



# Stoke Hill Federation

# NEWS



## **Welcome Back – and Fireworks!**

We hope you all had a fabulous half term holiday, and are ready for the exciting learning opportunities the new half term will bring.

Please make sure you are signed up to ParentMail in order to ensure you don't have to rely on notes in children's book bags to receive important information. You can do this at either school office.

Don't forget the Federation PTFA Firework display **TOMORROW** evening. The doors open at 5:45pm, with the fireworks display starting at 7:00pm. There will be stalls selling pizzas, hot dogs, cakes and hot drinks. Please do not bring sparklers to the display, as we are expecting a large crowd.

The weather forecast looks perfect at the moment, but if we need to cancel we will let you know (by ParentMail) and reschedule for next Friday 10th. We look forward to seeing lots of you there.

All the money raised at this and other PTFA events is used to provide additional resources to enhance your child's learning and their time at school.

## **Do you remember...**

When learning was so tricky that you pinched your tongue between your teeth to help you concentrate?

## **Well, learning is just the same today.**

Letters, sounds, how you write words, count, multiply, divide, calculate percentages, interpret data, draw, use scissors, the internet, ride your bike... there is so much to do and learn that your child needs you in partnership with us to achieve the **VERY BEST WE CAN** for your child.

So, to be a great partner can you please:

- Read the newsletter each week
- Read and respond to learning suggestions in the yeargroup Learning Letters
- Keep an eye on the annual Parent Calendar so that you can fully support your child.
- Make sure your child comes to school on time each day and has everything they need (P.E. kit, water bottle, books etc.)

Finally, remember that your child will only need and want your help for so long... these are precious years. Please keep in touch and join us.



❖ **We value diversity**



**Applications for a school place** in the Federation's Foundation Stage year and for a year 3 place at the Junior School, in 2018 will open on the 15<sup>th</sup> November.

Applications need to be made to the Admissions Team at Devon County Council. Visit: <https://new.devon.gov.uk/educationandfamilies/school.../apply-for-a-school-place>

Interested parents are encouraged to contact the Federation to make an appointment to meet Sarah Mackay the Infant and Nursery School Headteacher and have a tour of the school.

**News from the Nursery** This week the Nursery received a **Wildlife Garden Award**. The children have been working hard to ensure that their garden is wildlife friendly. In order to achieve the award the garden had to meet criteria across 4 categories. Emily Stallworthy from the Devon Wildlife Trust thanked the children for being an important part of the city's green network for wildlife. Look out for the plaque on the nursery garden shed near the jobs to do for November!



*Across the Federation parents occasionally ask for a list of the names of children in a class for purposes such as birthday invitations or writing Christmas cards. If you wish to **opt out** of your child's first name (only) being provided, then please let either office know **by the end of next week 10.11.17**. Class names will not be provided to take away but will be available to look at on request.*

## Reading and Maths

**Thank you** for keeping your child reading and using Mathletics during the half term holiday. Looking through the lists, it seems that most children have managed to spend some time on these really important activities.

The most prolific readers were: Kate C-W, Ruben F, Elise B, Frankie, Molly J, Ashar, Jia, Becca, Mia M, Mimi J, Nimr and James B-F. All of these children read at least 50,000 words last week!

The classes that made the most use of Mathletics in the holidays were 30, 4HM, 5PM and 6B.

## Tag Rugby Matches

In the week before we broke up we hosted Whipton Barton Junior School's Tag Rugby team. Mr Poustie put together two teams to make sure as many children as possible could have a go at playing.

The weather was horrible, but the children just seemed to ignore it and got on with demonstrating their skills and team spirit. The first match ended 8-8, with two late Stoke Hill tries to grab a well-deserved draw. The second match ended in victory for Stoke Hill! This was especially impressive given the fact that the children had to wait in the rain before starting their match. I saw nothing other than smiles, and heard only positive comments from the children towards each other.

Well-done teams, and thank you Mr Poustie for his expert preparation and coaching.

If your child is signed up for an after school club or activity they **must tell the person running the club if they are unable to attend** so that we know where they are. 10 children who were expected at Film Club on Monday did not arrive, which meant over 30 minutes of phone calls to locate them all.