



Newsletter 23

4th March, 2016

Happy Friday!.....

By 9.30 this morning, I'd seen Jack (and his beanstalk), been growled at by a hungry looking wolf and had a meeting with Little Red Riding Hood, The Fairy Godmother and one of the Three Bears. Nothing unusual there then. However today we had a special visitor - Maudie Smith - who has spent the day talking to the children about her life as an author, reading extracts from her books and inspiring us all to read and write even more. It has been a lovely way to celebrate World Book Day. Thank you for helping your children with their amazing costumes - the school is buzzing! Thank you also to Maudie for choosing us to end her very busy week with and being part of such a lovely day. Finally, I would like to mention Mrs Brocklebank and Mrs Macdonald who have worked very hard to organise it all. These events are so special and live so long in our children's memories and I am really grateful to them for bringing today alive for us all.



Parents Evening Appointments.....I am delighted to let you know that the Parents' Evening sign-up system will be open from tomorrow morning (Saturday 5th). When you log in, you should be directed to your child's teacher's appointments. If your child has two teachers as a job share, you will be asked to choose one of the two teachers to sign up with. It won't matter which one you choose - you will go onto the same list. It is just the way the system works. I hope this proves successful and you find it easy to use. Please let me know how you find it. Mrs Alderson has been a star in getting this ready for us - thank you Viv!

Have a wonderful weekend, Andy Bowman

Year 4 trip on Parent Pay.....Just a reminder that Year 4 will be visiting Salisbury Museum on Tuesday 22nd March. Letters were sent out via Parent Pay communication last week. If you have not yet given your permission and made your contribution via ParentPay, please could you do so as soon as possible - the deadline is **Friday 11th March**. If you have any queries about Parentpay please don't hesitate to contact the office.
Thank you.

Cake Sale for Julian House.....Just a reminder that Year 4 will be holding a cake sale to raise money for Julian House., so please come and support them.
Date: Thursday 10th March
Time: 3.20pm
Place: Drama Area of hall
We look forward to seeing you there!

Club application letters for Terms 5 & 6 are out today.....and are available from the carousel in Reception and online next week. Please complete and return your applications as soon as possible, to assist with the smooth organisation of next Term's clubs. PLEASE NOTE THAT THE FINAL APPLICATION DEADLINE IS FRIDAY 18TH MARCH. Thank you.

School Council Book and Cake Sale.....
Date: Wednesday 16th March at 3.20pm
Place: School Hall
Any donations of books and cakes would be greatly received. Please bring books to the foyer on Monday 14th March and cakes on the day of the sale.
Thank you, School Council

Sports News.....The Fidelius Junior Hockey U11 League
St Stephen's U11 Hockey Team won the league last Sunday by winning 100% of their matches this season. They displayed excellent hockey skills and great team work. Oli Hayter saved 5 goals in the last game was voted player of the match. Well done – we are extremely proud of you all. Thank you to Sally Potter and all the parents who helped on the day.



Maudie Smith entertained us for World Book Day today.....Author Maudie Smith visited school today to help us celebrate World Book Day. Maudie started us off with a whole-school assembly featuring some of her books and followed up by talking to Phase 1 classes. During her time with classes she talked to the children about her work as an author. We are very grateful to Maudie for giving up her time; for Pat Brocklebank who masterminded the day so brilliantly and the PTA who paid for it.

World Book Day competition results

Congratulations to all the children who took part in our World Book Day competitions. We were really impressed with your knowledge.

The winners were:

Reception	Giorgio Schiano Moriello F2
Year 1	Rosie Rees F4
Year 2	Austin Walker F5
Year 3	Isaac Cooper F7
Year 4	Nathaniel Oertel F9
Year 5	Emily Lidster F11
Year 6	Elizabeth Lyndon F14

Book Fair continues to buzz

Book Fair is buzzing in the school hall sandwich area. Copies of all sorts of fiction and non-fiction books are flying off the shelves. Tonight Maudie Smith will be at the Fair, signing copies of books she is talking to the children about during the day. If you didn't buy any in advance, there are still copies available on the shelves. Book fair is open today and on Monday and Tuesday next week from 3.30pm until 4pm.

Coming to the book fair is extremely beneficial to the children as not only does it highlight reading but also through the generous "commission" of 60% it gives us a valuable way to stock up our class libraries. We look forward to your continued support for our Book Week and an enjoyable time for the children.

Sian Macdonald

Mid-Somerset Festival... On Tuesday, we were represented for the first time at one of the country's oldest music and drama festivals. Our Year 3 and 4 Recorder Club took part in Primary Music Makers along with 9 other schools. They performed beautifully on a big stage at the Pavilion, in front of hundreds of parents and children. A fantastic achievement. Thank you once again to Jeni Reid for her passion and dedication and to all parents who went along to support.

And finally...three mums from St Stephen's School will be donning lycra on Sunday 13th at Bath's Half Marathon, to raise funds for Challenge Africa, a small charity run by St Stephen's mum Ele Reagan and every donation goes directly to projects in the poorest communities in Kenya. 2016 will see a poultry farm being started next to the school they are building in Abimbo village. The farm will house 600 chickens and with the income raised from the sale of eggs, the school community will be equipped to take on the financial responsibilities of running the school themselves. If you would like to donate, please see Laura Else's page <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/lauraelse1> or Jo Fitzgerald and Astral Blanchard's page <https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/astralandjo>.

Alternatively, if you drop in to the Pig and Fiddle in Bath's Saracen Street on Race Day there will be plenty of donation buckets and refreshments for you there. Good Luck to the three Jogateers from all of us in school!

PTA News.....Dandy Arthouse Cards -.Don't forget to order your unique artcards and personalised items today! Last date is Friday 11th March. Thanks, Karen.

QUIZ TONIGHT CANCELLED - apologies for any inconvenience.

Thanks for your support, Angela

MESSAGE FROM REVD PHILIP....Mothering Sunday! And there are posies for mothers, present or not. There are groups as well. There will also be a chance to light a candle for mothers we have loved but see no longer. Hope to see you there.
Philip

