



Slindon Church of England Primary School Newsletter Autumn 1– September 2019

Dear Parents/ Carers

Welcome back to the start of another exciting academic year at Slindon Church of England Primary School! I hope you all had a relaxing, enjoyable and exciting summer holiday. From myself and all of the staff, we'd like to thank you for your kind words, gifts and cards at the end of the Summer Term.

I'm excited that we will be launching a very grand reading initiative this half term, to coincide with a book fair that we have arranged (see page 3). I know many of the children took part in the 'Summer Reading Challenge' and many of us will have indulged in a good book over the summer holidays. Please support us in encouraging your children to read for pleasure.

We are so excited to welcome Mrs Bonney and Miss Heater in Catkin Class this year. They have already helped the children in their class to settle beautifully, including the new Reception (EYFS) children who we were so pleased to have joined us last week. They EYFS children look so grown up in their 'big school' uniform and have been so happy and confident since their very first day! As always, the rest of our children have been looking after them and modelling the kind of behaviour that makes our school such a wonderful place to be!

I have been so proud of how happy and calm our school has been as we settle back in after the long summer holidays. I'm thrilled at how all our children have shown such love and excitement at being back at school and in hearing the wonderful feedback our new children have passed on to their parents. We have been talking about 'Love' in our assemblies this week and our little school definitely feels full of love. Talking of which.....

Congratulations Mrs Preece!

Lucy Cooper
Headteacher



Success for Slindon at Glorious Goodwood!



Early on a glorious, sunny Sunday morning at the start of the summer holidays the children of Engineering Club gathered at the Goodwood Motor Circuit, following months of preparation, to participate in the final of the Gathering of Goblins 2019. A fantastic time was had by parents, children and school staff alike.

We were joined by Mark Ford who had so generously given his time along with wife Rebecca, at Slindfest, to create the stunning willow bodywork for the car. It was greatly admired by everyone at Goodwood and **won us the award of Greenest Bodywork**. We were all so proud of our achievements on our debut at a Goblin event and must say a massive thank you to Jon Martin for arranging our participation in the event and for helping us to prepare the car and learn to drive. The self-named Willow Wheeler driving team drove superbly in all events and chose James as the most deserving member of the team to complete an entire lap of the Goodwood Motor Circuit (2.4 miles) in the final event of the day.



Silver Award for Slindon!



*Last year was an incredibly busy year as among many other successes, we **were also awarded the Silver Award** for School Games. This highly auspicious award comes from the hard work of Mrs Preece (who was Miss Atwood at the time!) and involved broadening the range of sporting opportunities for all of our children, personal challenges, inter and intra- school competition and making sure we had all the right resources. Next... We're going for Gold!*





This year we continue the exciting journey of putting all of the teachers hard work of the last two years into practice in making our curriculum even more amazing! This term is the first term where we have a broad whole-school topic, to allow us more opportunities to all work together. 'Where in the World' is our whole school topic for the Autumn term, and each class will take a slightly different take on the topic, based on what each year group needs to be learning this term.

You can find out more about what your child's class is doing by keeping an eye on the 'Class Pages' tabs on our website. Teachers will be updating these for this term over the coming week. We are also hoping to finalise plans, very soon, for a whole school visit to Tuppeny Barn in Emsworth. This will link particularly to our learning about Harvest, as the children take part in workshops such as horticulture, healthy eating, sustainable development and wildlife. We are hoping to be able to go out together once a term, linked to our whole school topic.

If you have any questions about your child's learning or want to find out more, please see your child's teacher or myself.

Get Ready for a Reading Challenge!

To coincide with the book fair that will be visiting the school on Thursday 26th September, we are launching a Reading Challenge to encourage us all to read more books for pleasure. Reading for a short period of time is already part of our home learning policy and we have changed how we read in class, to incorporate more whole class reading of the amazing new stories we have ordered to go with our topics. But reading at home is so important and is also a great way to wind-down together before bedtime.

The reading challenge will encourage you or your child to record in their reading journal/ home learning book when they have read at home. Children will receive rewards for reaching specific milestones in the amount of times they have read (as demonstrated by these wonderful children in the photograph).

Please help us by purchasing books from the book fair as the more you spend, the more we are able to benefit from the books that we purchase for the children.

And don't forget to pick up a book bag for £6.10 from the school office if you don't have one.





You may have noticed the mysterious large green bucket outside of school since the end of last year. With little

notice or announcement, our kind school community have read the label and contributed to the collection for Stonepillow each month.

We are indeed, joining our efforts with those of the wider village community and collecting specified items. During September, we are collecting biscuits so please add an extra packet to your shopping if you are able to, and pop it in the green bucket. In October, we will be collecting J-Cloths, sponges, pot scourers etc.

Anything else is always gratefully received.

Bookbags

These are the adorable faces of some of our newest children who are serious about keeping the books they bring to and from school, in great condition! We'd like all children to have their own (named) book bag, particularly with the launch of the Reading Challenge (see page 3). Please order your bookbag from Mrs Cooper in the school office for £6.10.



We are collecting the stickers for Aldi's 'Kit for Schools'. You can collect a sticker with every £30 spent in store. Please bring these stickers to the school office so we can add them to our poster!

