

SIR ROBERT GEFFERY'S SCHOOL – NEWSLETTER

6 November 2017 – Number 651

CLUBS

Cross Country will not be on due to the League Run and the Friends' Christmas Fair.

Netball club will not be running this week.

KS1 Art Club: Mrs Clark is out that day.

KS2 Art: Miss Hartigan & Miss Hodges are away

THIS WEEK:

Tue 7 Nov Hi-5 Netball League (3.30-5pm)
Friends AGM – 7pm

Fri 10 Nov Friends Christmas Fair (2.30 – 5)
League Run

School Photos being collected for printing

Sun 12 Nov Remembrance Service-St Michael's

Friends AGM

Tuesday 7 November, 7pm.

All welcome to attend.

Nominations are needed for: Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer and Secretary.

New members to the Committee will be made very welcome.

Remembrance Sunday – 12 November 2017

Reminder

We would like as many children and families as possible to join us to remember those who died in the wars. We always remember those from the village at the Village Cenotaph at 11am. Last year nearly 40 attended this service and joined in with the other groups from the village.

The service starts at 10 am at St Michael's Church.



Poppies

We have poppies for sale in the office, but this year we do not have the school pack of reflectors and snap bands.

Old pound coins are also being taken – so if you have any you'd like to donate to a good cause, please bring them in.



Whole School Word Count

As a school, this year to date, we have read:

16,032,643 words.



Friends of SRG

Christmas Fair

The Friends Christmas Fair takes place on Friday from 2.30 – 5pm.

If you are able to come and help either man a stall or sell tea/coffee and cakes, please let us know.

If you're able to donate cakes to sell at the Fair, please bring them in on the morning of Friday 10 November.

Woodland Animal Competition

The Friends are holding a competition for children to make a small woodland animal (rabbit, squirrel etc.), no bigger than a shoebox.

The competition closes on Friday 8 December, there's a prize for the KS1 winner and the KS2 Winner of a craft box.

The animals will be used to decorate the Christmas Grotto.



Speech and language and conversation

We are finding that the range of vocabulary used by children in general now is less than used by children a few years ago. It could well be linked to the fact that children spend more time playing on games, and there is less conversation. Many family members and adults are busy nowadays or they also use phones/technology for surfing the net and communicating in general, so do not always talk as often.

Please do try to help your child develop their vocabulary by reading with them, having a word of the day and discussing it or just making sure that there is plenty of time for talk. I know that so many people will do this automatically and it makes such a difference, but even if you do see if you can find a few extra minutes to help extend talk even further.

School Photos

The photo orders are being collected from school on the morning of Friday 10 November, so orders will need to be in the office by Thursday evening.

AWARDS

Accelerated Reader	Edward P Alice P Katie C	Progress	Daisy H-H Katie P Bodhi W William H Isaac B Archie W
Be the best you can	Monty F	Reader of the Week	Gracie F
Consideration	Ava J	Reading Achievement	Layla E
Courtesy	Nathaniel K	Resilience	Alfie G Hazel B Millie J Phoebe H David B Ryan J Oliver B Jayson G
Demonstrating Values	Seren W Alice R Rosie S	Role Model	Ruby W
Determination	Katie D	School Grounds	Leila C
Dinner Hall	Sam H	School Role Model	Megan D
Effort	Leyvyn S Euan L	Self Belief	Ava O
Excellence	Millie S	Spelling Bee	William B
Friendship	Lauren G	Standing up for right	Joseph A
Good Manners	Eddie T Seren W	Supporting Others	Amos C-C
Good Playtimes	Sam B	Tag Rugby	Luke W
Growth Mindset	Shiloh S Poppy H Ewan G	Taking Responsibility	Kamora K
Helpfulness	Katie B Isla S-H	Thinking	Sienna H
Kindness	Megan H-H	Writer of the Week	Evie P Fleur B
Learner of the week	Nyana E	Piano Award	Isaac H
Literacy	Lottie K Libby P	Singing Award	Emily A
Super Mathlete	Sam A		
Mathletic Points	Alfie G		
Maths Owl	Ethan B		
Maths Progress	Beth B		
Needlecraft	Gracie N Isaac H		
Perseverance	Johan C Rebecca J		
Phonics	Mollie Y		
Positive Attitude	Melody E Teagan P		



Library Duties:

