



St George's School Bourton

A Church of England School

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

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9th December 2015

November Attendance

Rainbow	Blue	Silver	Gold
98.1%	95.2%	95.6%	96.5%

As we approach the end of term, the school is busy with children and staff making preparations for Christmas. I hope you will be able to join us for some of the exciting things taking place in the next week or so. It is a tiring time of year for the children, but they do gain greatly from all the lovely things that happen at this time of year. A reminder of what is taking place:

Thursday 10th December – Carol Service at 6pm, all children to be delivered to school at 5.30pm please - School Uniform to be worn please

All the children are involved in our Carol Service in the Church on Thursday. It should last about 50 minutes, so if you are not staying, please be at the Church door at 7pm to collect children. It is always a popular service so please arrive in good time and we will do our best to find a seat for everyone.

Friday 11th December – Secret Santa, Hour of Code the second and Christmas Disco

Please send in £1 with your children to buy a secret present for a parent. They will wrap their chosen present and bring it home with them. Please send in any small gifts that could be used for this lovely PTFA event, we need at least 118 to make it work!

The Hour of Code sessions are being run by Mr Cannon and a team of Dads in our computer room, for children in Year 1 – 6 (we'll give the Reception children a go after Christmas). It is part of a world-wide strategy to improve computer coding (programming) skills.

Later on Friday we are holding a PTFA Christmas Disco for the children to come and have a dance together. Rainbow and Blue children from 6-7pm, Silver and Gold from 7.15-8.15pm. Children can dress up in Christmassy clothes to try to win a prize, or come as they like. For £2 they will get in and get a little drink and snack. Thanks to Mrs and Mr Wynn for leading this event.

Sunday 13th December – Hot School Meals order deadline

As you are now aware all meals need to be ordered through ParentPay, this has thrown up a few little problems but we are managing to solve them. As the closing date is this Sunday we would advise you to log in and order your meals as soon as possible so that we can sort out any problems before the weekend. If you have mislaid your log in details or if you need to use a school computer please ask at the school office.

Monday 14th December – Dress rehearsals from 1.40pm

We will run through both plays during the afternoon. You are welcome to come, but do expect some input from the directors! You can enter through the Hall door from 1.30pm but not before please.

Tuesday 15th December – Afternoon Performances at 1.30 (KS1) and 2.10pm (KS2)

Tickets are needed for our performances, these will be sent home tomorrow. There will also be refreshments and a raffle run by the PTFA so please bring some money. So that we can prepare the hall for these performances there are no hot meals so **everyone will need a packed lunch.**

Wednesday 16th December – Pantomime Visit (Packed Lunch needed) and Evening Performances at 6pm (KS1) and 6.40pm (KS2) Children to arrive at least 30 minutes before their performance, but not before 5.15pm!

We will leave for Salisbury Playhouse at 9.00am for the 10.30am performance of Cinderella. Huge thanks to the PTFA for buying and organising the tickets and ice creams for this trip. We will eat packed lunches at the theatre before setting off for home, aiming to arrive back at school by 2.30pm for normal 'pick-up' at 3.15pm.

Children should be back at school by 5.30pm for the KS1 performance, 6.10pm for KS2. The PTFA will serve refreshments before and after the performances and there will be a raffle so please come prepared.

Thursday 17th December – School Christmas Lunch

Many of you have ordered the hot lunch for this day. If you haven't, please send in a packed lunch as normal, they can still pull a cracker!

Friday 18th December – End of term, pick up at 1.30pm

Please let us know if you'd like us to keep your children until 3.15pm.

Raising Money for the Children

Thank you to the PTFA for everything they have done for our school this year. Please continue to support their work in the new year.

Hansel and Gretel – Thursday 7th January in the Village Hall, 6.30pm

Please join us for the Forest Forge production coming to our Village Hall. They are an excellent company who inspire and excite children through their dramatic performances. As we know from the pantomime visit and other theatre visits, the children learn greatly from watching professional theatre. The story of Hansel and Gretel fits in perfectly with Literacy themes in Gold, Silver, Blue and Rainbow Bases this year so the evening would be suitable for all our children. We really need to support these events if want them to continue in Bourton. Tickets from the Forge Garage, Zeals Garage or by phone from Harriet Palmer on 01747 840057. It will probably be possible to buy on the door if you need to. Please speak to me if you would like to go but cannot afford the tickets.

Parking

Concerns have been raised by our Governors, staff and parents about the safety of some of the parking around school at the beginning and end of the school day. There have been some issues with parking too close to road junctions and over-filling the Church car park, which is kindly offered to the school by the Church for staff to park in during the school day. Some of our staff start work at 8.50am and are unable to use the car park because it is blocked up. Some of the ways which we are looking at to alleviate this situation are:

- Enforcing our request that **only those with a particular need should drive into the Church car park**. There are currently lots of vehicles bringing individual children to school which are blocking up the car park when the children could walk a little further from a safe parking place, or older children could be dropped off at the bottom gate and walk in on their own.
- Encouraging parents to operate a **voluntary One Way System** around the school, so that school cars don't attempt to drive up Church Track during the drop off and pick up times, but drive round to the top of Church Track by using West Bourton Road.
- Promoting **Car-Share** arrangements by putting parents in contact with other parents who live near them. There is a slip at the bottom of this newsletter to fill in if this applies to you please.
- Continuing to ask the Dorset Highways Dept. to mark some **safe parking bays on the main road** between the West Bourton Road junction and the blue school gates. Parents must remember that it is illegal to park close to the brow of the hill, where there is a solid white line in the middle of the road.
- Encouraging all families within walking distance to **walk or cycle to school**.

My thanks to all of you who park responsibly away from the Church car park every day, we will continue to monitor the parking around school and welcome any further suggestions to improve the situation for our neighbours and families.

Sending back replies

Thank you so much to everyone who gets their replies back to the office on time. We try to provide as many interesting opportunities for the children as we possibly can, but each one comes with a need for parental permission and our office staff spend far too long chasing up those who regularly forget to send in replies. Please make it a New Year Resolution to get them in on time if you are a family who get lots of reminder texts from the office!

Term starts for the children on Tuesday 5th January. New after school clubs will start in January, look out for a letter in the second week. Please let us know if you would like to run one or help with one. We are planning to offer Year 2, 3 and 4 football which will need some help with the children getting changed into PE kit!

A very Merry Christmas to you all.

M. Salisbury



Car Share

I would be interested in linking up with other families in my area in a car-share arrangement:-

Name:.....

Location:.....

Email/phone:.....