**MAY 2019 – END OF TERM NEWSLETTER**

Well, where on earth did this term go? The recent spell of sunshine has meant that the children have been outside for all sorts: learning, PE and playtimes - it has been a joy to see the children using so much of our outdoor space! We are about to embark upon the final term of this academic year and as always, we have an awful lot to do. Please make sure you continually look at the school calendar and your eSchools page to remain up to date with what is happening. Please have a restful half term and remember we have an INSET Day on Monday 3 June. We look forward to seeing you at 8.55am on Tuesday 4th June 2019.

**SATs**

Children in Year Two and Year Six have recently undertaken National Curriculum tests. The children in Year Two have completed these throughout the month of May and will support the teacher assessment made at the end of the academic year. Year Six sat the tests week beginning 13 May, with every other Year Six child in the country sitting the same. The tests were challenging and required a calm and mature attitude to be applied. Needless to say, our children did just that. Well done!

**Summer Holiday Sports Club**

We will be holding our summer holiday sports club during the weeks commencing **Monday 29 July 2019** and **Monday 5 August 2019**. Further details of how to book a place for your child will be sent to parents after the half term break.

**5 Star Hygiene Rating**

We are pleased to inform parents that our school kitchen has a received a 5 Star Hygiene Rating from the Food Standards Agency. We would like to thank our kitchen staff for this achievement.

**Water Bottles**

We would kindly like to thank Mr Graham for his recent donation of a box of water bottles for the children to use in school.

**Headlice**

With the continuing occurrences of headlice in various year groups we have spoken to Boots the Chemist in Chepstow who have informed us they are able to give free advice to anyone having problems. We would appreciate your cooperation with this matter to avoid any further outbreaks.

**Hayfever and Sun Care**

As we move into the summer months, we would be grateful for your support in providing your child with a sun hat and sun cream for use in school. The children will need to administer the sun cream themselves. Please also ensure that your child has a water bottle in school for use with water only. Reception class will be issued with new water bottles funded by the PTA.

If your child suffers from hayfever, please inform school by emailing office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

to confirm whether or not your child should be kept indoors at play-time and lunch-time. You will also be required to complete a 'Healthcare Plan for Pupil with Medical Needs' form, available from the school office.  All children will be sent out to play on our main field, weather permitting, unless we receive your confirmation that they are to be kept indoors for supervised play. There is not an option of being kept on the playground if the school is on the field, due to the number of staff that we have.

The school’s usual administration of medication policy applies to hayfever remedies.  We can only administer prescribed medication with its original pharmacist’s dispensing label (specific to the child) complete with dosage instructions.  Please visit the school office to collect a form if appropriate.

**Voluntary contributions for trips**

Learning outside the classroom is widely recognised as a valuable and effective means of extending pupil knowledge, enriching pupil understanding and promoting personal and social development. Consequently, our school promotes and encourages educational visits for all its pupils and it is hoped that parents will also recognise the value and importance of these visits and give their full support. The school, however, is not able to fund the costs of these visits in full and therefore asks parents to give a voluntary contribution. Recently, there have been fewer voluntary contributions received for the various trip and activities which have taken place across the year groups and we would appreciate if parents could log into ParentPay to see whether there are any outstanding items on the accounts. Please do not hesitate to get in contact should there be any difficulties in making the contributions.

**PTA Update**

We hope you all enjoyed our Spring Fayre on the lovely school field. It was fantastic to see such a great turn-out and you raised just over £700 (profit) for the school in under 2 hours!  We are always really grateful for the support we receive from parents in supplying very generous donations and helping out before and during the event.  We are particularly grateful to Year 6 and the teachers who were a fantastic help on Friday afternoon.  Mrs Cooper, as always, is our hero for supporting the children’s stalls whilst face painting what looked like a few hundred faces!  We had some lovely feedback during the event and had some great requests from parents, teachers and pupils on how we spend the funds we raise.  We are unfortunately unable to assist the child who asked if we could turn her into a mermaid #wewouldifwecould #mermaidsrock.

We’re now looking forward to our next event which is a Murder Mystery Evening jointly run with St John’s School.  We’ll be raising money for equipment for the village recreational ground so please look out for posters on the school fence and on our Facebook page. We have a limited number of tickets and we’ve already sold more than half so if you’d like to attend, please email ptatutshill@gmail.com. The event is on Friday 7th June where we’re serving fish and chips. Wine and beer will be available to buy too.

**eSchools**

We have been informed by eSchools that they have changed email provider. Please could you therefore check your junk/spam folders to ensure you receive our correspondence. They have advised that parents add eSchools to the contacts list to stop this from happening.

