

Stowford School News



October 2023 (2)

Dear Parents and Carers

As we approach half term I am pleased to report that the first half of the autumn term has been a busy one at Stowford School. Children have been on visits, including the Year 6 residential at Beam House, and enjoyed curricular and extracurricular activities.

Parents' Evenings:

It has been lovely to see so many parents attending Parents' Evenings. We are very happy that you are all so engaged with school.

Please remember that if there is anything that worries you or you would like to discuss a matter at any time, you do not need to wait for Parents' Evening. Any adult in school would be happy to make time for you to address any concerns or answer your queries, and I am available to talk to at the school gate as regularly as possible.

Harvest Festival:



As you will be aware, there was a special Harvest Festival assembly for the children in school today.

Thank you for all the donations that were so generously provided for our Harvest Table. All donations have been given to Ivybridge Foodbank. Representatives from the Foodbank joined us for the assembly, and took your donations straight to the Foodbank with them afterwards. They were really quite overwhelmed at the generosity of the Stowford community.

Thank you for your support as always.

Attendance:

In order to raise the profile of good attendance, we are now running a weekly competition. The children in the class with the highest attendance (excluding any absences due to serious medical conditions) will be able to put their names in a draw to have a chance to receive a small prize. Please see the attached leaflet on attendance, which explains why being in school and arriving at school on time is so important for your child.

Ivybridge Summer Reading Challenge:

We were delighted to be awarded the cup for being the school with the highest participation in the Summer Reading Challenge! Ros Parkes from The Watermark presented the cup at last week's assembly, and told us that a whopping 22% of children at our school had actually completed the challenge! Well done to all who participated!

House Captains:

This year's Year 6 House Captains have now been appointed, and have already begun to fulfil their responsibilities by showing parents around at Parents' Evenings this week, and by helping to load up the food donations from the Harvest Festival to be transported to the Foodbank today. They will have many more community responsibilities throughout the year.

Good luck with your new role to:

Crow Tor: Kai and Joe V

Fox Tor: Rosie and Zyló

Hare Tor: Dougal and Kalia

Hound Tor: Poppy and Holly

Councillors:

Congratulations also to our newly elected Councillors who have been appointed as follows:-

Eco Council: Corey, Kasper, Jaxon, Harvey, Roman, Oliver C, Alice Ba and Jaxson

Arts Council: Flo V, Imogen W, Olivia K, Scarlett, Charlie B, Arlo G, Teddy B, Artem and Summer

Sports Council: Tommy S, Theo L, Bonnie C, Cameron, Finley B, Erin F, Charlie L and Ted

School Council: Erin J, Lila, Imogen P, Charlie D, Ava-Lily, Charlotte S, Bessie and Xavier.

All councils have undertaken their first meetings, and plans for the year ahead have been put in place.

Defibrillator:

I am very pleased to let you know that we have a defibrillator. This is to be installed by the front door of the school so that it is accessible to the wider community in case a need arises.

Year 1 Wild Tribe:

We would like to notify parents of children in Year 1 that there is to be a change in Wild Tribe provision. Year 1 children will now join the rest of the school in enjoying Wild Tribe sessions across three full days per year, rather than just one hour per week. This provision will take place on-site in the yurt and fire pit area. The previous arrangement of one hour a week did not give sufficient time to give the quality of provision that we wanted.

Class teachers will advise their classes via Dojo when these days will be held.

Uniform:

Thank you to all parents for ensuring that children are attending school in smart uniform, including long hair being tied back, with varnish-free nails and no jewellery!

Please remember that the pale blue Stowford polo shirt has been phased out and replaced with the navy blue logo'd version. Please do not purchase non-logo'd navy blue shirts.

A reminder also that earrings should be small, round studs only, not shapes such as stars, moons, butterflies etc. This is for safety reasons.

PE Kit:

Thank you also for ensuring that children attend school in smart PE kit on the correct days for their class. Please note that the PE kit requirement is a white or navy blue t-shirt (with or without school logo) but not with football stripes, Adidas, Nike or other brand markings, etc. The top must be a t-shirt - without collar or buttons - for health and safety reasons.

PE days are not mufti days. The school jumper must be worn to school so that children are smart for assemblies and when sitting learning in the classroom, etc. In addition, children can bring a separate top (dark plain hoody/fleece) to wear during outdoor PE sessions, but this is not to be worn in the classroom.

Smart dress makes a huge difference to focus in class and helps us all to concentrate on the important things in school.

School Lunches:

A polite reminder to ALL Year Groups (including those in receipt of UIFSM) - **please ensure that lunches are pre-ordered via ParentPay.** Please contact the school office if you require any help with this.