PFA- Parent and Friends Association

Last year our wonderful PFA raised an incredible £2,671.46 through events such as the Christmas Fayre, Slindfest, Stay and Play, Easter Bingo, Raffles, Pop-up Plant sales and cakes sales. This money will go towards the wooden structure/ house that we will use as a base for our outdoor learning. We hope that this work will begin in Spring.

This year, some of our PFA members are having to reduce the hours they are able to give in fundraising for the school, where their children have moved onto Secondary school, new employment or through us employing them! Therefore we are re-thinking how best to plan events based on fewer key 'helpers'.

I will write again specifically about the PFA before the half term holiday, but if you have any thoughts that you'd like to share with me, please catch me on the playground.



FLU Vaccinations 2019

This year, all of the children throughout the school are being offered the Influenza Nasal Spray Vaccination. The vaccine offers protection against four strains of the influenza virus. Having the vaccine reduces the circulation of Influenza and can protect our wider community, particularly those for whom Influenza poses a serious health risk.

Please complete the consent form for each of your children and return to school before the 14th October 2019

Nasal vaccinations will be given on the 6th November for all children for whom we have received consent forms.

Important Dates to Remember for Autumn Term 1

Remember you can keep an eye on the calendar on our school website by just googling it from your mobile phone– you don't need to log in to do this. Texts are sometimes sent out as a helpful reminder.

- **Friday 13th September 2019**– Stay and Play sessions begin from 3.30-4.30 each Friday until Friday 18th October (see page 6).
- **Monday 16th September 2019**– Jeans for Genes Day. Please bring a donation to school in return for wearing your Jeans (see page 6).
- **Tuesday 17th September 2019**– Messy Church 3.30-5.00 in Catkin Class (see flyer sent home this week).
- **Friday 20th September 2019**– Swimming starts for children in Years 1-6 until Friday 18th October 2019, for this half term. All of the dates that the children are swimming during the whole Autumn Term are now on the calendar on our school website– for your easy reference.
- **Tuesday 24th September 2019**– Acorn Class visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace (A separate letter has already been sent out).
- **Thursday 26th September until Friday 4th October** Book Fair in the Glade each day after school (see page 3).
- **Friday 11th October 2019**– The Big Breakfast 8.30-9am in The Glade (invitation only).
- **Monday 14th October 2019**– Harvest Service at St Mary's Church, Slindon from 2.15-3pm. Everyone welcome, we hope to see you all there. Please let us know if you can help us to walk with the children to Church (we'll leave at approximately 1.45pm) and don't forget to collect your children from Church where possible.
- **Tuesday 15th October 2019**– Messy Church 3.30-5.00 in Catkin Class.
- **Wednesday 16th October 2019**– We have a **provisional** booking for a whole school visit to Tuppeny Barn. As soon as our booking is confirmed, we will send out a separate letter with full details.
- **Monday 21st October 2019** at 2.30pm in the school playground– Pumpkin Parade. Flyer with further information to follow.
- **Thursday 24th October 2019** and **Friday 25th October 2019**– INSET DAYS
- **Monday 28th October 2019** to **Friday 1st November 2019**– October Half Term Holiday
- **Monday 4th November 2019**– First day back to school for the second half of the Autumn Term

Some dates that we can let you know now for Autumn 2. Further details to follow:

- Parents/ Carers Evening- Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th November
- Christingle Service- Thursday 12th December at 2.15pm in St Mary's Church, Slindon
- Catkin Class Nativity Performance– Thursday 19th December at 2pm in Coronation Hall



Stay and Play

Stay and play is back for the first half of this term– from this Friday 13th September until Friday 18th October. This is an opportunity to stay and chat whilst the children play, and enjoy time together on the field and playground (weather permitting). Last year, each Stay and Play session raised between £20-£30 for the school. We need volunteers to serve drinks and cakes– please let myself or Jenny Parsons know if you can help, and contributions of cakes are greatly appreciated each Friday!



Please help us to raise money for a fantastic charity by donating £1 to wear jeans to school on **Monday 16th September**. For more information on how your money helps, please visit:

<https://www.jeansforgenesday.org/our-work>

SLINDON
CHURCH
OF
ENGLAND
PRIMARY
SCHOOL



Meadsway
Slindon
Arundel
West Sussex

Phone: 01243 814330
Fax: 01243 814556
E-mail: office@slindonprimary.co.uk
Website: www.slindonprimary.co.uk
Headteacher: Miss Lucy Cooper

Attendance

We continue to strive to raise our attendance levels which remain below national averages.

Please remember that if your child is absent from school and we haven't received a message from you, then we start to worry that all is not well. You will receive a text reminding you to contact us (we know what it's like when you've been up all night looking after a poorly child!) But we will begin calling you and your 2nd and 3rd priority numbers if we still have not heard from you.

We need to know which code to use in the register but more importantly we need to know that you and your family are safe and well.

Please remember to keep your child off school for 48 hours after sickness or diarrhoea.

Not sure what's going on at school?



Keep an eye on our school website, including the school calendar where you can find all the information you need.

www.slindonprimary.co.uk

Make sure we have your correct email addresses and telephone numbers so that we can communicate with you as necessary.