**December 2017**

**End of Term Newsletter**

**What’s been happening?**

What a busy last week of term! The school was fortunate to remain open at the start of the week and we were impressed by the number of families that were able to make it safely in to school. I would also like to praise the staff for making it safely to school, whether by train, walking or once the snow had melted!

Another ‘thank you’ to the parents that have been able to walk to the Christian Centre with us, it allows the children to have a memorable time during the festive period. The term has finished with our Carol Service. It is always such a pleasure to hear the children tell the Christmas Story and sing so beautifully. It was a pleasure to have so many adults attend the church this morning,

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! We look forward to seeing you all on Wednesday 3rd January 2018 at 8.55am.

Miss Lane

**Y6 Bikeability Cycle Training**

The children thoroughly enjoyed completing their cycle training at the end of November. We were exceptionally lucky that the weather was very kind to us during that week. Should children be cycling to school, having past their cycling proficiency, please remind them that helmets are required and during the dark nights, they are wearing suitable reflective clothing.

**Christmas Performance**

Christmas rehearsals were changed due to the weather conditions. However, I am sure you will agree the performances, as always, were quite wonderful! The children had lots of activities happening during rehearsals so there was no time wasted and children have behaved impeccably during this time.

Thank you to Mrs McNeil for filming the productions. The productions will be available to watch on eSchools in the very near future.

Thank you also to Mr and Mrs Birt for allowing us to use the Christian Centre. It is a wonderful place to hold our performance and makes for some very special memories.

**Christmas Lunch**

Thank you to our kitchen team, yet another wonderful Christmas Lunch cooked and served to nearly 150 children! It is a wonderful time; children pulling crackers, Mr Dadd playing Christmas songs on the piano and lots of festive cheer and merriment coming from the school hall! Please look at the school website for pictures of the event!

**Rotary Shoebox Scheme**

Chepstow & District Rotary club have written to us to thank our school community for our enthusiastic participation in the Rotary Shoebox scheme this Christmas.  They picked up a total of 549 boxes from the nine participating schools in the Chepstow area and next week they will be picked up by a lorry for their journey to Eastern Europe.  Over the past 20 years, Rotary has delivered well over one million shoeboxes and each of them has gone to a child or family in real need.

**Attendance**

Well done to the Green team who had the highest overall attendance percentage this term with 95.86%.  The Green team are able to wear their team colours on Friday, 5 January 2018.  They were closely followed by the Yellow team with 95.22%, the Blue team with 95.10% and the Red team with 93.89%.

**Tutshill Christmas Sports Club – Monday, 18 to Friday, 22 December 2017**

We are running the Holiday club again next week. If you have booked a place(s) for your child, you should have received a separate email with final details for the week and contact details for ProStars.

**We say goodbye to…**

Mrs Body is leaving Tutshill School at the end of the Autumn Term. We would like to thank her for all her hard work and wish her all the very best for the future.

PC Nick is retiring! He has been working with Tutshill School for over 5 years now and has helped children in all year groups and even watched them move on to Wyedean. He will be hugely missed at school and also within the community. We wish him all the very best in his retirement! A collection is being held in Toast, Tutshill, should any parents wish to contribute.

**Next year**

On Monday 8th January 2018, Year 5 start swimming lessons. Please ensure that children have their swimming kit with them on this day. In addition to this Year 5 will also have Brass Lessons delivered by GCC. It’s sure to be a noisy yet fun afternoon. The children will deliver a performance at the end of the Spring term. Dates and further information to follow.

**PE Kits**

Please make sure all PE Kits are in school every day and that all items are clearly named.

It is advisable to include a pair of tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE activities.

**School Uniform**

Our school uniform remains unchanged for the coming year, consisting of:

* A light blue polo shirt\*, shirt, or blouse;
* School sweatshirt\* or navy jumper or cardigan;
* Smart grey or navy trousers or grey or navy skirt/pinafore;
* Grey socks / tights, white socks for girls in summer;
* Dark coloured sensible shoes.
* In summer, children may wear grey or navy shorts;
* In summer, girls may wear a blue checked or striped dress and white socks.
* Baseball caps with the school logo are available from the school office.

