children to practice their parts and to all the staff who helped create such a wonderful performance, especially Mrs Lock who took the lead on the production.

Next week we look forward to our Christmas Carol Service at the Church. It is at 10am next Monday – I hope you will be able to join us.

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs Morrison

COMING UP

Monday 19th December – please wear Festive jumpers or Elf costumes if you have them
Monday 19th December – 10.00am Carol Concert in church
Tuesday 20th December – School finishes at 1.30pm

Warm Coats

We still have some pre-loved children's coats so if you would like one for your child please call into the office to see if we have their size. A small donation can be made if you wish.

Child of the Week

EYFS:

Zach for always welcoming others in to his play and being inclusive.

Year 1:

Jasmine B for being an excellent sheep in the school nativity.

Year 2:

To all of class 2 for putting on a spectacular nativity performance.

Year 3:

Teddy C for his great enthusiasm with baking.

Year 4:

Chloe T for being friendly and welcoming and giving 100% in all activities.

Year 5:

Phoebe W for hard work on her wonderful Christmas Elf story and lovely reading to Class 2.

Year 6:

Zachary W for always working hard and doing his best.

Stepping Stones to Success

Respect: Cameron W (Class 3) for being a respectful member of the class.

Community: Emilia W (Class 2) for supporting everyone when they need encouragement.

Perseverance: Jacob B (Class 6) for perseverance in writing.
Quinn T (Class R) for trying his best to focus and participate in music this week.
Thomas F (Class 5) for perseverance in writing.
Sophia (Class 4) for persevering with her tasks

Responsibility: Mylah M (Class 10 for showing wonderful responsibility

Special Acts of Kindness

The following children were nominated for their acts of kindness this week. They all received a special pencil and had hot chocolate with Mrs Morrison

Zara T - Class R, for sharing toys with her friend, Lola B – Class 1, for looking after her friends in the classroom. Haleema S – Class 2, for offering a smile to everybody and being a supportive friend, Dexter H -Class 3, for playing with someone every day, Bobby E – Class 4, for being a good friend and making people smile, Ollie N -Class5, for making his friend feel better when he was sad and Lilly V– Class 6, for checking on a classmate when they were alone.

Healthy Eating Lunch Idea

You're a Star Sarnies
Ingredients
2 slices wholemeal bread
1 tsp red pesto
½ tbsp cream cheese

Method
STEP 1
Use a star-shaped cutter to stamp out six bread stars from the wholemeal bread (freeze the off-cuts to make breadcrumbs). Swirl the red pesto through the cream cheese and spread onto both sides of the stars. Close, wrap in cling film and chill in the fridge if making the night before.

Birthdays

A very happy birthday to the following children who have a birthday this week or over the holiday up to the 30th December:

Quinn T – CR
Charles H – C1
Jacob B – C1
James R – C2
Luke D - C2
Alex H – C2
Mannat D – C2
Ben S – C5
Alex F – C5
Eloise H – C6
Daniel P – C6

Skills for Life

This week we have been learning about the unhelpful thinking habit of 'mountains and molehills' - focusing on the negatives and not paying attention to the positives.

We shared the attached story and applied it to Harry Kane's experience of missing a penalty in the match vs France on Saturday.

Recommended Resource

Please find attached resources to support your child with tricky social situations over the festive period.

Holidays and Food Programme

Please find attached an information sheet from Thomley's charity who are part of the Holidays and Food programme which offers this to families who receive free school meals.

Focus on Inclusion

We are an inclusive school and our aim is for every child to feel positive about themselves and a part of our community. We strive for every child to reach 'their star' - their potential. Each week, we will be including information about different areas of inclusion.

This week, we are including information about attachment. Please see the attached PDF for information.

Family Links Programme

The Family Time Service will be facilitating a pilot parenting programme. They are offering the Family Links Nurturing Programme for parents/carers. The programme is for parents of children 3-12 years, and adaptations are available for parents with teenagers. The programme is delivered for 10 weeks, and each session is for 2 hours. The aim of the programme is to understand behaviours and improve the emotional

health of adults and children in the family and strengthen relationships. It helps the parent/carer to understand and manage feelings and behaviour, whilst becoming more positive and nurturing in their relationships with their children and each other.

They will be running two groups - one will be facilitated in Aylesbury and the second group in High Wycombe. The groups will start at the beginning of January 2023 and run term time only. The group size will be a maximum of 14 parent/carers per group.

If you are interested in a place in a group, a referral must be made through school. Please contact pastorallead@stone.bucks.sch.uk if you would like us to make a referral for your family.

Bucks Safe Haven

Bucks Safe Haven is a Mental Health Crisis Service offering a safe space to support individuals struggling with their mental health. It can also provide expertise on issues such as benefits, unmanageable bills or on a housing crisis such as risk to tenancy/becoming homeless and substance misuse.

The service offers individuals the opportunity for a safe and confidential space to talk about what is happening to them, and it works alongside them to support them to be safer or find the support they might need.

Please find a poster attached with further details.

School ECO Council

Stone School has set up a School ECO Council, with 2 reps per class to encourage the school to be more eco friendly. Each candidate spoke to their classes for 2 minutes to explain why they wanted to be on the School ECO Council, and explained how they will work with their class and School ECO Council to make the school better.