**Dog Owners – polite request**

Please can we ask that owners of dogs which are brought to school at the start or end of the day are mindful of other pedestrians. As there are now quite a few dogs tied to the railings, parents and children are being forced into the road in an attempt to get around the dogs. Please will dog owners not congregate in one area for the safety of all pedestrians whilst avoiding the entrance gate. Thank you for your co-operation.

**FOD Baby Bank donation drop off points**

We have been kindly asked if we could circulate information regarding the Forest of Dean Baby Bank. Please find information at the end of the newsletter regarding items the Baby Bank require along with their drop off points for donations.

**Chepstow Museum Holiday Activities**

Please find information at the end of the newsletter regarding activities taking place at the Chepstow Museum.

**Attendance**

Congratulations to the Green Team who had the highest attendance percentage this term with 97.52% and are able to wear their team colours on the first day back to school on Tuesday 4 June 2019 (please remember this does not include fancy dress or football colours or Year 5 who are attending the Cheltenham Science Festival). Our whole school attendance for this term was 95.91% and well done also to Year 4 who had the highest class attendance this term at 96.85%.

**ParentPay School Meal Accounts**

Please could we request that your child’s school meal account be kept topped up at all times. In line with our School Meals Policy we have adopted a no debt policy relating to the school meal service provided by Caterlink. If you think you may qualify for free school meals, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> for more information and to find out how to apply on your local authority’s website

**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

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

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com

**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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| --- | --- | --- |
| **May 2019** | **24** | **Term Ends – 3.15pm** |
| **June 2019** | **3** | **INSET Day** |
|  | **4** | **Term Starts** |
|  | 4 & 6 | Year 5 Trip to Cheltenham Science Festival |
|  | 5 | Year 6 Leavers’ Service at Gloucester Cathedral |
|  | 13 | Country Dancing |
|  | 25 & 26 | Year 6 Wyedean Transition Days |
| **July 2019** | 3 | Year 5 Trip to Everyman Theatre, Cheltenham |
|  | 8 | Music Evening |
|  | 9 | Sports Day |
|  | 10 - 12 | Year 6 Residential Trip to Tewkesbury |
|  | 16 | Reserve Sports Day |
|  | **23** | **Term Ends – 1pm** |

**Chepstow Museum’s**

**DROP-IN-AND-MAKE CRAFT AFTERNOON**

**at**

**The Drill Hall, Lower Church Street, Chepstow**

**Thursday 30th May 2-4pm**

Chepstow Museum is running its popular drop in craft afternoon during the half term holiday on Thursday 30th May from 2 until 4pm at the Drill Hall in Lower Church Street. “We supply some templates, ideas and materials you bring your creativity to make something special of your own. We’ve got big tables so you can meet up with friends or bring family and have fun making things together” said Anne Rainsbury, Monmouthshire Museums Curator.

The sessions are suitable for children of all ages, all children must be accompanied by an adult – up to three children per adult. Come for the whole afternoon or just pop in for a short time. Donations towards the cost of materials and refreshments are always welcome, we suggest £2 for children aged 3+

**Friday May 31st 11-4**

**RSPB at Chepstow Museum**

**Special activities for young people**

The recent young people's Climate Strikes have highlighted the key role our children are playing in combatting Global Warming and the other challenges facing the environment and our planet's wildlife.  Helping our children understand some of these complex issues and learn about some of the measures being taken to address them is an important foundation in their education.

The RSPB, currently celebrating its 130th anniversary and the largest wildlife charity in the UK, is addressing our environmental challenges in a number of different ways.  David Smith, a local RSPB employee, will be in Chepstow Museum on the 31st May with a display highlighting some of the exciting projects underway both locally and nationally that are already starting to make a positive difference and reverse the trends of the significant declines in our wildlife over the last 40 years.  The display will also include a variety of fun, interactive activities for children to learn more about how they can help UK wildlife in their own gardens.

David will be on hand to answer any questions throughout the day and hopefully help inspire the next generation of budding David Attenboroughs.

To coincide with the Museum’s special exhibition “Stuffed, Pickled and Pinned” which showcases 50 wonders of the natural world from museums across Wales and the importance of these collections to the study of natural sciences.

All three museums, at Abergavenny, Chepstow and Monmouth have activities for children, trails and quizzes, things to make, period clothes to try on. Come and take a teddy on your museum tour at Chepstow, or sort them out in the Teddy’s Hospital activity. There are also special activities to go with each of our current exhibitions – discover the history of Abergavenny’s Castle House and grounds, see fabulous artworks at Monmouth by Otto Maciag one time art teacher at Monmouth school and his pupils, and check out the weird and wonderful from the natural world at Chepstow! All the museums are open daily 11am – 4pm (except for Wednesdays at Abergavenny and Monmouth).

