**NOVEMBER 2020 MID TERM NEWSLETTER**

As we move towards the latter part of the Autumn term, it has been a joy to see the children enjoying all the activities we have to offer in the school day. In such strange times, the children are able to take part in all the usual school events such as, Children in Need, Anti-Bullying Week and are even getting excited about planning our Christmas events. Please look out for further information at the end of November about what events we have throughout December! It will look a little different this year but just as much fun.

We have now experienced our first class closure due to Covid-19. I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents of the children that were collected. Parents arrived in a timely manner, socially distanced and were very supportive and understanding - thank you, it made the day a lot easier. As we are teaching a whole year group remotely we have been able to instigate Teams meetings, where children are able to see each other and their teachers every day. I gather this has been a real success and something the children and staff have really valued.

Can I remind parents, as always, of the importance of following the measures outside the school gates. It has been noted by many parents that it feels calm and that lots of parents are following our request. Please let’s try and make it all parents.

Miss Lane

Headteacher

**Christmas Lunch**

This year’s Christmas lunch will be held on **Wednesday 16 December 2020**. If you would like your child to have a Christmas lunch please book online through ParentPay by **Friday 27 November 2020** to allow the kitchen to pre-order groceries.

**Children in Need**

The theme for Children in Need this year was 'Five to Thrive', based on the Five Ways to Wellbeing.  Throughout the week, we all learnt about how we can support and boost our wellbeing through: connecting with others; taking notice of ourselves and our surroundings; being active; learning new things; giving.  Friday 13 November 2020 was 'Feel Good Friday' for Children in Need and formed the 'giving' part of our learning about wellbeing.  We loved seeing the wide range of clothes and costumes that the children chose to wear in to school.  Thank you for your generous donations; we are delighted to have raised **£318.98** for Children in Need.

**Odd Socks Day**

As part of Anti-bullying week, Odd Socks Day took place on Monday 16 November 2020.  The range of bright, fun and colourful socks that children and staff wore on the day was fabulous!  The socks were a great visual reminder of the fact that we are all different and unique and helped us raise awareness of Anti-bullying week.

**KNEX Challenge**

On Tuesday 17 November 2020, Year Six were lucky enough to take part in STEMworks KNEX Challenge 2021! The children worked in pairs- showing co-operation and courage. The challenge was to build a castle complete with defences and a moving gate or door. Mrs Follis was extremely impressed with the way the children worked as well as their fantastic final products! It was a very difficult judging decision but in the end Thomas and Laila were crowned Tutshill KNEX Champions 2021! Well done, Thomas and Laila! They will now take part in the next round of the competition and present a video of their project to the County Judges!

**Message from Church - Advent Trail**

Tidenham Parish Churches is organising a short advent trail with help from the community which will start on **Friday 4 December 2020**. Details and a trail map will be available on the Facebook page [www.facebook.com/Tutshill-Nativity-Trail](http://www.facebook.com/Tutshill-Nativity-Trail). The trail will begin at Tutshill Memorial Hall and end in St Luke's Churchyard. Children are welcome to paint a nativity character on a pebble and place it on the foot path leading to the church. If you need any more information please feel free to message us via Facebook or email cfmtidenham@btinternet.com.

**ParentPay School Meal Booking Service** ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)).

We are very pleased to finally be able to open our school kitchen to provide children with a hot meal at lunchtime. Please don’t forget to book your child’s school meal via ParentPay in advance. We would highly recommend that you book and pay (if applicable) for a week’s meals at a time. You can book as many meals as your child requires for the week. You can, of course, book as many weeks in advance as you wish. **Please note that this is the only facility for booking school meals**.

**Free School Meals**

We are aware that during recent times, families/households may have experienced changes in their financial situations. Should you think at any point you may be entitled to receive additional money for your child at school and a daily school meal, please look at <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/school-transport-and-free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

Should you think you may qualify, please apply, regardless of what year your child may be in. The response is immediate.

**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 and in case of emergency. Please email any changes to office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

**Diary Dates for November 2020 – July 2021**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **EVENT** |
| **Dec** | 16 | Christmas Lunch |
|  | 18 | Term 2 ends |
| **Jan**  | 1 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 4 | INSET DAY |
|  | 27 | Reception and Year 6 Vision and Measurements Screening |
|  | 5 | Term 3 begins |
| **Feb**  | 12 | Term 3 ends |
|  | 22 | Term 4 begins |
| **Mar**  | 15 | INSET DAY |
| **Apr**  | 1 | Term 4 ends |
|  | 2 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 5 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 19 | Term 5 begins |
| **May** | 3 | BANK HOLIDAY |
|  | 10-13 | KS2 SATS |
|  | 28 | Term 5 ends |
| **Jun**  | 7 | INSET DAY |
|  | 8 | Term 6 begins |
| **Jul** | 21 | Term 6 ends at 1pm |

**Cool Club Contact Details**

If you need to contact Cool Club regarding the breakfast or the after school club, parents can do so by email at coolclub15@outlook.com or by their contact phone number on 07763 479119.

**The Cool Club is aware that there may be times you need provision at short notice; be sure to register your child and then you can use them when needed!**

**School Contact Details**

Telephone: 01291 622593

Email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

Attendance: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com