Head Librarian: Che S
Y6 Sienna H and Harri R
Y5 Leila C and Katie C
Y4 Sam H and Ruby W
Y3 Millie J and Charlie V
Y2 Lola O & Isla S-H
Y1 Eris B-T and Riley B
Rec Kensa A and Jacob R



Supporting Clubs

We really rely on parental support in order to organise many of our events, to help in school and with clubs. It is important for all parents who help to know that if they are concerned about any child, Mrs Curtis is the designated child protection officer and Mrs Cunningham is the deputy. Mrs Clark is also trained if necessary and Malcolm is the trained governor. If you are regularly helping with activities, we would like to make sure that you have DBS clearance, so do see Debbie if you have not completed this process. Everybody who helps in the building is always checked, as are the adults who lead activities.

If there is ever any issue with a child's behaviour, it is important to make sure that the teacher present is made aware and deals with the incident. Often there are several members of staff around who know the children and can deal with problems, knowing the children so well. Anything serious should be passed to the most senior member of staff there at the time. Children are reminded of our expectations but will make mistakes - and we all learn from the mistakes we make.

When clubs are run by outside agencies, they do make sure information is fed back to the school. If children do spoil the activities for others, or after reminders are given are still continuing to not follow instructions, parents will be spoken to and in some cases participation in that club will not be allowed. Clubs are usually run on a voluntary basis, and I know they are enjoyed by the children and also can help parents as well. The adults want all children to enjoy the activities and they should not need to spend any time dealing with children who are disruptive in any way. Without additional adults, we would have to limit numbers and prevent some children attending as often, so we really appreciate the support so many give on a regular basis. I hope the above information will help keep our children safe.

Clarinet Lessons

If you have a child in Year One who would like to start clarinet lessons, Steve has space for three more to join a lesson. If interested, please ask in the office.

Lunch Time Clubs and activities

Children have a huge choice of how to spend their free time. On a daily basis they can:

- 1) Go to the farm and help with the care of the animals supervised by Jo and either Will or Phil
- 2) Join in an activity run by Lee
- 3) Attend either dance mats or Spanish club led by Becky or art with Kelly on Thurs and Fri
- 4) Join in a PGL activity that includes physical challenges organised by Year Six playground leaders
- 5) Play on the trim trails that are supervised
- 6) Free play on the playground / field when dry with a range of equipment
- 7) Use the ICT suite for homework or school approved programs supervised by Colin

KS1 have their own staff member for general supervision as do reception who also have a separate area to use.

It is great to see older children supporting younger children and taking responsibility. We hope there is something for everyone and with so many supervised areas that children will always have someone to talk to. Do remind your child about what is possible.

Christmas Plays

Just like last year, we will be having three performances for each Key Stage play. As you already know if you have been before, evening performances can get very crowded. Please can we request that if you need tickets for the evenings, then to try and avoid bringing younger children or school age children from our school. They will all see their siblings perform and this will help keep our numbers under control. Details on booking tickets on line will be in next week's newsletter.

Reminder - Christingle Services

KS1 in hall at 9.15am

KS2 in church at 1.30

Children can go home if signed out after the service, if you would like to take them to save you an unnecessary journey.

League Run

Apologies to Alice R who was missed off the list of runners in the last League Run at Great Trethew.

All children need support at some point

During children's learning journeys, I expect most children will need additional guidance at some point. This may just be some extra help in the classroom, somebody to talk to, extra support outside the normal lessons, an activity to improve self-confidence or self-esteem, a little extra time or even a special job or activity. Children will not always make the same progress every year, so learning can peak and plateau for a wide variety of reasons. Things happening at home including changes in relationships, moving house, bereavement, the loss of a pet, etc, can also affect children in different ways. Please do make us aware if your child is experiencing any of these or other things that could mean they need a little TLC or extra support.

Some children will need support with learning throughout their school careers. These children may receive a statement of needs and have additional support allocated to them. Others may be recorded on the school register of need either as school action or school action plus. All children in these categories will have an individualised educational plan as well as having differentiated activities in class.

Many other children will take part in a variety of additional activities when appropriate to give them a boost or to raise self confidence in a particular area. At our school, we run a variety of interventions that have been described in past newsletters, and help us to ensure the children have the best chance of achieving their real potential. We also employ a larger number of teaching assistants to work with children in the classrooms, and to oversee established programmes that children benefit from.

