



St George's School Bourton

A Church of England School

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

Church Track
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30th September 2016

Following our interviews in school yesterday, I am pleased to announce that Mrs Abbott and Mrs Toy will share the role of Deputy Head this year. They will join me and Mrs Westerman-Loe (SENCO) on the Senior Leadership Team of our school.

Below is a repeat of the information about **Book Week** from the previous newsletter in case you missed it. As you can see, we are doing lots of interesting things to inspire the children to read for pleasure. Please support this work as much as you can. We are very keen to have reply slips returned promptly when we take the children out of school. The chasing up of missing reply slips is a big administrative task that tends to involve the same families every time we go out. Please try to move out of that group if you think you may have been in it! **Reply slips can be collected from the office or printed from this letter but must be in by Monday at the latest.**

St George's Church Harvest Festival – Sunday 2nd October at 10am

The Year 6 children have been busy helping to decorate the Church for Harvest Festival this Sunday and our school Harvest Festival next Wednesday. Please come to the Church on Sunday, it is a family service which will be ideal for children and adults alike.

Book Week – Monday 3rd- Friday 7th October – Book Fair in the Hall at 3.15pm from Monday-Thursday, please come along with your children to buy some books (school gets a proportion of each sale to buy more books for each class).

Our annual Book Week is a great time to celebrate the wonderful world of books with your children. Being a reader is a crucial life-skill we want for all our children so we attach the highest importance to it.

This year have introduced some different elements to the week:

Monday – As it is the 100th Anniversary of the birth of Roald Dahl this month, we are asking the children to bring in an object linked to one of his books. They can be as creative as they wish, as long as the objects are safe and legal! Don't worry if you can't think of anything, particularly if you have younger children, we won't expect them all to bring something.

Tuesday – Visits to Gillingham Library and Museum. We have arranged for the Library staff to do a special 'book week' session for the children during the day. It is a good opportunity to encourage families to join and use this fabulous free resource. We will be travelling by Double Decker bus, which has been generously paid for by our PTFA. Year 1, 2 and 3 children at 10am in the morning, Year 4, 5 and 6 at 1pm. As it is a bus not a coach, it doesn't have a legal requirement for seat belts or booster seats. Please could you indicate if you are able to help with this trip. All children will have their lunch at school as normal.

Wednesday – Harvest Festival 2.15pm in Church followed by a sale of produce in the Hall at 3.15pm

Our tradition is that all the children bring in some Harvest Produce to bring to the Church to be blessed and donated to charity. Items can be grown, made or bought, but should be of a size that your child can carry them! Some of the items will be sold at the end of the day in the Hall, others will be donated to Gillingham Food Bank. They have asked for items such as Breakfast Cereal, Tinned vegetables, meat or fish, biscuits, Sugar, Coffee, Sauces or Jam. Our Church collection and Sale of produce will go towards our latest link school in Uganda. Please bring some money to buy the produce at the end of the day.

Thursday – Author visit

The acclaimed writer and photographer Edward Parker, famous for his books on the Rainforests and Ancient Trees, will be with us on Thursday. He will share with the children the way in which a non-fiction book is made.

Friday – Dress Up as a Book Character

Please put on your ‘thinking caps’ to come up with a costume for your child to wear for the day. Any children who are uncomfortable about dressing up can come in home clothes or school uniform if they want to (they might still be able to think of a character who would dress like that!)

Springhead Visit – 8th-9th May 2017, Year 3 children

We have arranged to take our Year 3 children on their very own residential visit, to The Springhead Trust in Fontmell Magna. They will do activities such as nature walks, campfires, woodland crafts and making boats to sail down the river. They will stay overnight for one night and be back in school for the rest of that week. More details will follow.

Response to our request to get away quickly last Friday

On behalf of the school and the church I would like to say thank you to you all for clearing the school site so quickly last Friday. The many hundreds of people who attended the inspiring thanksgiving service were amazed to find room to park all around the school so soon after the end of the school day. I had every confidence that you would all help make it work and you did. Not one family used the park even though it was a hot sunny evening! Thank you very much. We can all learn from the selfless way in which David Worthington lived and died.

Bath and West Railway Open Weekend – 8th -9th October at the Showground, Shepton Mallet

Some of our parents and staff are involved in this event which offers **free** train rides on the miniature railway and a lovely place to have a picnic. A great way to go out for a treat without spending any money sounds ideal to me!

The Real Advent Calendar

It’s a bit early I know, but we have been sent details of a great product that reminds children that Christmas is about the birth of Jesus! Order the Real Advent calendar from www.realadvent.co.uk

Starting/Transferring School – September 2017

Applications are now open for children starting or transferring school in September 2017. The website to use is www.dorsetforyou.com/schooladmissions or paper forms are available from Dorset County Council on 01395 221060. Closing date for applications for Secondary places is 31st October and for starting Primary school 15th January 2017.

Last Day – Friday 16th December

We will finish at 1.30pm for Christmas. Any children who can’t be picked up at that time will be looked after at school until 3.15pm.

Yr 1-6 Visit to Gillingham Library and Museum – Tuesday 4th October 2016

Name

- I agree to my child taking part in the visit and travelling by bus
- I am able to help with this visit from 10am - 12 noon
- I am able to help with this visit from 1pm - 3pm

Signed Date