PE Kit (to be kept in a named drawstring bag):

* Navy T-shirt\* and navy shorts;
* Navy jogging trousers;
* KS1 (Reception, Y1 and Y2) black daps; and
* KS2 (Y3, 4, 5 and 6) white trainers (no colour/logos/names) or black daps.

Our uniform supplier, Sheila’s of Beachley Road in Sedbury, has sent details of her current prices for Tutshill School uniform as follows:

Sweatshirts £10.00 all sizes

Sweat cardigans £12.00 all sizes

Polo shirts £ 8.50 all sizes

PE t-shirts £ 8.00 all sizes

**School logo**

The school logo is embroidered on several items of uniform, all marked with an asterix on the above list. The full range of school uniform (including items with the school logo) is available for purchase from ‘Sheila’s’ in Sedbury.

However, whilst preferred by the school, the wearing of uniform bearing the logo is optional and uniform can be purchased from other suppliers providing it is the correct colour (i.e. plain light blue polo shirts and plain navy sweatshirts may be worn for lessons and a plain navy t-shirt may be worn for PE).

Nearly new uniform is available from the school office.

* Children should wear school uniform at all times.
* Skirts should be of an appropriate length and style.
* Children with long hair should have it tied back using a plain, navy or blue and white check, “Alice”-style hair band, plain navy bobble/pony-tail band and simple “Kirby”-style hair-grips. Decorative or embellished hairbands, bobbles/elastics/scrunchies and hair-grips must not be worn.
* No jewellery should be worn in school. Children with pierced ears may wear plain studs. These must be removed for all PE activities and the child must be able to put them back in themselves.
* No nail varnish.
* Children should wear appropriate school shoes and not trainers.
* During the Summer term all children should have a cap and a water bottle as part of their PE kit. It is advisable to have a pair of plain navy blue jog bottoms in school.
* During the Autumn, Winter and Spring terms, all children should bring a coat to school. This ensures they are able to participate in outdoor activities and playtimes. During the Summer term it is advisable to have a light waterproof coat.
* No toys or games should be brought into school unless given special permission by a member of teaching staff.

**ALL SCHOOL UNIFORM AND OTHER ITEMS OF CLOTHING MUST BE NAMED**

**Online Portal for Free School Meals**

Gloucestershire County Council is launching a new portal to enable parents to apply on-line for Free School Meals across the county. The launch will initially be for Reception pupils starting primary school in September in the Gloucester area only. This will enable Gloucestershire County Council to test the system before going live for everyone later in the term.

The portal will be a quick, easy and more efficient method for parents to apply as opposed to the current paper based system. Also, upon completion of the application, the process will indicate to the parent whether they will be eligible for Free School Meals, so there should no longer be a delay in hearing the outcome. If further information is required, in order to determine entitlement, parents will be notified about what is needed to be done to complete their claim.

Another advantage of this on-line service is that it will not be necessary for school staff to fax or scan applications to us as they have done in the past, especially at the beginning of the academic year. If you or the parents have any queries, regarding this or the process of applying, please contact the Free School Meals Team on 01452 425390 who will be happy to help. For more information and to make an application visit [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals%3chttp:/www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals)

**Cool Club Contact Details**

If you need to contact Cool Club regarding breakfast or the after school club, parents can do so via email on [coolclub15@outlook.co.uk](mailto:coolclub15@outlook.co.uk) or via their contact phone number on 07763 479119.

**Safeguarding**

Safeguarding children is a key priority at Tutshill School.

We:

* ensure adults who come into contact with children have enhanced cleared from the Disclosure & Barring Service (which has replaced Criminal Records Bureau);
* communicate child protection procedures to all staff, parents and visitors. We would ask that should you hear, see or read anything which troubles you about a child, do not ignore it, but report your concerns to the Designated Safeguarding Lead: Mrs N Fryer.

For further information on safeguarding, contact the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children’s Board: [www.gscb.org.uk](http://www.gscb.org.uk). Tel: 01452 583638.

**Parent View**

Ofsted are welcoming parents views throughout the year regarding your thoughts on school provision. The expectation is that parents will submit thoughts and opinions on their website. To date, there has been very little response from parents online so we would encourage you to post your comments; even positive comments are welcome!

Please find the link below and wording from the Ofsted site.