Nasal Flu Immunisation

This year children will again be offered a free nasal flu vaccination in school. The link to give consent for your child/children to receive the immunisation was sent out via email on Tuesday, 10th October. The closing date for submission of consent forms is by midday on Thursday, 9th November. The immunisations will take place on Monday, 13th November in school.

Applications for Secondary School

This is a reminder to all parents and carers of Year 6 children that the closing date for applications to secondary school is 31st October 2023. The easiest way to apply is online by visiting www.devon.gov.uk/admissiononline

If you require support with this process, please call into the school office before the end of the week. Devon have advised that there is high demand for places at secondary schools this year so please do not miss the deadline!

Year 3/4 playground:

We would appreciate it hugely if parents/carers could help us to stop the children using the play-time equipment before school in the Y3/4 playground. This is a very small and busy area, and we do not want anyone to be hurt by flying equipment. We would also appreciate it if you could help us by dissuading children from sitting on top of the traversing wall for health and safety reasons. They are not allowed to do this during school time. Thank you for your support.

School Texting Service:

For your information, texts from the school are sent to 'Contact 1' on your child/ren's contacts list only. Please ensure that Contact 1 is aware that they will need to cascade any information received via text to other family members themselves.

Staff Information:

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Liz Langdon, a member of our dedicated premises staff. Mrs Langdon has been keeping the school spotless since 1994, but has decided it is now time to retire! We thank you sincerely for your hard work over the years!

Vacancy:

We are currently looking to employ a temporary Meal Time Assistant - please see the ad below.

And finally, we break up today for the half-term holiday, and Monday, 30th October is a non-pupil day. I wish you all a restful break, and look forward to seeing you when the children return to school on Tuesday, 31st October.

Best wishes

Sue Williams

Headteacher

Polite request from our neighbours:

We have been asked by local residents to again remind parents/carers to please be considerate when dropping children off and collecting from school. Thank you for respecting the local community.

Parking:

We are noticing a massive increase in the number of parents who now drive to school to drop off/collect their children, and, as a consequence, issues are arising in the local vicinity with parking.

If you find it necessary to bring your car, please can we remind parents to comply with the Highway Code by not parking on pavements, hatch lines, zig-zags or causing an obstruction of any kind.

Breakfast Club Drop-Off:

Polite reminder that the parking spaces in the school access lane are for use by school staff who need to park for the whole day. In this connection, please use the ICC coach park at drop-off times (observing the parking regulations in place). Thank you for your consideration.

Dates for Your Diary Autumn 2023

October 2023	
16/10/2023	NO CLUBS THIS WEEK
17/10/2023	3.30-6pm Kestrel's Parents' Evening (1 of 2)
18/10/2023	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening for all classes
19/10/2023	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening (NOT Kestrels)
20/10/2023	Harvest Festival Assembly - Food Bank
20/10/2023	Last day of Term
23/10/2023	Half Term Holiday
	High 5 Holiday Camp
30/10/2023	Non Pupil Day - School Closed
31/10/2023	Deadline for applications to Secondary School
31/10/2023	Return to School
November 2023	
03/11/2023	Special Bonfire Lunch menu
03/11/2023	Stowford Friends: Cauliflower Cards templates sent home to parents
06/11/2023	Stowford Friends:: Cauliflower Cards templates to be returned to school - cut-off
10/11/2023	Remembrance Day Assembly (in school)
13/11/2023	Assessment Week
13/11/2023	Flu Immunisations in School
15/11/2023	Primary School applications open
17/11/2023	Children in Need
27/11/2023	Last week of Autumn clubs
30/11/2023	Y5 swimming - final session
December 2023	
02/12/2023	Stowford Friends' Christmas Fair
07/12/2023	7pm Stowford Friends' Wreath Making event
08/12/2023	AM KS2 to watch KS1 Christmas production rehearsal
11/12/2023	KS2 Carol Service Rehearsal - Church AM
12/12/2023	AM Nursery Christmas
12/12/2023	1.30pm KS2 Carol Service
12/12/2023	6.00pm KS2 Carol Service
13/12/2023	Christmas Jumper Day
13/12/2023	Christmas Lunch
14/12/2023	AM KS1 Christmas production
14/12/2023	PM Foundation Nativity
14/12/2023	6.00pm KS1 Christmas production
19/12/2023	Last day of Term
20/12/2023	Christmas Holiday



Please note these dates are intended to provide advance information and give you an idea of the events throughout the school year. Dates may be subject to change.

