**JANUARY 2019 – START OF TERM NEWSLETTER**

Welcome back!

It has been a pleasure to see children back at school- the recent break seeming a distant memory! As always, the children have wasted no time with their learning! Children in the school have already boarded a plane to Africa and have started to read books by exciting authors such as Kate Dicamillo. As always, there is much happening in school for all year groups; I invite you to look at the school website to ensure you keep up to date with what is happening!

**'Baarbara’ the Sheep**

Just before Christmas, Tutshill School became the proud shepherds of a sheep sent to us by Gloucester Diocese. We have really enjoyed looking after the sheep over the last month and the children voted to name her 'Baarbara'. Baarbara was sent to the school by Gloucester Diocese and is moving around the local Primary Schools that are part of our Diocese family.  The children have thought about what it means to be part of such a large Diocese and how this makes us feel. They have engaged fully and it has been great to hear how much they value our community and church. Well done, everyone!

**Church Dates**

Parents are invited to attend our church assemblies on the dates shown below. All assemblies take place in the church unless otherwise stated. Please attend the Church on the date relevant to your child’s class.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Friday 18 January | Reception (in church) |
| Friday 25 January | Year 5 (in church) |
| Friday 1 February  | Year 4 (in church) |
| Friday 8 February | Year 3 (in church) |
| Friday 15 February | Year 2 (in school) |

**School Census Day – Change to Lunch Choices**

The school Census Day is Thursday 17 January.  The amount of funding the school receives for the year to provide the children with a free school meal depends on how many children are having a school meal on that day.  With this in mind, we would ask that parents of children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 book a meal for their child on this day. As a result of the Census Day there will be a change to the menu choices for that day. The meal choices available on will be:

 **Bangers, Mash and Beans**

**OR**

**Jacket Potato with Cheese**

**After School Clubs**

Our after school clubs commence next week. If you have not booked a place for your child through the online booking system, they will be unable to attend. 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.

**PTA School Disco**

The PTA School Disco will be held on Wednesday 13 February. Further details will be provided by the PTA in due course.

**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.

**Messages to school**

We understand that sometimes there may be a change to your child’s normal pick up at school but we do ask that any changes or other messages are notified to the School Office before midday to ensure the messages are delivered to the teachers and children.

**Nut allergy**

We request your co-operation in keeping our school a nut-free environment in the interests of the safety of our pupils, some of whom suffer from a severe nut allergy. Please avoid giving your child/ren snacks or packed-lunches containing nuts (in any form) or foods with any nut content.

**Coats**

Please could parents ensure their child has a coat with them at school at all times, especially at this time of year.

**Spare Clothes**

KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are low on spare clothes for both boys and girls. They especially need socks, pants/knickers, trousers and tights. If you have any items you are able to spare, we would be grateful to receive them.

**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)

**ParentPay School Meal Accounts**

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

**School Contact Details**

Telephone: 01291 622593

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

Attendance email: 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 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**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Jan 2019** | **7** | **Term Starts** |
|  | 14 | Year 5 Swimming Lessons Commence |
|  | 17 | Census Day |
|  | 22 | Young Voices Choir Trip |
| **Feb 2019** | 7 | Year 6 K’Nex Challenge |
|  | 12 | Year 5 Lego Robots Workshop |
|  | 13 | PTA Disco |
|  | **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** |