



SHOSCOMBE CHURCH SCHOOL



Church Valley Schools Federation

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

There is a real autumnal feel in the air...it is lovely to see the colours changing. I was delighted to be able to attend all of the Harvest Services across the federation. The performances by the children were great and the attendance of parents really encouraging. I have received many comments about the children and thanks to the staff for all they do above and beyond the day to day job. Each event had a slightly different feel, however all celebrated the bounty of Harvest and encouraged us to reflect on what we have- to be grateful for the small things on a daily basis.

We recently held our first governing body meeting of the new academic year, when we appointed the chair and vice chairs. Rev. Matthew Street was appointed as chair of governors and Sandra Coles and Brian Edwards as vice chairs. We are grateful to these individuals as well as all other governors for the time and energy they give to the federation on a voluntary basis. Other governors are: Wendy Simmons, John Mills MacDonald, David Veale, Amanda Downes, Sue Vaughan, Jane Gascoigne. There are a couple of vacancies which we are in the process of advertising and filling. Our new clerk to the governors is Karen Miles.

Thank you to all who are coming to school in full school uniform looking smart, including having long hair tied back. Please do not send your children to school with nail polish on. It is not part of our school uniform. Children will be asked to remove it. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

In Shoscombe school, as part of our responsibility being a VA school (voluntary aided), we have to raise 10% of all projects. It is due to our VA status that we were able to access the funds through the diocese in order to complete all the work on the internal restructuring and the new build. Ideally we would have raised funds to pay for the building etc prior to the funds being available; however we did not have the opportunity to do so when the funds were offered to us. If we had not moved ahead with the project when we did then the funds would not have been available and we would not have the superb facilities that we can now use.

However, we do have to raise £26,000 in the next two years. We can only do this with your support. The governors would encourage all of you to think about what you can do to ensure we're successful. All the children are benefitting from the facilities. Please write, email or speak to someone in school about you think you could do, however small, that would help us to raise funds. One example could be that each family pledged an amount per month to the project fund....many families have standing orders/ direct debit which go straight to charity each month. Would you consider this? What about setting up a car boot sale? Car wash offer on the village hall car park? Do you know of any company who would fund match any efforts we make? Thank you to all who attended the FOSSA event on Friday evening 9th October to welcome parents into our school. Many people offered to make curry and the quiz, organised by Simon and Penny Tombs, was a great success for the whole family. At the end everyone helped to clear away- great team effort and fun too. Next meeting is On Monday evening 19th October at 8pm in the Apple Tree Pub. Do attend if possible.

Thank you to all who are parking responsibly around school. Please continue to show due respect to our neighbours. This week it has been brought to my attention that some parents are not parking as carefully and as thoughtfully as they might. Space is at a premium in St Julian's Road as we are all aware, so it is **vital** that parents park "smartly", ensuring as many cars as possible can use the space. Once again, I reiterate that the village hall car park is available morning and afternoon and some parents even park near Applecroft and walk down the Cinder Path. If more people would park and walk, many of the issues that arise could be avoided. Many people sit in their cars from 14:30 onwards- plenty of time to park and walk!

Jane Gascoigne

Attendance

Week ending	Robins	Owls	Kingfishers	Eagles
9/10/15	95.4%	95%	99.5%	96.7%
16/10/15	94.1%	96%	95.1%	99.3%

Below are the dates of the next FoSSA Meetings:

All at Apple Tree, 8pm

Monday 19th October 2015

Monday 23rd November 2015

Monday 18th January 2016 - AGM

N.B. **When you receive your school photo proofs, you will see you have the option of ordering online. You can still pay by cash or cheque and bring to the school though.**

*******Would anyone be interested in a position at lunch time for 2 hours a day helping to serve the dinners and wash up? If you would like more information, please go onto the B&NES website – www.bathnes.gov.uk and look at the job description for a catering assistant.**

Term 1 Dates

19/10/15	Parents' Evening	Details sent via Parentmail
21/10/15	Trip to Stourhead	Year 3 and 4
21/10/15	Parents' Evening	Details sent via parentmail
22/10/15	School nurse Reception screening	Reception children only
22/10/15	End of Term - Mufti	Whole school
23/10/15	INSET DAY	Whole school
02/11/15	Back to school	Whole school
6/11/15	Rehearsals begin for the Egg Theatre Production	Year 3 and 4
27/11/15	Egg Theatre Production	Year 3 and 4
8/12/15	Nativity Dress Rehearsal 2.00 p.m.	KS1
9/12/15	Nativity Evening Performance 6.00 p.m.	KS1

Bristol Standard

Shoscombe Primary School has recently achieved the Bristol Standard. This is a nationally recognised quality improvement award for Early Years. To achieve the award we had to collect evidence across ten different 'Dimensions'. Through this evidence we were able to demonstrate our commitment to child centred learning and our work towards positive outcomes for Reception children.



Reception

Reception pupils have been continuing their topic 'All About Me'. Taking advantage of the glorious Autumn sunshine, children have been able to learn about homes during sessions in the Forest School. They have used natural materials to making homes for small world people and animals.



Then moving on to a focus on our pets we were lucky enough to have a visit from a large 'pet', Charlie's pony called Candy who lives in a stable near Iris' house!



Sophie Hampton

Year 1 and 2



Year 1 and Year 2 have been really engaged using iPads to help with their numeracy and literacy skills. They have particularly enjoyed the challenge of learning about number bonds, partitioning and using a number line using our new Abacus maths resources. Further information regarding Abacus will be discussed at parent's evening.

Martin Stevens

Year 3 and 4



Year 3 and 4 have been creating dens, learning to clove hitch rope and lash sticks together. We have also found clay in the digging area and made our own paints from natural resources e.g. mud, berries and charcoal from our fire pit.

Tania Rorison

Year 5 and 6

All of our children have been to the Year 5 and 6 class recently to do maths on the iPads and laptops. It was great to see the older children helping the younger children use the technology.



All of the children became more independent users and many of them are now able to use their Abacus Active Learn account without any help.



Barry McNulty

Breakfast and After School Clubs

Breakfast and after school clubs are continuing but numbers have dropped this academic year. Booking forms are still available from Charlotte and she asked us to say that it could be a 'use it or lose it' situation if numbers do not increase! Nothing will happen in the next few weeks but if you think you may want to take advantage of this service be sure to speak to Charlotte as soon as possible. The children are provided with breakfast in the morning and a snack after school. There are games and activities both inside and out! If anyone's contact details have changed, please let Charlotte know. Again, if you would like to make use of this service, please contact: Charlotte Burnell on **07731861765**

Some helpful information about dinners and Parentmail:

School dinners for Key Stage 2 cost £2 a day. Please can dinner money be paid at the beginning of each week, or for a whole term. Cheques should be payable to Shoscombe Primary School. Thank you

Please could you add the following email address to your address book. The new ParentMail system sends a notification that you have mail but this is not always being received so they have advised that if the following email address is added it will not be blocked. info@parentmail.co.uk The system is up and running now but, in order to open attachments on your phone, you will need to download the app. If not, you will get a notification that you have an email and will need to go onto your emails to download the attachment.

Sally Kettle