Each class voted for their favourite candidates, based on the qualities and responsibilities outlined below through a blind vote. 2 reps were chosen per class which were announced in the celebration assembly last Friday.

Here are our School ECO Council reps:

Reception - Mahmood O and Freya D
Year 1 - Ellie W and Jacob B
Year 2 - Connor B and Aurelia
Year 3 - Gabriel and Elsie G
Year 4 - Trent D and Bethany G
Year 5 - Charlie K and Thomas F
Year 6 - Maggie F and Taylor B

Well done to everyone who applied! The role of a School ECO Council Member:

- Will attend regular meetings with other School ECO Council members from each class
- Will take ideas and suggestions your class has to discuss at School ECO Council meetings
- Will bring back ideas, information and suggestions to your class and encourage your class to listen, discuss, share their views and, where necessary, vote on actions that need to be taken.
- Will encourage the pupils in your class to be aware of their school environment and to respect and care for it.
- Will lead on taking action and making the agreed changes to improve the school

CLASS R

Class R had a lovely time playing in the snow on Monday.

This is class R just before the nativity!

iRock Concert

On Monday, the children who have been learning to play a range of instruments in their own bands performed for us in a special festive concert! Parents and carers were invited in to watch them showcase their amazing musical skills in front of the whole school.

Children as young as reception were jamming on guitars, singing, drumming and playing the keys. We enjoyed a wide range of music from George Ezra to Christmas favourites and are so proud of all of the children who have worked so hard to develop their skills.

Recommended Read

This week the whole school was treated to the Reception and KS1 Nativity, and it was so impressive to hear the children recite their lines and song lyrics from memory! This is such an important skill that also supports children's reading.

Please find attached a range of Christmas and winter themed poetry for you to enjoy. Perhaps you could choose one to learn off by heart? :)

https://www.loveliveson.com/christmas-poems-for-kids/

Happy Reading!

GOODBYE

We are sorry to say goodbye to Ms Poole at the end of this term. We would like to thank her for her support and wish her well in the future.

Spring Clubs

Please See the attachment to the parent mail to sign your child up to the new clubs.

New clubs commence week beginning 9th January and will end 13th March.

We have a range of different clubs for the children to try this term:

- **African Drumming Club**
- **Netball Club**
- **Homework Club**
- **Games Club**
- **Cross country Club**
- **Choir**
- **Cooking Club**
- **Film Club**
- **Drama Club**
- **Monday Morning club**
- **Game on Football**

Spotlight on Safeguarding

A Guide to Detecting Child Exploitation

Children and young people are at serious risk of exploitation, both sexual and non-sexual. Whether it comes from criminal gangs inducing children into criminal activity, or networks of individuals preying on children, recognising the warning signs is crucial. The Children's Society has published guidance on how to see and stop exploitation here:

https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/what-we-do/our-work/child-criminal-exploitation-and-county-lines/spotting-signs?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIz8u9_*LnK-wIVxd_tCh1kugvxEAAYBCAAEgKjhPD*_BwE

House points

1ST – BLUE HOUSE/ST ANDREWS = 371 POINTS

2ND – GREEN HOUSE/ST PATRICKS = 333 POINTS

3RD – RED HOUSE/ST GEORGES = 286 POINTS

4TH – YELLOW HOUSE/ST DAVIDS = 242 POINTS

Pupil Premium

Your child may be entitled to pupil premium funding to support your child's learning and development in school if you receive one of the following benefits:

Income Support (IS)
Income Based Job Seekers Allowance (not contribution-based)
Child Tax Credit Only (with income up to £16,190) with no element of Working Tax Credit
Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
Guarantee Element of the State Pension Credit
Income-related employment and support allowance
Universal Credit (annual net earned income of no more than £7,400)

Please email office@stone.bucks.sch.uk confidentially if you are receiving any of the above benefits and ask Mrs Loxley to check if you qualify. As well as the school receiving money to support your child's learning, your child can benefit from Free School Meals.

Behaviour and Bullying

We aim to establish and sustain high expectations of behaviour for all pupils, built upon relationships, rules and routines.

We never tolerate bullying. Therefore, if you have any concerns that your child is being bullied, please contact your child's class teacher in the first instance who will carry out a bullying investigation. If, following the outcome of this, your child is still reporting concerns, please contact Mrs S Hale who manages behaviour and discipline.

In Case of Whole School Emergency Closure

If we decide to close the whole school in an emergency (e.g snow, COVID-19), a notification will be placed on the BCC (Buckinghamshire Council) School Closures webpage. If the closure happens whilst children are at school, we will text parents/carers and publish on the BCC (Buckinghamshire Council) School Closures webpage. In these instances, please do not phone school to check unless you have alternative collection arrangements of which you need to advise us.

Link to school closures webpage: https://closures.buckscc.gov.uk/

Dates for 2022/2023

Autumn Term

Tuesday 6th September to Tuesday 20th December 2022, finishing at 1.30pm

Spring Term

Wednesday 4th January 2023 to Friday 31st March 2023
Half Term
Monday 13th February 2023 to Friday 17th February 2023

Summer Term

Monday 17th April to Thursday 20th July 2023

Half Term

Monday 29th May 2023 to Monday 5th June 2023

Inset Days

Monday 5th June 2023
Friday 21st July 2023