



# Stoke Hill Federation

# NEWS



## Federation Audit Report 2017

Last week, the Federation Administrative Team had a very thorough audit undertaken by Devon County Council. This is a comprehensive review carried out every three years and covers many areas including governance, value for money, security, buildings, personnel issues and trip administration.

The audit took place over 3 days with two auditors taking part in the process. Hundreds of records were checked including a year's worth of invoices and orders plus banking sheets. That's a lot of paperwork across the Federation! **Feedback confirms that our systems are robust and up to date. There were no areas of concern at all.**

So we think that our administrative team deserve a big **well done**. The team work very hard all year round and still find time to deal with lost and found uniform, teeth that have fallen out (at the Infant School anyway!) stray hedgehogs and 101 other things that are not on the Audit List...

## Computer Games

A recent NSPCC assembly at the Infant and Junior Schools plus workshops in Year 5 and 6 provoked lots of interesting discussion around safety in both the real and the online worlds. However, it was mentioned that some of the children are playing or watching older siblings play 18-rated games, such as 'Grand Theft Auto'. Few games are more clearly targeted to an adult audience, the content is highly inappropriate for children and none of the main characters in the game make for a decent role model. All of them are criminals who think of themselves first and others rarely at all.

**What you can do?** Talk to your child about age ratings and remember that they are there to keep children safe. Check younger children are not viewing unsuitable games.

Set up parental controls

visit [internetmatters.org](http://internetmatters.org)

Check the apps, sites and games your child is using are suitable for them, you can find out more at [net-aware.org.uk](http://net-aware.org.uk).



## A great day of creativity and **discovery** for children in the Foundation Stage

On Tuesday the children in Foundation enjoyed a full day of exciting and inspirational learning. Illustrator Rosie Johnson visited the studio and showed the children how she develops artwork for children's books. Everyone created their own animal character.

Each class later ventured up to the top field to design and built giant **art attacks** from all sorts of scrap materials. Amongst other ideas they came up with a racing car, a flying monster and an octopus!

To add to the excitement the children jumped on a big blue bus to visit the Royal Albert Memorial Museum and had lots of fun exploring the exhibits. ***What a fabulous day!***



## Accelerated Reader

We have recently added over 250 new books to the library, bought with the commission from the Book Fair. Thank you for your support.

## Top classes this week (most words read):

Year 3 – 3B

Year 4 – 4HM

Year 5 – 5Mc

Year 6 – 6M

So far we have read 107,010, 580 words this school year.

4M and 5PW also deserve special mention as the two classes where every child has passed at least one quiz in the last week.

**KS1 Open Afternoon** for children in Year 1 and Year 2 is planned for **Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March between 2.30 – 4.30pm**. Come along to the Infant School during this time to visit classes, tour our lovely grounds, have a cup of tea and share your child's learning in their books

## Social Media

Our children live in a world where instant contact with their friends in and out of school is becoming more and more easy. It is so important that you know what social media accounts they have, and that you keep an eye on who they are talking to as well as what they are saying.

We found this picture outlining the age restrictions of different social media websites really interesting. There is a lot of peer pressure to open accounts, with children fearing that they are missing out if 'all their friends' are online.

Please reassure them that this is not the case, and maybe a look at the terms and conditions of the different websites might help explain why it's not OK for them to have a Facebook account just yet.



**Buddy's Big Workout** Thank you so much for your contributions – as a result of everyone's efforts the Buddy's Big Work Out at the Junior School raised a grand total of **£1725.35** for the NSPCC. Wow!