

2019-20 Newsletter number 9

Friday 24th January

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As you now all know, I will be leaving Watermore in the summer, and I will be very sad to do so. It has been a difficult decision as I love our school and feel privileged to have been the first Headteacher of the amalgamated school. There will be time for me to say thank you to our staff, governors, to you as parents and not least to our children much later on. For now, be assured of my commitment to the school and your children until I retire at the end of the summer term. Be equally assured that the Governing Body is working hard to ensure that the right appointment is made for the autumn.

I was determined to see the new build project through, and I will be very happy to see everything finished before I leave in the summer.

We have so much to be proud of at the moment, and I would like to share some of the reasons why in this newsletter.

Janet Hoyle

FANTASTIC RESULTS FOR WATERMORE

We are again one of the top schools in South Gloucestershire for our attainment results. You may have seen in the recent edition of the Frome Valley Voice that Watermore has been named as the top school in South Gloucestershire in the recently published Real Schools Guide 2020.

The guide states 'the Real Schools Guide gives a far more comprehensive picture than traditional league tables, which use mainly attainment data. Taking into account 45 different data points – from KS2 results to progress, pupil-teacher ratios and attendance rates – the guide covers nearly every metric available. The guide covers every primary school in Bristol, South Gloucestershire and North Somerset.'

In the guide, we were not only the top school in South Gloucestershire last year, but number 5 in the whole Bristol region.

Even better than this, we believe, is a comparison made by the local authority of the data on children's self-assessment of work related stress, compared to progress data. We were identified as one of two schools in the authority who showed high progress / low stress. This is so important to us. We would not want to get great results by having stressed-out children; their wellbeing is important to us.

The great support by parents for your children's learning helps this greatly. Thank you.

WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING

Our January version of the Macmillan World's Biggest Coffee morning raised the staggering sum of £1,320.19. Thank you so much to everyone who sent in the fantastic array of cakes, those who helped on the day and to those who came along and gave so generously.

Enormous thanks too to Mrs Flint, without whom it would not have happened, and the Year 6 children who did a brilliant job throughout the morning to make it all run smoothly. We are proud to have raised such a great sum for such an important charity.



SPORTING ACTIVITIES

We are delighted that our children get more opportunities to compete in different sporting competitions each year. Coming up we have the South Gloucestershire swimming gala, a netball tournament and a cricket morning. We look forward to having our multi-use games area (MUGA) next year, so that we can offer more sports clubs and host inter-school tournaments.

Even though the football teams are not able to play on the field at the moment, they are undaunted. The boys team beat Holy Trinity Primary School this week 6-0. Well done, fantastic skills and team work!

What's on in the next two weeks?

Mon 3rd Feb	Book Fair open after school
Tues 4th Feb	Book Fair open after school
Wed 5th Feb	Year 1 'Space Dome' Book Fair open after school Year 1 Home Learning Showcase (2.45pm onwards) New building welcome evening for the community 4.30 - 7.00pm
Thurs 6th Feb	Book Fair open after school
Fri 7th Feb	Macbeth Performance for Years 5 & 6 (With The Manor and Frampton Cotterell schools) PTFA Quiz Night
Mon 10th Feb	Reception screening
Tues 11th Feb	Reception screening 9.10am Anti-bullying focus group
Wed 12th Feb	Full Governing Body 6.15pm
Fri 14th Feb	Training day: Art and SEN support

Term 4 starts on Monday 24th February

Please note: **Change of date for celebration parties with disco for the children.** The date has been changed from Thursday 13th February to Wednesday 26th February. Infants event 3.30 to 4.45pm / juniors 5.00 to 6.30pm.

Reminder: **Parents Consultation appointments** are:
Tuesday 3rd March 1.30 to 4.00pm
Wednesday 4th March 4.00 to 7.30pm
You will receive an invitation to book a time before the half term holiday. It should be much easier for everyone being on one site!

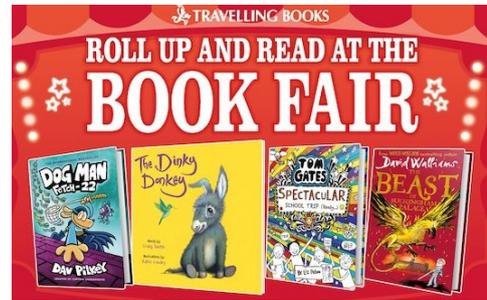
PARKING

The new zig-zag lines have made the parking situation outside school safer, but we are told that some parents are still parking inconsiderately further down the road. Please be thoughtful towards local residents and businesses.



ART WEEK

If you have a particular skill to offer us for our art week (**9th to 13th March**), in particular if you could offer to run a session for a group of children, please get in touch with Mrs MacSorley via the school office.



We have a travelling Book Fair in school next week. your child should have brought home a letter and leaflet about it yesterday.

Your child will visit the fair to have look during the school day on Monday. It will be open on Monday to Thursday after school. There will be a good selection of books for all ages. Popular ones will need to be ordered, to be delivered the following Monday. The school will receive commission in books, and you may be willing to buy a book for our new library as well as for your child. We would be most grateful.

If you would be willing to help out with the book fair after school one day next week, please let us know via the office.



