



## Welcome Back!

Welcome to the new term for our existing and new families. On behalf of all the staff, I wish you a happy and successful autumn term.

Firstly, a message from Mrs Simmonds...

*I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for the lovely gifts, beautiful flowers, cards and messages of good wishes you gave me on my retirement. It was very kind of you all. I will treasure the video and memories book I was given - they will bring back very happy memories of my time at Stoke and all the fantastic pupils, parents, staff and governors I had the privilege to work with. I have also chosen to use the gift voucher for a special watch - something I will wear every day and be able to treasure.*

*Thank you to everyone who made my last few weeks at Stoke such a wonderful time with all the special events you planned - I know they must have taken up a considerable amount of time and effort from everyone. Your thoughtfulness and choice of farewell activities allowed me to enjoy every minute and keep my emotions in check (just about!).*

*I would like to thank all the staff, teaching and support, that I had the pleasure of working with in my time at Stoke. They are the most dedicated and talented team imaginable and have always given their all - always focused on enabling every child to learn and grow, both educationally and as an individual.*

*I will take away very fond memories of all the children I have had the pleasure to teach and watch grow up. I am consistently so proud of all the pupils at Stoke, they have always shown exemplary behaviour, huge enthusiasm for learning and a determination to achieve. Thank you to all the fantastic parents and families who support your children and the school in so many different ways.*

*Finally, I would like to wish everyone a very happy and successful 2017-18. I look forward to reading all about the continued successes and achievements at Stoke Holy Cross in the future.*

*Best wishes from Mrs Simmonds*

## What's new?

The school looked clean and bright after the holidays thanks to our cleaning team. Upper school classrooms and the corridor have been painted and carpets have been cleaned. Additional blackout blinds have been installed in classes 2-6.

I am pleased to say our new members of staff, Mrs Gorman (Y1, Lower School Leader and SENCo), Mrs Bateman (Y2 Monday to Wednesday, Primary Languages and SMSC), Mr Scott (Y5, Maths and Computing) and Miss Coman (Y6 TA) , are settling in and getting to know the Stoke ways. You will get to meet them when we host the 'Meet the Teacher' sessions again this year.

## Healthy Schools and Water

We are proud to be a Healthy School. To help us maintain this, please send your child to school with a water bottle which can be refilled from our taps and water coolers and taken home each day for cleaning. Alternatively your child might prefer to bring a named cup into school. We ask for your help in ensuring it is water, not squash, in the water bottles.



## Coats for Inclement Weather and Lost Property

Please send your child to school with a suitable coat each day. We get out to play - even in the rain! To avoid lost property mounting up, please ensure all uniform is named.

## The Daily Mile

You may know of other schools who have introduced this initiative. Lower School have begun to build in a 10 minute run after play, every day, and the upper school will soon start additional running opportunities. **It is essential trainers are in school every day so your child is able to participate.** More information can be found at [www.thedailymile.co.uk](http://www.thedailymile.co.uk)

## Music

We are delighted to have Mrs Berry-Smith, our new music specialist, working with YF-Y4 from Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September. There will be the sound of distant drums on Friday mornings as Y5 and Y6 experience African drumming this year. Choir will resume on Fridays and letters have already been sent to Y6 and 5 initially.



## Norse 'Taster Session' for Foundation Parents Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2.45-3.15pm

Norse, our catering provider, is offering a chance to sample lunches to help you make more informed menu choices with your child. Come and join us in the hall.

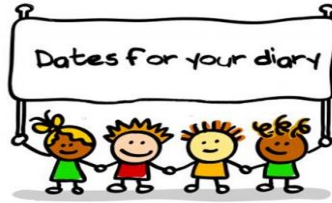


## School Association AGM Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 7-8pm

Please come and support the School Association who work tirelessly to plan events for the children, adults and families. There are vacancies to fill and it is a great way to get involved in school life.

## School Car Park

Just a reminder that the school car park is for staff car parking during the day. Parents, carers or pupils with physical disabilities are able to access the disabled parking areas in our car park with prior agreement from the school. Parents using 'School's Out!' have had details about where to park in their latest newsletter. **Please take care when using the path in front of the car park gateway as occasionally children have run across without looking for cars leaving the school site. Please also ensure that, at the end of the day, you leave the school through the pedestrian gate and not via the car park as this is dangerous for all involved.** We thank you for your cooperation and support with this.



Thurs 21 Sept.	'Meet the Y2 teacher' - 2.45-3.15pm
Fri 22 Sept.	Y3 Maths Café - 9-10.30am
Tues 26 Sept.	School Association AGM – 7-8pm
Weds 27 Sept.	Y3 trip to Gressenhall – 9-3pm
Mon 02 – Weds 03 Oct.	Year 6 How Hill Residential – 9-3pm
Mon 02 – Fri 06 Oct	Travelling Book Fair
Weds 11 Oct	Parent Consultations - from 3.30pm
Thurs. 12 Oct.	Van Cols Photographer - Individual photos - 8.30am
Thurs. 12 Oct	Parent Consultations - from 3.30pm
Fri 13 Oct	Y1 Cake Sale – 3.15pm
Thurs 19 Oct	<b>HALF TERM</b> for children - 3.15pm
Fri 20 Oct	INSET DAY
Mon 30 Oct	<b>Children return after half term</b> – 8.45am
Thurs 02 Nov	Y6 Maths Café – 9-10.30am
Thurs 09 Nov	Y5 Maths Café – 9-10.30am
Fri 10 Nov	Upper School Bingo – details to follow
Tues 14 Nov	'The B Word'-Y2-6- details to follow – 1.30-3pm
Fri 24 Nov	YF Cake Sale – 3.15pm –
Sat 02 Dec	School Association Christmas Fair – details to follow
Weds 06 Dec	Christmas lunch
Thurs 07 Dec	Christmas lunch
Thurs 07 Dec	Flu Immunisation Team – YF-Y4
Tues 12 Dec	L.S. performance - afternoon
Tues 12 Dec	U.S. performance – evening
Weds 13 Dec	U.S. performance - afternoon
Weds 13 Dec	L.S. performance – evening
Fri 15 Dec	L.S. party – 1.15-3.15pm
Mon 18 Dec	U.S. Disco Dec – 1.15-3.15pm
Tues 19 Dec	<b>END OF TERM</b> – 3.15pm