Dates for Your Diary Spring 2024

January 2024	
03/01/2024	1 st day of Spring Term - Return to School
08/01/2024	Letters out re Spring Clubs
15/01/2024	Deadline for applications to Primary School
15/01/2024	Spring Clubs start this week
18/01/2023	Stowford Friends' Years 3-4 Cake Sale
February 2024	
05/02/2024	NO CLUBS THIS WEEK
06/02/2024	Safer Internet Day
07/02/2024	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening
08/02/2024	3.30-6pm Parents' Evening
09/02/2024	Last day of Term
12/02/2024	Half Term Holiday
19/02/2024	Non Pupil Day - School Closed
20/02/2024	Return to School
26/09/2024	Y5 Bikeability Week
March 2024	
01/03/2024	Secondary School National Offer Day
01/03/2024	Stowford Friends' Quiz Night (adults)
05/03/2024	Y5 Space Dome
06/03/2024	Y5 (AM) & Y2 (PM) - Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue visit
07/03/2024	World Book Day at school
11/03/2024	Assessment Week
15/03/2024	Red Nose Day
18/03/2024	Last week of Spring Clubs
28/03/2024	Stowford Friends Easter Egg Competition TBC
28/03/2024	Last day of Term
29/03/2024	Easter Holiday



Please note these dates are intended to provide advance information and give you an idea of the events throughout the school year. Dates may be subject to change.

Dates for Your Diary Summer 2024

April 2024	
15/04/2024	1 st Day of Summer Term - Return to School
16/04/2024	Primary School National Offer Day
18/04/2024	Y4 swimming - session 1 of 10
18/04/2024	ICC Presentation at Stowford for Y5 parents/carers
22/04/2024	Summer Clubs letters out to parents
25/04/2024	Stowford Friends' Years 1-2 Cake Sale
29/04/2024	Summer Clubs start
May 2024	
06/05/2024	May Bank Holiday - school closed
07/05/2024	Class and Team Photos
07/05/2024	AM Nursery Individual Photos
13/05/2024	KS2 SATS week
24/05/2024	Last day of Term
27/05/2024	Half Term Holiday
June 2024	
03/06/2024	Return to School
03/06/2024	Y4 Multiplication Assessment 3 week period commences
10/06/2024	Y1 Phonics Screening Week
11/06/2024	Y6 Evolution Dome
17/06/2024	Assessment Week
17/06/2024	4.00pm New Intake Meeting for September
21/06/2024	Stowford Friends Summer Fair
24/06/2024	Last week of Summer Clubs
25/06/2024	AM KS1 Sports Day
26/06/2024	AM Nursery Sports Day
27/06/2024	Y4 swimming - final session
28/06/024	AM KS2 Sports Day
July 2024	
02/07/2024	AM Reserve Nursery Sports Day
03/07/2024	AM Reserve KS1 Sports Day
04/07/2024	AM Reserve KS2 Sports Day
08/07/2024	Annual Reports home
10/07/2024	AM Nursery Graduation
10/07/2024	Parents' 'drop-in' to discuss Reports after school
11/07/2024	1.45pm Y6 Production
11/07/2024	6.00pm Y6 Production
19/07/2024	9.30am Y6 Leavers' Assembly - Y6 parents/carers invited
19/07/2024	Last day of Term
22/07/2024	Non Pupil Day - School Closed
23/07/2024	Non Pupil Day - School Closed
24/07/2024	Summer Holiday

REMINDER TO YEAR 6 PARENTS THAT THE CLOSING DATE FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS IS TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER 2023 - IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO, PLEASE APPLY ONLINE ASAP:
www.devon.gov.uk/admissionsonline

VACANCY:



Westcountry Schools Trust
STOWFORD SCHOOL



Meal Time Assistant (Grade A2) - Temporary
11.50am - 1.20pm Wednesday and Friday (3 hours per week;
with a willingness to do extra cover if needed)
38 weeks per year (term time only)

SALARY: Grade A2 - £10.60 per hour

Required to start as soon as possible

LOCATION: Stowford School, Exeter Road, Ivybridge, Devon, PL21 0BG

We are looking for a creative, flexible and proactive candidate with a strong knowledge of how to support learning and provide care for children. The successful applicant should be

- able to demonstrate a patient, calm and encouraging approach
- able to build positive relationships with children and staff
- willing to work as part of a team
- willing to work flexibly in the school
- able to support children of all abilities.

If you believe you can demonstrate the dedication, skills and passion required, we look forward to receiving your application.

Application forms; full job description and person specification are available from the school website www.stowford.devon.sch.uk; completed applications should be submitted to recruitment@stowford.devon.sch.uk

Please apply by Friday 20th October 2023 (9.00am).

Interviews TBC.

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

An enhanced DBS disclosure is required for this post.

STOWFORD FRIENDS: NEWSLETTER



Welcome to the 2023 to 2024 school year!