LIBRARY

Our children love our new library, and we are incredibly grateful to the committee of the previous breakfast club for providing the funds to pay for the lovely stylish furniture. It has given our school entrance a real wow factor!

However, we need a lot more books to make it perfect. The previous breakfast club have also generously donated some money for books. We will also have commission for books from our book fair.

You may be able to help us further! We would be grateful if you could donate any books (in good condition) that your child has outgrown, in particular non-fiction books for the library. Maybe you could have a half-term clear out and donate us a few?



Reach

4-16 years

Reach is a free and fun programme for families, children and young people who are above a healthy weight

Opportunities for group or 1:1 sessions, including:

- ★ Activities to boost confidence and wellbeing
- ★ Physical activity
- ★ Ideas for healthy snacks and meals
- ★ A cooking session
- ★ Ideas to improve sleep and bedtime routines

To book a place or find out more contact:

☎ 01454 864005 ✉ publichealthcyp@southglos.gov.uk

🖱 www.southglos.gov.uk/reach

Where:

Yate Leisure Centre
 Starting: Thursday 6th Feb 2020
 Time: 4:15pm-5:30pm
 Age range: 8-13 years



www.southglos.gov.uk



FAMILY MATTERS

Our wonderful Parent Link, Sharon Flint, runs sessions for parents each spring called 'Family Matters.' These sessions are confidential within the group, and she tailors the sessions to what the parents who attend need. They cover themes such as managing behaviours, setting boundaries and establishing good routines. She also focuses on raising self-esteem, building confidence and resilience.

You will receive a letter with more details later, but if you are interested put these dates in your diary:

28th February
 13th March
 27th March

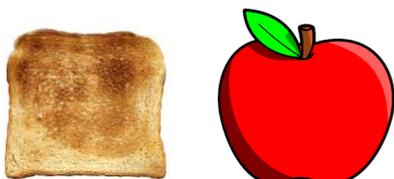
You can come to one, two or all three sessions.

If you have any outgrown PE kit (black shorts or house colour T shirts) please send it in to school.

Many thanks.

MORNING SNACKS

This is a reminder that as infant children have fruit or toast snacks at morning break, junior children should also either buy toast and/or fruit juice or bring a fresh fruit or vegetable snack. They should not bring cereal bars, fruit winders etc or take items from their packed lunch box.



WATER BOTTLES

Please make sure that you child has water only in their water bottle, not squash, juice etc, and has a bottle in school every day.



RECYCLING

Remember that we collect used batteries - there is a collection point in the front entrance.



We have a new recycling project, organised by one of our children, Ethan. This is to recycle pens. All types - biro, felt tips, highlighters, fountain pens etc.

Please support this great idea by one of our children. There is a collection box in the entrance.



Cluster Project
Speech and
Language Therapy
Team

FREE training for
Parents

Supporting Children's Speech Sound Development

An introduction to speech sound development and therapy activities for parents to use with their children when they have unclear speech

Reasons to attend

- Supports parents' understanding of typical speech sound development and different types of speech difficulties.
- Enables parents to become more confident and competent in supporting their children's speech sound development.
- Provides parents with resource and website ideas to use when working with their children.

Speech sound development is all about the sounds your child is using (their pronunciation). We **will not** be covering language skills in this session, i.e. the words they are using and sentences they can say.

Where and when

****You only need to attend one session - the content is the same****

Session 1 – Tuesday 4th February:

Time: 1.15 – 2.45pm

Location: Hambrook Primary School,
Moorend Rd, Bristol BS16 1SJ

OR

Session 2 – Tuesday 11th February:

Time: 9.15 – 10.45am

Location: Pucklechurch Primary School,
Castle Rd, Bristol BS16 9RF



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PTFA 'TEAM WINTER'

The winter team did a fantastic job before Christmas, and we are hugely grateful to them for raising a fantastic amount of money for the school:

Christmas fayre
£3,262

Matched funding for
the fayre
£750

Wreath making workshop
£294

Christmas cards
£391

Thanks to the committee
and all volunteers!

The PTFA committee has just agreed to fund the new climbing equipment / play area for the older children.

This is amazing news, and the children will love it!

More information about this project will follow soon.



We are very sorry that the book containing the names of children who earned certificates just before Christmas got lost in the move. Award winners in the last three weeks are:

17th January: Roxanne, Sybil, Freya, Cole, Eleanor, Juliette, Skylar, Alex, Alicja, Oliver, Callum, Sophia, Noah, Katherine, Ellie, Alfie-Lee, Jacob, Fraser, Sebastian, Olivia, Owen, Lani, Livvy, Harry M, Courtney, Hudson, Libby

24th January: Izabella, George, Violet, Emma, William, Rio, Lily, Magnus, River, Rocco, Riley, Chloe, Zia, Daniel, Connor, Jude, John, Artemis, Logan, Fin, Sankeerth, Henthoi, Harry, Keira

31st January: Seren, Seb, Harper, Darcie, Indigo, Maddisyn, Dayna, Lainey, Poppy, Sam, Gino, Oakley, Henry, Molly, Skye, Ellie, Leona, Evie, Alyssa, Darcy, Sienna, Ruby, Brooke, Ethan, Megan, Zack

Headteacher's award winners: Lucas