When children have additional needs, we work with other professionals and the parents so that we can best meet the needs of the individual. At Sir Robert Geffery's we have had experience of working with children with a wide variety of additional needs including

Dyslexia	ADHD
Dyspraxia	Autism
Asperger's Syndrome	
Speech and Language difficulties	
Dyscalculia	Tourette's
Emotional and behavioural difficulties	

Hearing impairments

If you ever have a concern about your child, do come and talk about it with Mrs Clark or Mrs Curtis. Parents do know their children best and we can often signpost you to the appropriate person to assess any needs or to provide support if appropriate.

Each week until Christmas we will give you information about the above.

I am concerned my child may have a hearing difficulty

There are two types of hearing impairment or deafness:

- Conductive deafness - a difficulty caused by problems in the outer or middle ear, which is often temporary
- Sensorineural or nerve deafness - a permanent difficulty caused by problems in the inner ear or the central nervous system.

Hearing loss can be mild, moderate, severe or profound, affecting one ear or both.

How can I tell if my child has a hearing difficulty?

If your child is between three and four years of age:

- Do strangers find it difficult to understand what your child is saying?
- Is your child unable to carry out two unrelated requests or tasks?

If your child is between four and five years of age, does he or she:

- Miss the ends of words, for example saying "do" instead of "dog"?
- Often use the wrong letter, for example saying "gog" instead of "dog"?

If your child is at school, his or her teacher may have noticed that your child:

- Often asks for questions to be repeated
- Watches other children for clues about instructions
- Frequently misunderstands what is being asked.

The majority of children with severe or profound hearing loss are normally identified at an early age by health professionals. Other more mild losses can come to light at a later age. If you or your child's teacher has any concerns, speak to your GP. For further information about hearing difficulties, contact the National Deaf Children's Society.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

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NEXT WEEK:

- Mon 13 Nov Orienteering - Brunel
- Thu 16 Nov Flu vaccinations (R,1,2,3,4)
SW Parliament – Plymouth Uni
- Fri 17 Nov Children in Need – Get Spotty!
- Mon 20 Nov KS2 (Yrs 3/4) Gym Competition
- Thu 23 Nov Cake Sale in aid of Hillside School
- Tue 28 Nov Authors Abroad
- Wed 29 Nov Bikeability Yr 3/4
Swimming Gala
- Thu 30 Nov Grass Track Cycling
- Tue 5 Dec Hi-5 Netball League (3.30-5pm)
- Wed 6 Dec Stage Club Show
- Fri 8 Dec Maths Masterclass
- 11-14 Dec Christmas Plays
- 11-15 Dec Booster Swimming Lessons
- Thu 14 Dec Christmas Lunch
- Fri 15 Dec Yr 1 Hearing Screening
- Tue 19 Dec KS1 Theatre trip
- Wed 20 Dec 09.15 Christingle in the hall
13.00: Christingle in the Church
Last day of Term

2018

- Thu 4 Jan Inset Day
- Fri 5 Jan Back to School

CHRISTMAS CARDS



Please look out for your child's sample Christmas card and order form coming home in the next week or so. This year, there are some great new products you can also order with your child's artwork such as: gift tags, tea towels, eco bags and mugs. The tea towels that some parents ordered last year with their child's Christmas card design looked fantastic. Please return the order form with payment in an envelope marked Christmas Cards and your child's name to the school office. If there are any corrections to the wording on the back of the card, note it on the order form. Payment can be made by cheque (payable to Friends of Sir Robert Geffery's School) or cash (exact money only please, as no change can be given). **The deadline for all orders is Friday 17 November 2017.**

Cake Sale

Thank you to everyone who donated cakes for our last cake sale – we only just had enough to go round all the children!
We managed to raise £59.15 for Hillside School in Uganda. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY

School Hoody – named Amos

Solar Meter Reading this week: 60,985 kWh 

Psalm 46:10

Be still, and know that I am God.

Piano/Singing Parental Agreements

Several of you will have received Parental Agreements that need to be signed and returned to Mrs Suckling as soon as possible please. I will provide a copy for your own records. Thank you. Jane Suckling.



Children in Need – Friday 17 November

We will be having spotty mufti and a cake sale on this day to raise money for Children in Need. Come dressed in spotty clothes if you have them, or paint your face with spots if not!

Friends of SRG

If you are able to help the Friends out at various events, manning stalls or selling tea/coffee, yet do not wish to be part of the committee, please complete this slip with your contact details and return to the office ASAP. Thank you.

Name:

Tel No.

Email: