



Stoke Gabriel Primary School

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4 November 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was a wonderful surprise to come back to a lovely tidy playground on Monday. Thank you to the parents who gave up their time to make such a difference. The children have also been really enjoying the play equipment which has been purchased by FOSS. We still have more equipment to come but it is already making the playtimes an even more creative and imaginative time for the children. I would also like to thank the parents who have constructed the shed on the field for Miss Middlebrook to be able to keep the woodland learning equipment. The staffroom will be a lot less cluttered as a result!

Unfortunately Lisa is still not well enough to return to work. In her absence, Becky Ames, the clerk to the trust Directors, is providing office cover from Tuesdays to Thursdays. She has settled in very quickly and I know that she really appreciates how helpful many of you have already been. I am sure you will understand that it means we are unable to provide the newsletter in the usual format and also it is harder for us to update our facebook page. Rest assured that the children have made a terrific start to the term and have already produced some amazing pieces of work.

We have had a revamp of the school council. Our Governor, Sue Roach, has done a fantastic job running the council in the time that I have been here and I would like to thank her for all the work that she has done with the children on the council. Miss Gaskin will now be running the council and I know that she has some great ideas as to how to really develop the pupil voice across the school. In assembly today the children were invited to write a letter of application if they would like to be on the council. This needs to be handed in to Miss Gaskin by Tuesday morning at the latest. In the letter the children need to outline what they would like to do if they were elected to the school council and why they think they should be selected. I am really looking forward to reading the letters. On Thursday, the NSPCC came to talk to all of the children about how to keep safe. They gave assemblies to the Key Stage 1 children and Key Stage 2 children and then worked with Spiders in class. You can find more details of the work that the NSPCC does here:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

One of the best things that we can do as parents is to make sure that we are aware of our children's online activity. Talk to them and be inquisitive about what they are doing and the games that they are playing. Sit down with them and watch them playing so that you are aware of what they are getting up to. Many of the seemingly harmless games have links to very damaging and disturbing content across the internet.

Year 6 children will continue to sell poppies in the afternoons next week. They have a range of items for sale from 50p to £1 pound.

Mr Smith will be running football club on a Tuesday and Thursday this term up to the end of November. You should have received an email about a premier sports gymnastic club on a Thursday. This club will only run if they have a minimum of 8 children signed up.

We have the following events coming up this term:

Thursday 7th November – Butterflies at Paignton for Indoor Athletics

Friday 8th of November – Butterflies Anglo-Saxon Forest School day

Friday the 22nd of November – School Photographs

Friday 29th of November – Spiders trip to Bristol

Friday 6th of December – FOSS Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 10th of December – Key Stage 1 Nativity in the morning

Wednesday 11th of December – Key Stage 2 Carol Concert 6pm in the evening

I hope you and your families have a restful weekend and thank you for your patience with the office cover at the moment.

Mr Medd

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