**DECEMBER 2018 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER**

It’s hard to believe we are finally at the end of what has been an exceptionally long term! The children have worked so hard throughout the Autumn Term and should be proud of all they achieved. We have ended the term putting on five wonderful nativity performances, a fantastic carol service and our famous whole school version of Twelve Days of Christmas! The choir have sung at Castleford Nursing Home as well at Tidenham Church; it really has been an eventful time! On behalf of all at Tutshill C of E School, Merry Christmas! We look forward to seeing you on Monday 7th January 2019.

**What’s been happening…**

**Sports Hall Athletics**

We were really proud of our Year Five and Year 6 children who took part in the Forest of Dean Sports Hall Athletics. They all worked together as a team and demonstrated a number of our school values including respect, perseverance and courage. The children took part in a wide range of activities which included relays, long jump and javelin. Well done to all of the children who took part!

**Rotary Boxes**

Chepstow & District Rotary Club have written to thank us for kindly filling their Shoeboxes. They are currently on their way to Eastern Europe where they will be distributed by the Rotary to children and families who are far less fortunate than we are in the UK.

**Christmas Productions**

We hope that you enjoyed watching your child/ren in their Christmas Productions this week. We are always amazed at what they manage to accomplish after just a few short days’ rehearsals, and it is lovely to watch their enjoyment and pride in performing for you. Thanks too are due to Mrs Fryer (Senior) for accompanying our Key Stage 1 pupils in their two performances and to Mr and Mrs Birt for enabling our use of the Woodcroft Christian Centre for the Key Stage 2 rehearsals and performances. We would also like to say a huge thank you to all the parents who have braved the elements and helped with the walking to and from Woodcroft Christian Centre, over the last two weeks. You will be impressed to hear that your very generous donations for Christian Relief Uganda totalled £162.30 – thank you.

**PTA Christmas Fayre**

Thank you to the PTA and for your support, for their festive Christmas Fayre on Friday 7 December 2018. We are very grateful to the members of our PTA whose invaluable work in raising funds makes such a difference to the learning opportunities that we can offer your children here at Tutshill.

**Attendance**

Congratulations to the Green Team who had the highest attendance percentage this term with 97.64% and are able to wear their team colours on the first day back to school on Monday 7 January 2019 (please remember this does not include fancy dress or football colours). Our whole school attendance for this term was 96.53% and well done also to Year 5 who had the highest class attendance this term at 97.93%.

**STEM Event**

Thank you for all of the responses to our letter about our STEM event planned for the New Year. If you would like to come in and help/work with us, please let us know. For more information, please speak to Mrs Cooper.

**School Emergency Closure**

Should severe weather conditions require us to close the school; we will notify parents and carers by means of an alert via the eSchools app. May we please urge any families who have not already installed the app to do so as soon as possible to ensure that they receive any such closure alerts. Please also ensure you add Tutshill School email addresses to your safe senders to help stop any emails going into your Spam/Junk folder. We will also notify any closures on the home page of our school website and to Gloucestershire County Council for inclusion in their Emergency School Closure List. At very busy times - e.g. during bad weather - the GCC closed school website can be overwhelmed by the number of visitors. To cope with this exceptional demand they have set up two other links. Please check the following links:

* [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closedschools](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closedschools)
* [www.glosclosedschools.co.uk](http://www.glosclosedschools.co.uk)
* [www.glosclosedschools.com](http://www.glosclosedschools.com)

Parents can follow GCC on Twitter where they will put messages when there are mass closures. Follow the link and search for GlosCC: [Twitter](https://twitter.com/GlosCC)

**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**

There is an unprecedented amount of lost property at present. It seems that it is not being collected and as a result we are holding more and more with it taking up much space. From January onwards, we will be reviewing lost property every three weeks and will be donating any items left to charity. The lost property will continue to be stored at the back of the school hall. Please ensure that you check the lost property as soon as you realise an item is lost. We will notify parents of the dates we will be giving items to charity. We will always check for names on items before doing so.

**School Uniform**

Our school uniform remains unchanged, 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.

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).

* 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**

**PE Kits**

As the weather is getting colder, we would like to remind you that the children will need full PE kit as some PE lessons will be taught outside no matter what the weather! Please can all children have the following named PE Kit (to be kept in a named drawstring bag):

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

If you have any questions, please let us know. We will be checking children’s PE kits over the next couple of weeks and will be contacting those parents whose children do not have the correct items.

**Contact Information**

Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details. It is vital that we have your up to date information for all correspondence purposes.

**School Contact Details**

Telephone: 01291 622593

General email: [office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk)

Attendance email: [attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk)

**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.

**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.

**Diary Dates – At a Glance**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Jan 2019** | **7** | **Term Starts** |
|  | 14 | Year 5 Swimming Lessons Commence |
|  | 22 | Young Voices Choir Trip |
| **Feb 2019** | 7 | Year 6 K’Nex Challenge |
|  | 12 | Year 5 Lego Robots Workshop |
|  | **15** | **Term Ends – 3.15pm** |
|  | **25** | **Term Starts** |
|  | 27 | Year 5 trip to SkillZONE (further details to follow in Spring Term) |
| **Mar 2019** | 15-20 | Book Fair |
| **Apr 2019** | **5** | **Term Ends – 3.15pm** |
|  | **19** | **Good Friday** |
|  | **22** | **Easter Monday** |
|  | **23** | **Term Starts** |
|  | 23-26 | Bikeability Cycle Training – Year 5 |
| **May 2019** | **3** | **INSET Day** |
|  | **6** | **May Day Bank Holiday** |
|  | **24** | **Term Ends – 3.15pm** |
| **June 2019** | **3** | **INSET Day** |
|  | **4** | **Term Starts** |
| **July 2019** | 10-12 | Year 6 Residential Trip |
|  | **23** | **Term Ends – 1pm** |

**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

**Term and Holiday Dates 2019/2020**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Term 1 2019**  Term begins  Term ends | 2 September 2019 (Inset Day)  3 September 2019  25 October 2019 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 2 2019**  Term begins  Term ends | 4 November 2019 (Inset Day)  5 November 2019  20 December 2019 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 3 2020**  Term begins  Term ends | 6 January 2020  14 February 2020 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 4 2020**  Term begins  Term ends  Good Friday  Easter Monday | 24 February 2020 (Inset Day)  25 February 2020  3 April 2020 – 3.15pm finish  10 April 2020  13 April 2020 |
| **Term 5 2020**  Term begins  May Day Bank Holiday  Term ends | 20 April 2020  4 May 2020  22 May 2020 – 3.15pm finish |
| **Term 6 2020**  Term begins  Term ends | 1 June 2020 (Inset Day)  2 June 2020  17 July 2020 – 1pm finish  20 July 2020 (Inset Day) |

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

2 September 2019

4 November 2019

24 February 2020

1 June 2020

20 July 2020

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

Created: June 2018