**OCTOBER 2018 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER**

And … just like that we have already arrived at half term! What a start to the year it has been! We have had visitors, trips, sports activities, and clubs; not to mention the day-to-day activities in class! In fact I’ve just left a classroom that has been turned in to a cave where they are creating Stone Age Art!

It has been delightful to see the children working studiously in class this term; already the children are making huge strides in their learning! The classrooms are busy and it’s been especially lovely to see parent volunteers in the classroom supporting learning. The teachers are regularly updating eSchool class pages and they are a pleasure to look at. The class pages will show you what the children have been doing as well as providing a wealth of information- please take a look!

Please remind children the nights are drawing in and if they are out on their own to take extra special care! We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday 30th October 2018.

**What’s been happening?**

**Life Education Van visit**

The Life Education Van was at school again this term and the children, as always, relish the opportunity to get involved with the different activities. Below you will see what topic you child was learning about whilst in the Life Education Van.

Reception - All About Me

Year 1 - My Wonderful Body

Year 2 - Feelings

Year 3 - Meet the Brain

Year 4 - It’s Great to Be Me

Year 5 - Friends

Year 6 - Decisions

**European Day of Languages**

The children had a great day filled with art, cookery, languages, computing and PE activities. Please see the eSchools class pages for photos of the activities.

**Harvest Festival**

Our Harvest Festival took place in St Luke’s Church on Friday 5 October. We would like to thank you for all your very kind donations that were brought to school for Chepstow Foodbank. The Foodbank were absolutely delighted with the donations received.

**Author Visit**

We welcomed the children’s author Sibeal Pounder to Tutshill School on Tuesday 9 October.  She writes the “Witch Wars” series which are very funny and creative and the books are hugely popular.  The children enjoyed listening to her stories and we hope that those who purchased books have been busy reading!

**Attendance**

Congratulations to the Green Team who had the highest attendance percentage this term with 98.29% and are able to wear their team colours on the first day back to school on Tuesday 30 October (please remember this does not include fancy dress or football colours). Our whole school attendance was 97.88% which is a great start to the year and well done also to Year 5 who had the highest class attendance at 98.63%.

**Coming up…**

**The Big Draw – Drawing For All At Chepstow’s Drill Hall**.

Liz Kayll, who runs Artyrats Art Club is organising a Big Draw event, as part of the worlds biggest drawing festival, at The Drill Hall in Chepstow on Saturday 27th October- 10am till 4pm. The event is free and everyone is welcome, any age or ability. You may come along and stay for ten minutes or stay all day. There will be lots of fun drawing activities to take part in and you do not have to be good at drawing. The café will be open to buy hot and cold drinks and snacks.

**A Halloween message from PC Lang**

With Halloween upon us shortly, PC Lang has reminded us of the following important messages to help keep us stay safe during the celebrations.

* Stay in areas that are lit with streetlights – take a torch with you just in case
* Don’t talk to strangers on the street
* Always go trick or treating with an adult
* Although Halloween is supposed to be spooky, be careful not to frighten elderly people
* Always look carefully before crossing the road, even if you’re part of a group
* Don’t enter any house, stay on the doorstep
* Stay with your friends. Don’t split into smaller groups unless an adult goes with you
* Only go to houses where you or your friends know the residents
* Be visible

**Cauliflower Cards Deadline**

Just a reminder, following our recent letter about your children’s Christmas card designs, that any orders for cards, labels and/or mugs must be ordered online and your child’s artwork returned to school by **Wednesday 31 October 2018**. It is crucial to note that if you have ordered online, you must return the artwork form to school by this date in order for the order to be fulfilled.

**PTA Cake Sale**

The PTA are holding a KS1 cake sale after school on Friday 2 November 2018. These cake sales are held throughout the year and help raise funds for the PTA. If you are a parent/carer of a child in either Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and would like to donate cakes for the stall, please bring them to the kitchen area at the back of the school on the day of the sale.

**Open Morning – September 2019 Intake**

We are holding our final Open Morning on Monday 5 November at 10.30am. If you would like to attend or know of anyone who is looking for a place in our Reception class in September 2019, we would be grateful if you could share these details.

**Bonfire Night Menu – Change to Lunch Choices**

The kitchen will be having a Bonfire Night themed menu on Monday 5 November. The meal choices available will be:

Bangers and Mash with Baked Beans **OR**

Cheese and Pepper Catherine Wheels **OR**

Jacket Potato with Cheese and Beans

**Parental Consultations – Week commencing Monday 5 November 2018**

Please don’t forget to log into <https://tutshillcofe.parentseveningsystem.co.uk> to book an appointment with your child’s class teacher.

**Y3 and Y4 Trip to Dean Heritage Centre**

Children in Year 3 and Year 4 will be visiting Dean Heritage Centre on **Tuesday 13 November 2018**. They will be participating in an Iron Age Workshop which will complement the topic they will be studying next term.

**PTA School Disco**

The PTA School Disco will be held on **Wednesday 14 November**. The KS1 disco will be from 5.30pm until 6.20pm and the KS2 disco will be from 6.30pm until 7.30pm. Further details will be provided by the PTA at the start of next term.

**Flu Vaccinations Reminder**

The Immunisation Team will be visiting Tutshill School on **Tuesday 20 November 2018** to administer this vaccination. If your child is in Reception, Year 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 please ensure you have completed your Immunisation Consent Form emailed to you last month. Paper copies are available in the school office.

**Christmas Production Dates**

We would like to give you advance notice of our Christmas Production Dates.

The KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) Production will be on **Wednesday 19 December**. There will be two performances; one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

The KS2 (Years 3 – 6) productions will be on **Thursday 20 December**. There will be three performances; one in the morning, one in the afternoon and one in the evening.

Further details will follow nearer the time.

**After School Clubs**

As our after school clubs are very popular and places are limited, could we please request that you notify the School Office if your child no longer requires their place. This will allow their place to be offered to the next child on the waiting list. If your child is absent for two consecutive sessions, without notifying the School Office, their place will be withdrawn.

**ParentPay School Meal Accounts**

Please could we request that your child’s school meal account be kept topped up at all times.

**Lost Property**

Please ensure you regularly check lost property for any missing items. This is situated at the back of the school hall, accessible through the door leading from the playground to the school hall. Lost property will only be accessible between the hours of 8.45am-8.55am and again at 3.15pm-3.25pm. After these times, lost property will not be accessible. This will also mean that you do not need to come in to the school through the office to locate lost property.

**School Calendar**

Please be sure to regularly check the school calendar for events. This can be looked at on the school website or the eSchools app.

**Dog Fouling**

We have recently been contacted by a Street Warden from the Forest of Dean District Council regarding the increased amount of dog fouling on the pavements around the local area. We have been asked to remind parents who walk their dogs to school to please clear up after them.

**Contact Information**

Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details.

**School Contact Details**

Telephone: 01291 622593

General email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

Attendance email: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk