

St Nicholas CE VA Primary School Newsletter

September 2017

Vision Statement

At St Nicholas, we nurture everyone to 'be the best we can be' in a caring and inclusive Christian Environment

DATES

26th September:

European Day of

Languages – the children will be learning Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes' in different languages and tasting food from their chosen country.

6th October: CRAZY SOCK

DAY! We are aiming to raise funds to help Mosaic support bereaved children across Dorset.

Helping out is easy – pull on your silliest socks and off you go. We are asking for small donations towards this worthy cause.

18th October : Parent Consultations – Acorns,

Chestnuts, Willows and Ash. **2pm – 7:30pm.** More information to follow shortly,

We have emailed you key dates for the year with this newsletter.

For further dates please visit our website: www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk Events

We will regularly update you throughout the year regarding any changes.

Dear Parents,

And so, it begins....

The next chapter in the life of our thriving village school is well under way. The children returned on the 6th September with a spring in their step and a thirst to learn. The classrooms and corridors were soon buzzing with their laughter and enthusiasm and the air is full of hope and promise for the year ahead.

Our Reception children have been fantastic. They have embraced our morning routines and have settled incredibly well; we are very proud of them. All the children in fact, are entering school very calmly and settling to their morning task quickly -well done!

The teachers have been busy planning an exciting curriculum, that ensures the children's learning experiences are varied and enriched. Extra -curricular activities are already underway; our extensive sporting fixtures have been finalised and PTFA events planned.

Friday the 22nd September marked our first fund-raising event of the school year, the sponsored bounce. The money raised is helping to fund our new maths scheme: Maths No Problem. Thank you to everyone who was involved in organising this event and to all our parents and friends who sponsored the children.

Your generosity is very much appreciated. Once all the monies are in, I will let you know the total.

Improving our school grounds

Can you help?

Last term we completed the second phase our playground improvements, with the purchase of large play equipment. We have also purchased eight new benches for under our pergola. However, we need to remove the old seating and pave this area, before we can use these. Due to budget constraints, we are seeking help from the local community and our parental body, to enable us to complete this project.

Firstly, we need support removing the old seating, which is concreted in. We would then like to lay slabs. If you can help in anyway or are able to donate slabs and other materials, we would love to hear from you. Please contact the school office: office@childokeford.dorset.sch.uk (01258 860581)

We have set aside the weekend of the **21st and 22nd October** to try and complete this work. Once again, please let us know if you are available and would like to get involved.

Governors

Rev Lydia has been reappointed as Chair of Governors. Her leadership and support is greatly valued by us all and has helped to further strengthen the school and its links with the church.

Rev Lydia has also helped to develop our Collective Worship programme and it seems fitting that we are beginning the year by focusing on the value of belief. In this current climate of mistrust between and within nation states, we are aiming to foster a collective belief that embraces mutual support and respect.

You can find further information about our governing body by visiting our website: www.childokeford.dorset.sch.uk The governors and staff remain committed to ensuring the very best outcomes for the children and I look forward to updating you regularly on our progress.

Health and Safety

Both school and The Ark have been monitoring the traffic entering the school at both drop off and pick up. We feel there has been great improvement and would like to thank you for responding to our concerns.

To keep traffic to a minimum we are still asking parents to park outside the school and walk in.

Please do not use the disabled spaces between the **8:30 -9:15** and **2:45 and 3: 45**. Parking on the yellow zig zags outside the school gates is also illegal and increases the risk to our children, as does parking in front of the entrance to The Ark.

We also ask that all pedestrians use the path and keep small children under close supervision.

The safety of our community is our top priority and the responsibility of us all; together we can ensure drop off and pick up remain a pleasant, calm and safe experience for all concerned. We will continue to regularly review the car park, as part of our self -evaluation procedures and highlight any concerns immediately. Thank you for your continued support.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR

CLASS CUP WINNERS!



Acorns: Arthur

Chestnuts: Charlie

Willows: Sam

Ash: Jesse

Acers: Alex

Oaks: Maiya

Thank you for Miss Louise and Bernie

Many of you will know that Miss Louise has taken the decision to stop running dance club at St Nicholas, due to other commitments. She has given her services, free of charge, for the past nine years. During this time, she has inspired so many children, many of whom are still attending her dance school today.

It goes without saying that we are going to miss her and her lovely mum Bernie. They have each given the school so much and in recognition of their kindness, generosity and the enormous contribution they have made to the school, we are organising a thank you tea party on 6th October 2017 (5pm-6:30). We are inviting past and present pupils and are hoping the children will perform a couple of routines for our honoured guests. We will be sending our further information shortly. In the meantime, if you would like to contribute towards a gift for Louise and Bernie, please send it in a sealed envelope, clearly named. We are hoping to purchase some spa vouchers for them both.

We also hope to find a new dance teacher and will keep you posted.

PARENT FORUMS

Regular, open communication and consultation is highly valued at St Nicholas. The parent forum aims to represent the views of all parents and to be a voice to inform our school of the needs of children and families. It facilitates communication between parents/carers and staff and governors.

The forum is not in place to address specific concerns about an individual child or issues relating to individual members of staff. Parents who need to discuss these issues should approach their class teacher or the Headteacher.

These Forums take place once a term and are open to all parents. However, we also encourage each class to have at least one representative so parents can email their views, if they are unable to attend the meetings. If you are interested in becoming a parent forum representative for your class please contact the office:

office@childokeford.dorset.sch.uk

The next Parent Forum is: **Tuesday 14th November: 6 – 7 pm**

And finally... Our success to date is due to the fantastic support and efforts of our whole community, which enable the teachers and staff to deliver high quality learning, in these difficult financial times. There are uncharted waters ahead and we very much look forward to your continued support, to ensure we steer a steady course and remain steadfast in our efforts, to secure the very best outcomes for our children. Together we can make a real difference!

Best Wishes,

Tracy Maley Headteacher

Current Parent Representatives:

Mrs Carpenter -marioncarpenter@btinternet.com (Ash);

Mrs Andrew - rachel@juddstransport.com (Acers);

Mrs Tonks -samtonks@hotmail.co.uk (Oaks);

Mrs Sharples -helenno58@aol.com (Oaks);

Mrs Belbahi -mehdi.belbahi@btinternet.com (Oaks)

On a day -to -day basis the school is run by the Head teacher and staff. They are held to account by the Governing Body. If you wish to contact the governors concerning a school related issue or are interested in being a governor, please contact our clerk Robert Wellen: robertwellen@btinternet.com Chair of Governors: Rev Lydia Cook Vice Chair of Governors: Elizabeth Sims