On behalf of Stowford Friends, it's our pleasure to welcome you to our wonderful community. We are looking forward to a great year filled with fantastic events and most importantly supporting our children and teachers so they can continue to deliver excellent support and education.

The primary way to make this the best year for your child is to support Stowford Friends either as a committee member, volunteer or by attending our events. This is your chance to support a great organisation which funds many of the opportunities that you see around school. It also provides an opportunity for you to have a say in how we support your child and the school in totality. We are happy for everyone to commit as much or as little time as they have. We are always in need of volunteers for one off jobs such as helping on a stall or pulling information together. If you are interested in being added to our volunteers list then please email us:

friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk

We have already held our Annual General Meeting (AGM) and can advise that Sarah Muirhead and Katie Rogers have been elected as joint Chairs, with Emma Coles as our Treasurer and Kirsty Lewis as secretary. At the AGM we selected a range of events to start the year off. The dates for these can be found below. Information will be circulated regarding these via parent whatsapp groups, social media and email directly from the school.

We hope you look forward to seeing just what Stowford friends has in store.

Warmest Regards

Stowford Friends

UPCOMING EVENTS		2023/24
OCT	12	BAKE SALE YEARS 5 AND 6
DEC	2	CHRISTMAS FAIR
DEC	7	WREATH MAKING ADULTS ONLY
JAN	18	BAKE SALE YEARS 3 AND 4
MAR	1	QUIZ NIGHT ADULTS ONLY
APR	25	BAKE SALE YEARS 1 AND 2

STOWFORD FRIENDS
PRESENT

CHRISTMAS WREATH-MAKING EVENT

7 December 2023
Time: 7.00 p.m.
Cost: £30.00 per person
Venue: School Hall, Stowford
School

*Tickets issued on a first come,
first served basis*

To book your place please send an email to:
friends@stowford.devon.sch.uk
Payments should be made by bank transfer to:
Sort Code: 30-94-58 Account: 00243115

High5 Holiday Club: October Half Term

PRICES
FROM **£35** PER DAY
PRICE INCLUDES ALL XTRA ACTIVITIES

SPOOKTACULAR

OCTOBER HALF TERM 2023

MONDAY 23RD - FRIDAY 27TH
STOWFORD SCHOOL • IVYBRIDGE • PL21 0BG

This half term come and join us for an action packed week of sports, activity, art and fun.
 Scan QR code to book now...



WEEK'S ACTIVITIES...

MONSTER MASH MONDAY	TERRIFYING TUESDAY	WITCHCRAFT WEDNESDAY	TRICK OR TREAT THURSDAY	FANG-TASTIC FRIDAY <small>COME IN FANCY DRESS!</small>
Frightening Football	Beasty Basketball	Monster Multi - Sports Session	S'mores & Halloween Hot Chocs	Ghost Hunter DodgeBall Competition
Ghost Hunter DodgeBall Tournament	Monster Multi - Sports Session	Haunted house Hockey	Ghooley Benchball	Rugby World Cup Coaching & Tag Tournament
Attack of the Zombie Nerf Wars	Attack of the Zombie Nerf Wars	Attack of the Zombie Nerf Wars	Attack of the Zombie Nerf Wars	High 5 Halloween Party including Time Warp Dance Routine & Epic Inflatables
Pumpkin Carving Competition	Conker Wars Tournament	Spooky Reptiles Visit		
Team Challenges & Daily Awards	Team Challenges & Daily Awards	Team Challenges & Daily Awards	Team Challenges & Daily Awards	

PLUS...

TO CELEBRATE THE RUGBY WORLD CUP

We have two Plymouth Albion Coaches working with us throughout the week running Rugby Coaching and Competitions across all our sites!



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www.high5sportscamps.co.uk

FIND US ON...


SPECIAL MENU CHOICES:



**SOUTH WEST
horse**

Bonfire Lunch

November 2023

Hotdogs
with Onions and Tomato Sauce

Or

Veggie hotdogs
with Onions and Tomato Sauce

Served with Curly Fries
Winter slaw Corn on the cob

Firework Biscuit
(Shortbread biscuit decorated with icing and Sprinkles)

The menu card is set against a dark blue background with colorful fireworks. At the bottom, there are illustrations of two children in winter clothing holding sparklers.



**SOUTH WEST
horse**

Christmas Lunch

Roast Turkey
Or
Vegetarian Roast

Served with
Roast Potatoes, Pigs in Blankets
Sage & Onion Stuffing, Peas, Carrots & Sprouts
Gravy & Cranberry Sauce

Christmas Pudding Cake

The menu card is presented on a white board with a snow and icicle border, set against a red background with snowflakes and candy canes. At the bottom, there are illustrations of two children in winter clothing holding gifts, with Christmas trees on either side.