



Stoke Hill Federation

NEWS



Let it snow!

Well we had to write that really...

Although it is magical and delightful, the snowy weather can also present a logistical challenge to us all! I am sure families appreciate that we want to run our schools every single day and only ever close our schools because of the snow as a very last resort. Across Devon on a snowy morning, all schools will carry out a risk assessment and if not enough staff can reach the school to ensure a school can run safely, then in consultation with the headteachers, if appropriate, the Chair of Governors will authorise a decision to close.

If this ever seems the case, if we close or not will be posted on the website, which is the most reliable and accessible place to look.

www.stokehill.devon.sch.uk. At both our schools someone will try to answer the phone but the lines will inevitably be engaged due to the volume of calls on snowy mornings.



Registration and Punctuality

As you know, it makes a massive difference to children's learning if they arrive at school on time. Arriving even a few minutes late can set them off badly for the whole day.

At the Infant School We hope you have had time to read the '10 to 9' leaflet we circulated this week and that this has made the purpose of the 10 to 9 session really clear. However the day starts for your child, we hope bags and coats can be sorted, last goodbyes said so that by 9.00am EVERY child is sat quietly to be registered.

At the Junior School We are trialling a new automated system at the Junior School that will send you a text if your child is not in school for registration and you have not told us they will not be in. Due to this, if your child arrives at school late it is essential that they tell the office they are with us.

At the Junior School children are late if they arrive after 8.40am. If they arrive after 8.50am this counts as an unauthorised absence.

Please add to your New Year Resolution list '**I will get my child to school on time every day**'.

Since 2008 over 500 million Christmas cards have been collected by the public through the Woodland Trust Christmas Card Recycling Scheme – helping to plant over 245,500 trees. Federation staff will take our cards to special card collection bins until January 31st, so there is still time to bring them in.



To identify a tree you need leaves don't you? ...not necessarily.

There are as many different types of buds as leaves – black, green, sticky, pointy, opposite – making it possible to name a tree just by looking at its twigs. To prove it's child's play the Woodland Trust has a downloadable chart designed specifically for children, so you can continue their learning on a winter walk, even if all the branches are bare (or covered in snow!). Download the chart at bit.ly/twig-ID and for more activities go to

www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/naturedete



We are hoping that everyone will want to **stay for lunch** at the Infants next Thursday 19th when meat and vegetarian pizza is on the menu plus chocolate cracknel and milkshake (with a straw) If your child favours a packed lunch, then bring that in too but why not try our delicious pizzas. Let's see if **EVERYONE can stay** on that day!

Year 3 Visit to Bristol Museum

On Wednesday Y3 went to Bristol Museum. They had the chance to look at Ancient Egyptian artefacts, and also to see some fabulous Stone Age/Iron Age displays that linked in to last term's topic.

The visit inspired some amazing writing and was a really enjoyable day.

