**SEPTEMBER 2018 – MID POINT NEWSLETTER**

**Half way already!**

What a busy few weeks we have already had at school! I am delighted to say that all children have settled well into their new classes and are working extremely hard. I have been fortunate to have visited all classes to watch teaching and learning and already the standard is very high! The school is alive with colour and children are already bringing some fabulous work to show me! Thank you to all parents for following and responding to the attendance policy- it has been very encouraging to have increased notification of absences.

**What’s been happening?**

Already many exciting things have happened including a visit from a Spanish speaking, Great British Bake Off contestant, Briony Williams! Please read on to find out what will be happening for the rest of the term!

At the beginning of the term we opened our classrooms so parents could come into school and meet the teacher. This allowed parents to ask questions, understand what was being taught during the year and the expectations of that year. The meetings were well attended with many parents saying how beneficial the time was. If you were unable to attend the meeting, you can find out homework days, PE days and learning topics by looking at the eSchools class page.

**Life Education Van visit**

The children very much look forward to this day as the activities are hands on and practical and change each year for the children. This year the children had the following topics:

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 are currently enjoying a fun filled day of art, cookery, languages, computing and PE activities. Please keep an eye on the eSchools class pages for photos of the activities.

**Harvest Festival**

Our Harvest Festival this year will be in St Luke’s Church on Friday 5 October. All parents are welcome to attend. The service will start at 9.30am. We will be collecting donations for Chepstow Foodbank. We would be grateful for non-perishable donations in aid of the Chepstow Foodbank which helps individuals and families in crisis through the provision of emergency food supplies. Your child can bring their donation to their class teacher ahead of our Church service that morning. The following items are currently urgently needed:

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| Tinned Fruit | Tinned Custard | Coffee |
| Biscuits | Toiletries | Washing-up Liquid |
| Washing Powder | Shower Gel | Deodorant |

**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.

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| 28 September 2018 | Year 2 |
| 12 October 2018 | Year 3 |
| 19 October 2018 | Year 4 (in school) |
| 2 November 2018 | Year 5 |
| 9 November 2018 | Remembrance Service in Church. Families to join for a minute silence. |
| 16 November 2018 | Year 6 (in school) |
| 23 November 2018 | Reception  |
| 30 November 2018 | Year 2 |
| 7 December 2018 | Year 1 |
| 21 December 2018 | Christmas Service and Carols |

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

The school Census Day is Thursday 4th October.  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 Thursday 4 October will be:

Meatballs with Rice **OR**

Macaroni Cheese

**Author Visit**

Following our previous events which have gone down so well, we are again teaming up with Chepstow Books and invite the author Sibeal Pounder to Tutshill School on Tuesday 9th October.  She writes the “Witch Wars” series which are very funny and creative and the books are hugely popular.  She is also a former journalist for The Financial Times.  Years 3 to 6 are invited to attend and further information will be sent out next week.

**Police Visits**

PC Natalie will be coming into school to talk to the children on the following dates:

04/10/2018 – 1300 onwards Year 1

12/10/2018 – 1300 onwards Year 2

01/11/2018 – 1300 onwards Year 3

02/11/2018 – 1300 onwards Year 4

12/11/2018 – 1300 onwards Year 5

**Parental Consultations**

We would like to give you advance notice that the Parental Consultations will be held during the week commencing Monday 4 November 2018. Parents will be able to book appointments using our online booking system. More information regarding the process will be issued 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.

**School Photographs**

Your child will bring their school photo proof home today. Please return your order to the School Office by Wednesday 10 October 2018.

**Spare Clothes**

Our Key Stage 1 staff would be grateful for any donations of spare undies and/or outgrown uniform for use after little ‘accidents’. Items for girls would be particularly useful.

**eSchools Log-ins**

All Reception children parents will receive a letter by the end of this week containing their log-in details for eSchools and how to download the app.

**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.

**Administrative Assistant Vacancy for the Parish of Tidenham**

Please see last page of the newsletter for details of a part time Administrative Assistant vacancy within the Church and how to apply.

**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

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| **Part time Administrative Assistant Wanted for the Church in theParish of Tidenham**  |

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| We are looking for a skilled administrative assistant to work part time supporting the Vicar and Staff Team of the Parish of Tidenham in the Church’s mission and ministry.  This is an exciting opportunity to join our Team and help the local Church. **Pay:** £10 per hour (plus pension contribution).**Hours:** Initially 10 hours a week (flexible hours to be agreed)**Contract:** Fixed 3 year term due to funding**Work base**:  Initially working mainly from home If you think you may have the necessary skills and experience for the role then we would be delighted to hear from you. For full details of the role, including an application form, please contact:Revd David Treharne, Tel: 01291 760034.  Email: DTRevd@aol.com*\*The post carries an Occupational Requirement under the Equality Act 2010 for the post holder to have a personal commitment to the Christian faith.***Closing Date for Applications:**  Thursday 11th October 2018**Interviews:**  Wednesday 17th or Thursday 18th October 2018  |

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