<http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

*Parent View gives you the chance to tell us what you think about your child’s school. Parent View asks for your opinion on 12 aspects of your child’s school, from the quality of teaching, to dealing with bullying and poor behaviour. We will use the information you provide when making decisions about which schools to inspect, and when. A screencast demonstrating how to register and complete a survey on Parent View is available on the* [*How to use Parent View*](http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/how-to-use) *page. By sharing your views, you’ll be helping your child’s school to improve. You will also be able to see what other parents have said about your child's school. Or, if you want to,* [*view the results*](http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/parent-view-results) *for any school in England.*

**Dates for your diary**

We have tried to give you as many dates as possible for the forthcoming school year.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Dec 2017** | 15 | **Term ends – 3.15pm finish** |
| **Jan 2018** | 2 | INSET DAY |
|  | 3 | **Term begins** |
|  | 8 | Year 5 swimming lessons commence |
|  | 11 | Young Voices Choir Concert |
|  | 16 | Year 6 Knex Challenge |
|  | 20 | Year 5 LEGO Robots Workshop |
| **Feb 2018** | 9 | **Term ends** |
|  | 19 | **Term begins** |
|  | 28 | Year 5 SkillZONE trip |
| **Mar 2018** | 7 | Bag2School textile collection |
|  | 28 | **Term ends – 3.15pm finish** |
|  | 29 | INSET DAY |
|  | 30 | **Good Friday** |
| **April 2018** | 2 | **Easter Monday** |
|  | 16 | **Term begins** |
|  | 16 | Year 5 Bikeability |
| **May 2018** | 7 | **May Day Bank Holiday** |
|  | 14 | **Key Stage 2 SATs week** |
|  | 19 | PTA Summer Fayre |
|  | 25 | **Term ends** |
| **June 2018** | 4 | INSET DAY |
|  | 5 | **Term begins** |
| **July 2018** | 11-13 | Year 6 Residential Trip |
|  | 25 | **Term ends – 1.00pm finish** |

**Term and Holiday Dates 2017/2018**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Term 1 2017**  Term begins  Term ends | 4 September 2017 (Inset Day)  5 September 2017  20 October 2017 |
| **Term 2 2017**  Term begins  Term ends | 30 October 2017 (Inset Day)  31 October 2017  15 December 2017 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 3 2018**  Term begins  Term ends | 2 January 2018 (Inset Day)  3 January 2018  9 February 2018 |
| **Term 4 2018**  Term begins  Term ends  Good Friday  Easter Monday | 19 February 2018  28 March 2018 – 3.15pm finish  29 March 2018 (Inset Day)  30 March 2018  2 April 2018 |
| **Term 5 2018**  Term begins  May Day Bank Holiday  Term ends | 16 April 2018  7 May 2018  25 May 2018 |
| **Term 6 2018**  Term begins  Term ends | 4 June 2018 (Inset Day)  5 June 2018  25 July 2018 – 1pm finish |

School will be closed for in-service training on the following dates:

4 September 2017

30 October 2017

2 January 2018

29 March 2018

4 June 2018

These dates are in line with Gloucestershire County Council term dates.

Created: November 2016

**Term and Holiday Dates 2018/2019**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Term 1 2018**  Term begins  Term ends | 3 September 2018 (Inset Day)  4 September 2018  19 October 2018 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 2 2018**  Term begins  Term ends | 29 October 2018 (Inset Day)  30 October 2018  19 November 2018 (Inset Day)  21 December 2018 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 3 2019**  Term begins  Term ends | 7 January 2019  15 February 2019 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 4 2019**  Term begins  Term ends  Good Friday  Easter Monday | 25 February 2019  5 April 2019 – 3.15pm finish  19 April 2019  22 April 2019 |
| **Term 5 2019**  Term begins  May Day Bank Holiday  Term ends | 23 April 2019  3 May 2019 (Inset Day)  6 May 2019  24 May 2019 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 6 2019**  Term begins  Term ends | 3 June 2019 (Inset Day)  4 June 2019  23 July 2019 – 1pm finish |

School will be closed for in-service training on the following dates:

3 September 2018

29 October 2018

19 November 2018

3 May 2019

3 June 2019

These dates are in line with Gloucestershire County Council term dates.

Created: July 2017