



Stoke Hill Federation

NEWS

Welcome We hope you all had a fabulous summer holiday. It's been lovely to see everyone again, and to welcome new families to our brilliant Federation. We're looking forward to another great year where we can continue to work with you to make sure every child is able to make the most of the opportunities on offer.

Our Federation Vision and Values

One of these is:

- ❖ **We make sure that children feel safe and happy so that everyone can truly shine**

At the start of a new school year feeling safe and happy is really important. Getting the straightforward things sorted is a big step to a safe and happy day, so please would all families:

- name your child's belongings
- contact us if your child is unwell and not coming to school
- stay at home for 48 hours following a bout of sickness or diahorrea
- know the times of the school day and help your child be punctual or be on time yourself when dropping off or picking up your child
- switch off your mobile phone whilst at school

Like us, we hope you are looking forward to watching your child shine this year.

Home Learning

We are making some changes to home learning this year. For the first half term of the autumn term we would like all children in the Federation to spend some time at home practising skills that will help them succeed in every area of school life.

Depending upon the age of your child, we would like you to read to them frequently and for your child to read to you too - as often as possible. Junior School children should read their Accelerated Reader book.

We would like your child to practise their **number and arithmetic** skills. Infant children can do this practically or by logging on to 'Education City', Junior School children can do this by learning their tables, and using 'Mathletics' to use their knowledge in context.

Finally, we would like:

Infant and Nursery children to have access to plenty of pens, crayons and paper so that they can freely draw and to write.

Junior children to practise their spelling. Each week the children will bring home a list of words that they need to be able to spell, and it will really help them if you can go over these with them. Word lists will be given out on Thursdays, with a spelling test on Tuesdays.

So, across the Federation you don't need to write anything in a home learning book for now, but your child will do better at school if they spend time at home working on these basic skills.

Inspire
Discover
Succeed



Halal Menu Option

Many of our Muslim families choose to eat **halal** meat and we hope that children may soon enjoy halal meals prepared by Jenny Dingle and Kate Smith our catering managers. We had just one halal meal ordered at each school last week and so hope to increase the take up of this option. If you read this please let other families know, that Monday has a halal option, marked H on the menu.

School Photos are coming up across the Federation.

Nursery photos: date to be confirmed, Infant photos Mon, 25, Tues 26 and Weds 27th, Junior photos Thurs 21st September

Accelerated Reader

Most of the Junior School children have now completed at least one STAR test, and have been allocated an Accelerated Reader book.

As always, the books that a few children have taken home are not quite right for them – we do our best to get it right, but no system is ever perfect. If your child doesn't have a book, or you think their book is too hard or easy, please have a work with their teacher and we can put things right.

The children can change their book as often as they like during the week, and the library is open after school (until 3.30pm) on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays if you would like to help them choose a new book, or want to have a look at the available selection.

Discover lots of new faces as our very youngest children start school and nursery this term. We warmly welcome them and 'joiners' too who have joined our Federation from other schools and countries.

Discover your running talents! The Federation is delighted to have a keen group of adult runners who are beginning a programme called from 'Couch to 5K'. This friendly bunch of grown ups meet each Thursday outside the Infant School 9.15 – 10.00am for a run with a qualified running coach – more details on the flyers around school or contact: perkinmelanie@live.co.uk

Discover how much is going on across the Federation by following us on Twitter @StokeFed and by searching for #StokeHillMagic



Infant School Curriculum Evening 2017

Save the date for his valuable 90 minutes workshop, where you will be able to find out about the curriculum for your child's learning. More details to follow. ..



There are a number of children in the Federation who have severe nut allergies. To keep these children safe, both schools are now

nut free schools. This means children should not bring nuts as snacks or as part of their packed lunch. Thank you for your support in this.

Volunteer Training

We are really grateful to everyone who volunteers to help in school and on visits. In order to become part of the volunteer team you will need to take part in our Volunteer Training. The next sessions are at the Junior School on Tuesday 26th September, 9.00am, and at the Infant & Nursery School on the Thursday 28th at 2.30pm. Everyone is welcome.