



St George's School Bourton

A Church of England School

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

Headteacher: Mr Michael Salisbury

Church Track
Bourton
Gillingham
Dorset
SP8 5BN
Phone 01747 840409
Fax 01747 841019
E-mail: office@bourton.dorset.sch.uk

2nd November 2016

October Attendance

Rainbow	Blue	Silver	Gold
97.6%	98.4%	97.8%	95.9%

Welcome back after the Half Term holiday, I hope you had a nice week with your children. As we move in to November we start to prepare for all our Christmas events, read on for dates and information about things coming up in school. Christmas is a time to be charitable towards others, so it is appropriate that we are raising money for the Poppy Appeal, Children in Need and the WWF this half term. There are three Fridays in a row where the children can wear 'home clothes' to school, starting with Children in Need on November 18th.

Poppy Appeal

From Thursday 3rd November we will be selling poppies and wrist bands each morning on the playground, and from the school office.

Poppies can be obtained for any donation but other items are priced at £1 for Friendship bracelets and slap rulers, 50p for wristbands and reflectors. A maximum of two wristbands per child can be worn in the next two weeks, building up to our Remembrance Service on Friday 11th November.

Remembrance Service – Friday 11th November at 11am at the War Memorial

We will be taking the whole school to the War Memorial at the bottom of our field to have a minute of silence for the fallen and a short service of remembrance lead by Rev. Peter. You are welcome to join us. At the service, we will lay a wreath at the memorial. There is a suggested donation of £20 for the wreath which we will fund through staff and family donations. If you would like your family name on the wreath, please send in a donation and we'll add you to the card.

Friendship Day – Tuesday 15th November

As part of our SEAL work on friendship the Gold Base children will lead activities for the younger children during the afternoon.

Children in Need – Friday 18th November - Non Uniform, spotty and suitable for winter walking (welly boots would be ideal)

Mrs Hibberd is organising our fundraising efforts for Children in Need. We will all go on a Rural Ramble at the start of the day and would welcome parents and dogs on leads to come with us. The route takes us up the hill opposite school, along to Chaffeymoor then back along the top of the Hill and back through Bourton. It isn't very suitable for buggies unless you're happy to drive them across fields and over stiles. We will all return to school for refreshments at about 10.30am. Please fill in the slip on Mrs Hibberd's letter if you can come with us.

Communication

We are aware that some children leave letters in their drawers or bags when they should come home. This leads to problems with getting reply slips back for sports matches, trips and events. To cut out this part of the chain and save on paper, we often send out newsletters by email. I do have a worry that some parents (such as Mrs Salisbury last year!) might not get round to reading newsletters sent by email. **Just to test our system, please could you reply to this email with the subject 'Got it!'** If you received a paper copy of this newsletter, please could you let Mrs Hudson know by phone or when you come in to school. We can then discuss the best way to communicate with any families who we don't hear from.

Jam Jars for the Christmas Fair – Friday 25th November

Children and staff can wear 'home' clothes for the day in return for bringing a filled jam jar of sweets and treats for the Christmas Fair on the following Friday.

PTFA Christmas Fair at 3.15pm and School Council fundraising for the WWF – Friday 2nd December, Non uniform (£1)

Please see the letter the School Council has written to ask children to bring in a donation and dress in non-uniform, including something to do with animals if they can. This is on the same day as the PTFA Christmas Fair at 3.15pm. Please come along with friends and family to get some Christmas presents and visit Santa in his Grotto straight after school in the Hall. **There will not be an Achievement Assembly** so that setting up can take place. Please let PTFA officers know if you would like to help with this event, or go along to the next PTFA meeting on Wednesday 9th November at 3.15pm in the Hall.

Cold Weather

As the weather turns colder it is essential that all children bring a coat to school every day. We try to give them some time to play outside but have to insist on them wearing a coat on cold and wet days.

In the event of heavy snow, please check the Dorsetforyou website, the school website or local radio stations for news about our school. Safe access to school by foot and for emergency vehicles is a consideration for us, along with a safe number of staff and the availability of school meals from Milton Meals.

Some dates in the run-up to Christmas...

30 th November/7 th December	Christmas Cinema Clubs
8 th December	Carol Service in Church, all children to attend, 6-7pm
9 th December	PTFA Christmas Disco, 5.30-6.30pm KS1, 7-8.15pm KS2
13 th December	Christmas Plays at 1.30pm (No Hot Meals today, all children need a packed lunch)
14 th December	Christmas Plays at 6.00pm
15 th December	Christmas Party including party lunch
16 th December	Last day, pick up at 1.30pm (we will look after any children until 3.15pm who cannot be picked up at that time)
3 rd January	Staff INSET day
4 th January	Spring term starts

M.Salisbury