



# Newsletter - 5th January 2018

Happy New Year to you all and your families. The time seems to have flown by and it has been lovely to see the children return to school full of smiles. We welcome Mrs Kerr-Brown to the staff and it is fantastic to be starting the year with a settled and very talented staff team.

New Year means new year resolutions! We have set a school wide homework for the children, asking them to consider what makes a healthy pack lunch. We want to ensure that they are given the best possible start in life by avoiding too much sugar in their diets. This extends to their snacks at breaktime too and I would ask you to consider the sugar content of the snacks that your child is having. As part of our drive towards promoting a healthy lifestyle, this Friday the children will be retaking their first physical challenge from last term. There will be a prize for the child showing the most improvement in their score.

We would like to invite you to contribute to the drawing up of a new set of school values. You will receive a letter with more details shortly and will also be able to contribute in the hall at the start and end of the day where sheets of paper will be laid out with pens at the ready. You might also find that some of the children canvas your views in the playground before pick up. The staff have already made a start on which values they think the school should adopt. Your views really do count and responses in any format would be greatly appreciated. In the hall next week, you will also find boxes to collect unwanted toys that the children can play with at lunchtimes. Lego, small figures, building blocks, Duplo, sylvanians, toy cars are some of the things requested by the children.

We had a safeguarding audit in school on Thursday and I am delighted to say that the school was judged to be a safe environment for the children and that the school has sound processes in place to safeguard them all. The auditor did pick up on the traffic around the school at the start of the day and the risk it poses to the children. Perhaps some of you could resolve to park more considerately or even to walk to school as part of a healthier lifestyle!

It would really help Lisa in the office if you can pay for school dinners in advance. It means that she then doesn't have to spend time chasing up those that owe money.

The Wassail is taking place on the 20th of January and I know that the organising committee are looking for volunteers for the day. It raises significant funds for the school and any offers of help would be greatly appreciated. Get in touch with FOSS at [foss.sgps@gmail.com](mailto:foss.sgps@gmail.com) if you can help. This week year 6 chose Jack De Vere and Connie Parker to be the Wassail King and Queen of 2018.

This term's Parent Consultation Evenings will be earlier than previously and will be held in the week of the 22nd of January. Spiders will be on the 23rd and 25th of January, Butterflies and Dragonflies on the 24th and 25th of January and Dragonflies on the 24th of January. You will have the chance to look at your child's books and discuss the next steps in their learning. We hope you are all able to make it, as good communication between home and school has a significant impact on your child's learning.

I know the term is going to be a very exciting time and thank you all for your support.

**Safeguarding Roles and Responsibilities in our School**  
 Mr Matthew Medd, Head of School - Designated Safeguarding Lead  
 01803 782469 [mmedd@thelink.devon.sch.uk](mailto:mmedd@thelink.devon.sch.uk)  
 Kelly Yeo, Reception Class Teacher - Deputy Designated Lead  
 01803 782469 [kyeo@thelink.devon.sch.uk](mailto:kyeo@thelink.devon.sch.uk)  
 Anna Neville, Governor - Safeguarding Governor - 01803 762113  
 Local Authority Designated Officer - 01392 384964  
**For more information, please visit our website**  
**<http://stokegabriel.thelink.academy/>**

<http://stokegabriel.thelink.academy/safeguarding/>

## Term Dates 2018

### SPRING TERM 2018

Half Term Monday 12th - Friday 16th February, 2018 inclusive  
 Last day for children Thursday 29th March, 2018

### SUMMER TERM 2018

First day for children Tuesday 17th April, 2018  
 May Day Monday 7th May, 2018  
 Half Term Monday 28th May - Friday 1st June, 2018 inclusive  
 Last day for children Tuesday 24th July, 2018  
 Non-Pupil Days: 16th April, 25th July, 26th and 27th July 2018

## Diary Dates

8 January	Shear Soccer After School Club commences
10 January	Spiders - Swimming at Totnes Pavilion (5 weeks)
18 January	Dragonflies - Multi-Skills at PCSA
20 January	Stoke Gabriel Wassail
23, 24 and 25 January	Parent Consultations
25 January	Butterflies - Outdoor Education at PCSA
1 February	Spiders - Outdoor Education at PCSA
12 - 16 Feb inclusive	Halt Term Holiday
21 February	Butterflies - Swimming at Totnes Pavilion (5 weeks)
22 & 23 February	Year 4 Residential
22 March	School Photographs
30 March - 16th April	Easter Holidays
23 - 25 May	Year 5 and 6 Residential
18 May - 1 June	May Half Term
22 June	Sports Day