



St George's School Bourton

A Church of England School

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

Church Track
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26th September 2017

I can't believe it's nearly time for our annual Harvest Festival and Book Week, Christmas is only just around the corner!

Harvest Festival – Thursday 5th October at 2.15pm, followed by sale of produce in the Hall at about 3pm

Please come and join us in the church if you can. This year we will be asking for the children to bring fresh produce or other items of food that we will take to the church to be blessed, then donate to the Gillingham food bank or sell in the Hall after the service. The children from Bourton and Zeals Pre-school will also join us for our service at 2.15pm. Please bring some money to buy items at the end of the day!

The parish Harvest Festival is in St George's church this year, at 10am on Sunday 8th October. If you are planning to go to this service and your child would like to read a prayer, please let me know.

Book Week – Monday 2nd October-Friday 6th October (Dress up as a book character day)

Our annual Book Week is coming up soon. The children will have special lessons about books during the week, and will be encouraged to dress up as a book character on Friday 6th October. The process of deciding who to come as is a great experience for the children (but can be a stressful one for parents!). There will be a book fair in the Hall every night from 3.15-3.45pm from Monday to Thursday. Please support this opportunity to inspire your children to enjoy reading books, and to raise funds for the school to buy more new books for the school library. Look out for the leaflet you child will be bringing home this week. Your spending at the book fair is greatly appreciated.

Medical issues

One of the challenges we face in schools is to encourage really good attendance by your children (at least 95%), whilst at the same time keeping to the rule that a child must stay off school for at least 48 hours after sickness. It's clearly not good for overall attendance if a child with contagious sickness spreads it to other children and staff. We educate the children about washing hands, using tissues and not coughing on others. Please use your judgement to decide when sickness is at a level to stay off school.

On another matter, we have noticed some nits in school this term. Please check your children's hair regularly with a nit comb and treat them if you find them. There has also been a case of Threadworms, we are continuing to stress the importance of hand washing but please look out for any symptoms.

Cakes and sweets

To help our children make healthy food choices, and to look after our children with medical needs and food allergies, we ask that cakes are not brought in for birthdays. The St George's flag is raised at the start of the day if a child has a birthday on a school day.

PTFA Car-boot Sale

Thank you to Ameer Perry and all her helpers for putting on the Car-boot sale on Saturday, it has raised funds that will be spent on resources and experiences to enhance the education of our children.

PTFA Matchbox challenge – starting on Monday 2nd October

Please look out for a letter and matchbox coming home next Monday to start our matchbox challenge. It will be a sponsored event to see how many different and interesting objects the children can fit into a standard-sized matchbox.

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.

Starting a New School – September 2018

Applications can now be made for **starting school for the first time in September 2018**. If you have a child born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 you must apply through the local authority where you live. You are welcome to bring your child to visit our school on the afternoon of Monday 30th October, between 1.30 and 3pm when you can join others who will be visiting. **The closing date for applications is 15th January 2018. Yr6 parents also need to apply for secondary school**, again this should be through the local authority where you live. Closing date for these applications is **31st October 2017**.

Breakfast Club

Bourton and Zeals Pre-School run a breakfast club on our school site from 8am each day. Please contact them on 840537 to arrange places.

Zeals After School Club

Please contact us for details if you'd like to make use of this facility. They come to Bourton to pick up children at the end of the school day.

M. Salisbury