



Stone St Mary's C of E  
Primary School  
Newsletter number 3 -  
November 2024



## Head Teacher's Message

# Welcome to the November newsletter.

Term 2 is speeding along but it is great to see all the children being fully engaged with lots of learning and activities, lots of good progress is also happening .

We will over the next few weeks be building towards our very full Christmas period. Please ensure you have diarised all events, so you do not miss any of the fun packed activities.

Thank you for your support.

Mrs Rolfe ☺

## PE Days

As we are heading into the colder months, we would like to remind you PE will still be held outside, therefore please check the weather report and dress your child appropriately and send them with layers on so they can still enjoy their PE lesson, please ensure your child brings a coat, hat and gloves with them.



## Attendance and Lates.

- ▶ If you need to report your child absent or your child needs to attend a medical appointment, please inform the office and provide proof of appointments.
- ▶ If your child is absent from school, please make sure you telephone and speak with the office before 9.00am. If we do not receive a reason for absence on the morning, then this will be recorded as unauthorised. We are unable to accept emails for absence.
- ▶ The gate closes at 8.55am, after this time you must press the buzzer at the main gate and your child needs to come through the school office, once your child is in the office you will not be able to take them any further.
- ▶ If your child arrives at 9am or after they are late, Persistent lateness contributes to a loss in your child's education. So please ensure you are getting your children to school on time.
- ▶ Holiday's during term time will not be authorised, first time penalty notices will be issued for unauthorised absence with £160 per parent, per child paid with 28 days. Reduced to £80 per child, per child if paid within 21 days, per parent, per child. Penalty notices are issued per parent for each child that was absent.

Getting your child to school on time really matters		
If in a school year your child is late everyday	Your child would have lost approximately	Or they would have missed approximately
*****	*****	*****
5 Minutes	3 days from school	16 lessons lost
10 Minutes	5 days from school	32 lessons lost
15 Minutes	8 days from school	48 lessons lost
20 Minutes	11 days from school	63 lessons lost
30 Minutes	16 days from school	95 lessons lost

## Recent events

- ▶ Thank you to everyone who attended the Harvest Festival worships on 21st October and for the donations that were received. These donations went to local food bank at St Mary's the Virgin Church, they will distribute the food items to local families in need of support.
- ▶ Congratulations to Year 6 for their amazing remembrance day worship on Monday 11th November 2024, the worship was very moving. The Children really appreciate the support of their Parents / Carers so thank you to all those that attended.
- ▶ At 11am the whole school observed 2 minutes silence.
- ▶ On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November we had non uniform day in Aid of Children in Need, On the day we raised over £350.00 thank you for your generosity.
- ▶ Parent Consultations - Thank you to all parents who came along to hear about their children's learning at the recent parent consultations– it was great to see so many delighted and happy parents. The staff really enjoy sharing the children's learning and progress with you. Thank you to those parents who considered having questions ready for the class teacher as this definitely helps the conversation to be more beneficial to both school and home. We know that this positive relationship between home and school helps all children to learn more effectively.



# Sporting events

- ▶ Friday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024, saw 12 of our year 5 and 6's represent the school in a cross-country event held at Cobham Hall. Excitement was amongst the team! A huge well done to all 12 that represented the school! They showed great sportsmanship throughout the event, not only to our team but also the other teams too, with encouraging them at the end of their race.
- ▶ Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November saw some of our year 3's and 4's represent the school in a speed stacking festival! Our two teams took part in 6 events, which all involved a form of stacking the cups, from obstacles races to noughts and crosses to relays. Teamwork was present along with the sporting values especially respect and determination! Well done to all of those that took part in this festival!
- ▶ On Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November Friday afternoon saw some of our year 5 and 6's take part in a friendly tag rugby match against Holy Trinity Dartford. The team were excited but apprehensive about the match. The match started off with Holy Trinity scoring a few points, but Stone came back fighting! Stone won the match 12 - 8! Well done to all of those that represented the school!





# Upcoming Events



## Church / School Christmas Market

**PLEASE** support us to ensure it is a great event.

- ▶ **RAFFLE TICKETS** – Have been sent out to parents, please try to buy the one book of raffle tickets that have been sent to you. Send the money and counterfoils back in an envelope by Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> November. There are lots of great prizes to be won!!
- ▶ **BOTTLE DONATION** – Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November – non-uniform day in exchange for a bottle – alcoholic, non-alcoholic, etc.
- ▶ **CHRISTMAS MARKET** – FRIDAY 29<sup>th</sup> November – 3.00 – 6.00pm, This is an important event in the calendar as it is a great fundraiser for both the Church and the School. The school choir will sing and get you all festive at 4.15pm. We look forward to seeing you all there.

## School Choir singing at Bluewater

- ▶ Our school choir will be singing at Bluewater on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November at 4.30pm – please come along and support the children and get in the festive spirit.



## Messy Church

- Messy Church is held in the school hall, this is run by volunteers from St Mary's they provide activities such as crafts for the children and there is also food provided.

To book your child in for Messy Church please email:

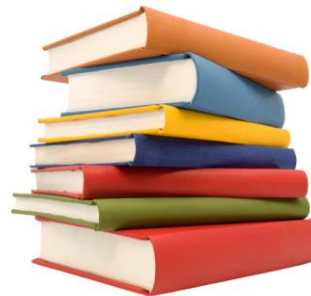
[stonemessychurch@yahoo.com](mailto:stonemessychurch@yahoo.com)

Please include in the email the names and numbers of all children and adults in your group. Please also advise of any dietary requirements as a meal will be served. A reminder that all children must be supervised by an adult family member or guardian at all times, Messy Church is for all ages to enjoy.

The next session is Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December, Please book as early as possible as places may be limited, thank you.

## Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

The PTA would like to request donations of good condition pre-loved children's books, Could we please request donations are brought into the school office by Friday 29th November 2024.



# Parking outside the School

Important notice - Emergency Exit area for Bluewater.

► We have been advised by the Bluewater shopping Centre they will soon be issuing penalty notices to anyone parking in this Emergency exit area (pictured) , the penalty notices will be issued automatically and will be sent to your home address (No yellow notice will be issued).

► **NO VEHICLES** should be parked in this area at any time it needs to be clear should there be an emergency in Bluewater shopping Centre this area would allow access for emergency vehicles, and is in the interest of our community safety should there be the need to use

Other reminders about parking and driving protocols that we like all of our parents to adopt when dropping off and collecting your children in order to keep all of the children safe!

- 1) Please park in a legal bay and not where you should not park – particularly across a crossing place!
- 2) Try to park further away from the school and walk in to reduce the traffic around school – there are plenty of safe places to park a little walk from school.
- 3) Try to observe the unwritten rule of a one-way system in that we drive from St. James Road end and keep going that way up into Louvain Road so that cars are not needing to pass each other as much – this helps the flow of traffic and is much safer.





## Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time	Who
27/11/2024	Beetles Class worship	9.15am	Beetles class parents
29/11/2024	Non-uniform day - Donation of alcoholic / non-alcoholic bottle		Whole School
29/11/2024	Christmas Tree Dressing worship - Please make sure your child brings in their decorations to add to the tree.	9.30am	
29/11/2024	Christmas Market	3.00 - 6.00pm	
04/12/2024	Messy Church (please email the church to confirm attendance)	3.15-5.15pm	School Hall

Please read our Christmas Date sheet so you do not miss any event !

