



# St George's School Bourton

A Church of England School

*work together, play together  
learn together ... shine!*

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Headteacher: Mr Michael Salisbury

4<sup>th</sup> April 2017

## March Attendance

Rainbow	Blue	Silver	Gold
98.9%	95.5%	96.9%	96.0%

## Thank you

In our final week before the Easter break, I would like to thank all of our parents and friends for the voluntary help we are so lucky to get for our school. We have many parents who help us with trips such as the Wyke Farms visit last week and the Stourhead trip this week and with sporting fixtures such as the recent tournaments for Year 3 and 4 football, hockey, swimming and Year 5 and 6 football. Arts projects such as the Music concert, Trojan Horse project and felt making workshop are always well supported by parents. We have a loyal band of reading helpers for all our children and an excellent response to swimming help at our pool. Our Governors and PTFA come to many meetings and events, along with spending hours of time on school matters at home (one of the governors just repainted our 'Keep Clear' sign at the top gate!).

Lots of small maintenance jobs around school are done on a voluntary basis by skilled parents. Our pool is maintained and run by volunteers. School clubs such as Netball and Engineering are run. The garden is tidied, marquee is put up and taken down and money is raised for school purchases by the PTFA and School Council. There are many, many ways that the school is supported by people giving up their time freely, I am very grateful to you all and sorry if I've missed something off that you do! Not everyone is able to volunteer, we understand that but appreciate the efforts of all the people who do.

There are some incredibly 'active' parents with children in our current Year 6 cohort, I hope we can fill their shoes when we say goodbye to them and their children at the end of next term.

## E-Safety Letter

Following a Safeguarding training session attended by Mr Salisbury (Designated Senior Person) and Mrs Hibberd (Deputy DSP), we thought it would be useful for you to read about the advice given to parents concerning the games and sites children might use at home. Mrs Hibberd has kindly written a letter giving details of what to look out for. The letter is attached.

## Swim the Channel

This recent event raised a fantastic £511 for PTFA funds. Our thanks to Laila Bailward and Jim Mann for organising the event.

## PTFA events

The annual Golf Day at Bullpits Golf Course in Bourton is coming up on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May. Complete beginners are encouraged to take part, teams go round in fours and choose one ball to count after everyone has had a go. It really doesn't matter how bad you are! More details will follow. Helpers are needed to run this event and a Car Boot Sale and café that the PTFA would like to put on (date to be confirmed if there are enough helpers). Please let us know if you can support either event.

Later in the Summer Term we have the two catering days at Stourhead on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Many hands will be needed for those days. We would love to raise enough money to complete our transition to new 'state of the art' Interactive Whiteboards that are already in use in Gold and Silver Bases and on the way for Rainbow Base.

## Site Security

The Governors and Senior Leadership Team are keen to ensure that we are taking all the appropriate steps to safeguard the children and staff whilst in school and in the grounds. With the village park on the school site, we are always mindful of the possibility of a stranger coming in to the school area from the

West Bourton Road entrance. During playtimes on the field, there is always a member of staff near that entrance to monitor anyone coming in or going out that way. We are also exploring the possibility of putting up additional fences and gates on the paths by the Hall and the swimming pool, to prevent access to the top playground during the school day. No final decision has been taken, but any feedback through the parent governors Harry Butler and David Wynn would be gratefully received. The Governors asked me to give a reminder that all visitors to school (including parents!) must go to the office on arrival and only go further in to school if they have signed in for a meeting or other activity (this doesn't apply to assemblies, concerts and other activities in the Hall).

### **Easter Service and Easter Bonnet Parade – Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 2.15pm in the Church**

Please help your children to make or adapt a hat for our parade up to the Church for our Easter Service. There will be a prize for a hat from each class, but it's the taking part that counts! Our great friends from the Upper Stour Churches Open the Book group will be giving all the children a little egg at the end of the service. Everyone is welcome to come to our service.

### **Resuscitation Training (6pm), wine and nibbles and PTFA Meeting (7pm) – 17<sup>th</sup> May in the Hall**

The resuscitation training will be run by Loraine Mullins (Jasper's mum). It is a requirement for any adult who will be in charge of swimming sessions when our pool is open to have had recent training. The teachers do it every year and we encourage as many parents as possible to come along at the same time. It is a skill that we should all have in case such an emergency arises.

We have decided to have the next PTFA meeting straight after the session, with some wine and nibbles to tempt you to stay! Children can be entertained with a DVD or can play in the park if you'd like to bring them.

### **Absence and late arrivals**

Overall attendance this year is currently at 96%. We would like to get to 97% by the end of the year, with the winter illnesses behind us! Please avoid booking holidays during term time as they will be unauthorised. As part of our work on attendance we have introduced a book in the office to record the reason for arriving after the register has been taken. If you are late, please come to the office and write the reason in the book. Thank you.

### **Artsreach Events for the Holidays – Please see information attached**

Artsreach is Dorset's rural touring arts organisation, giving rural communities all over Dorset the opportunity to see and participate in high quality arts events in their own villages. The charity aims to make ticket prices accessible to everyone. Liaising with performers and village promoters they put on live performances covering small and large-scale theatre, live music, dance, comedy, literature, film and puppet shows. Artsreach also tours high quality visual arts exhibitions and hold participatory workshops and project work with professional artists and practitioners in local communities. Please see you the e-attachment for details of how to get involved and arrange an Artsreach event in the community in the school hols! Your point of contact is Yvonne Gallimore who can be contacted on [yvonne@artsreach.co.uk](mailto:yvonne@artsreach.co.uk) 01305 269512 for more details.

### **Bourton and Zeals Pre-School Catering Day at Stourhead – Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> April 9.30-4.30**

Please go along to support the Pre-School fundraiser if you can this weekend. As well as drinks, lunches and cakes they are putting on Easter craft activities for children.

### **Secret Life Actors wanted**

We have had the following message from the producers of the TV series:

We are currently casting for the next series of The Secret Life of 4 Year Olds and The Secret Life of 5 Year Olds for Channel 4 and looking for a diverse group of children to take part in the new series.

We are looking for children aged **four and five years old** and their parents to take part in this television series.

Filming is likely to take place at a location in London and the days are led by two highly trained teachers. We cover the cost of travel and accommodation for all children selected to take part in the series. The children are filmed for no more than 5 hours per day and they would be needed for up to three weeks filming over the summer holidays.

I would be most grateful if you could forward news of this opportunity to the parents of your pupils, if of course you feel it is appropriate.

If parents would like to apply they can apply here: <http://bit.ly/sloyoapply>