



# Stoke Hill Federation

# NEWS



## **We need you...**

We are looking for new Parent Governors.

We currently have two vacancies and are keen to maintain a full Governing Body by meeting and appointing two new people. Being a Governor is a vital job and it is important to the Federation to have the full number of Governors possible in order to carry out this strategic role really well.

Most Governors meet each half term for a meeting that starts at 5pm and lasts for about an hour. Some governors are members of sub-committees and attend another meeting half termly for slightly longer. Don't let childcare issues put you off expressing your interest, after school provision can be funded to enable Governors to attend meetings.

If you have skills in finance, legal matters, creativity, building or a real commitment to our Federation then we would like to hear from you. Please chat to either headteacher, or to our staff Governors Mrs Ryan Class FCR or Mrs H McCarthy Class 5MC to find out more.

## **Year 6 National Tests**

Next week our Year 6 children will be taking their National Tests – SATs.

The children have been working really hard to get ready for the tests. We have made sure, however, that they have continued to receive a full and balanced curriculum at the same time as making sure they are able to show what they are capable of in a test situation.

We have been so pleased with how they have responded, and would like to thank you for your help in keeping SATs in perspective. They are only a small part of what is important at the Stoke Hill Federation.

To make next week as easy as possible, please make sure your child gets a good sleep, arrives at school on time, and that they have a healthy breakfast. In the unlikely event that your child is unwell please let us know – they can take the tests up to a week late as long as we put certain steps in place.

❖ **The ethos of excellence is everywhere**

*Swap your wellies this week at the Infant School (for FREE). Wellies are not just good for the muddy days but for days at the beach too.*



## **Times Tables Champion**

On Wednesday we held our first Times Tables Challenge in assembly. The first three volunteers were Omid, Angus and Olivia. It was amazingly close, but the eventual winner and first ever Stoke Hill Tables Challenge winner was....

**Olivia**

## **Accelerated Reader**

The classes that have made the most progress in reading since September are:

**3AM, 4M, 5J, and 6G.**

We are really pleased that every class in the school has made better than expected progress since we started using the system.

**Home Learning for Year 1 and Year 2** We have been reviewing the 'Home Learning' we set for children in Key Stage 1 this year and for the coming summer term you will notice some further small changes. In addition to the weekly reading that we expect every child to do at home and the practice e-tasks for maths using Education City, there are **new** half termly learning tasks children can work on at their own pace. Home Learning can be brought in to share and celebrate during a specific week set aside for this.

We have provided some time guidelines for children depending upon their age and hope this helps families to enjoy learning together at home for the appropriate amount of time. Too long spent on home learning makes it become a chore - a good tip is to stop whilst you are enjoying working together then your child will be keen to return to the task! Keep on going until you are both fed up will not help either of you feel enthusiastic about learning together. Why not set a timer to count the minutes? Above all, enjoy these early years when your child does want your help and attention.

Find specific details of Home Learning for your Year 1 or Year 2 child on their Learning Letter sent home today.

## **Cricket Club**

It's been lovely seeing the enthusiasm for lunchtime cricket re-awaken this week. I'd like to say a massive thank you to Mr Poustie for giving up so much of his time to help and encourage the children.

After School Cricket Club for years 4, 5 and 6 starts next week. If your child wants to attend you will need to complete and return the permission slip – we have some spares in the office.

If they cannot attend a session please make sure they tell someone in the office or Mr Poustie, as this will avoid us having to call you to find out where they are.

## **Book of Brilliance**



When a child tries really hard with their learning, perseveres when they find things tricky, or has a breakthrough in understanding, their teacher sends them over to see me, Mrs Sullivan or Mrs McKimm.

We add their name to the Book of Brilliance, and at our Celebration assemblies on Fridays they get to stand up in front of the whole school to receive recognition and a round of applause.

Every week we have pages of names to read out, and it is so good to be able to praise excellent learning behaviour in a public forum.