



Churchstanton Catch-up

Churchstanton
Primary School
Somerset
TA3 7RL

Head Teacher: Mrs C Halstead
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Website: www.churchstanton.somerset.sch.uk

Newsletter: 1st October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I can't believe it is October already! Where are the weeks going? The children have really settled into classroom routines and are very much enjoying their new topics this term.

The PTA have put together some lovely fundraising events for this term. Please do support them and help us to raise as much as we can to provide enrichment for our pupils. Further details can be found on their page in this newsletter.

We welcome two new members of staff to the Team this month - Mr Gant is our new Caretaker and Premises Manager, and Miss Jones is a new TA working in Badger Class. I know they will be made to feel very welcome by the whole school community.

Contact details for school

We are hopeful that we will have some temporary office staff stating in the next couple of weeks, but until then, please can I remind all parents and carers to **only** use the **class email accounts** and the school email box sch.105@educ.somerset.gov.uk to notify us of any absences or change in pick up arrangements for your children. In addition, please call the school office on **01823 601354** and leave a message.

We have found that some messages are not getting through and seem to be going to Ms Coles' private email account. This personal email cannot be checked while she is absent and therefore your emails will not be responded to. Please check you have the school email address set as your preferred one for all school communications. Thank you.

Sadly, Mr Squance passed away last week. As you may know he was a former Headteacher here from 1965 to 1993 - almost 30 years. He was instrumental in developing the Forest School approach to learning and planted many of our wonderful trees here at school. Our thoughts and sincere wishes go out to his family at this time. I am hoping to be able to represent the school at his funeral.

Thank you for your ongoing support. Have a lovely weekend.

Kind Regards,

Mrs C Halstead

Safeguarding:

We take child protection extremely seriously at our school and this is especially important during any school closure. If you have any concerns you can ring Children Social Care on: **0300 123 2224** or email childrens@somerset.gov.uk



Celebration Catch-up

Headteacher Certificate

Hedgehog Class

Isaac for sharing his ideas about gratitude in RSHE lessons.

Oscar for showing amazing keyboard skills in Computing.

Squirrel Class

Theo for concentrating well in all his learning.

Jeremy for clear, well explained working in Maths.

Badger Class

George for being super speedy with his times tables recall - well done!

Sylvia for working hard in all her English lessons - keep it up!



Meet our new house captains and school council Representatives! Well done to you all!

House Captains

Brendons - Caleb

Mendips - Lennon

Blackdowns - Dylan

Quantocks - Harry

School Council Representatives

Ylva, Henry, Rosanna, Eva, Dylan,

James, Finley, Ella, Jeremy, Emily

House Points (so far this School year)....

Fantastic effort! Keep working hard for your team!



Blackdowns 227

Brendons 197

Mendips 226

Quantocks 232



Notices and reminders:

Parent Pay

Please contact Hazel Burt via email on hburt@educ.somerset.gov.uk if you have any queries or difficulties.

Hot School Lunches

Hot lunches for the week commencing **1st November** must be booked by **Sunday 3rd October** or they **will not** be processed. Please ensure you make your choices in plenty of time as office staff are not always available to do this for you at short notice.

Thank you!

Choir Club

Mrs Berry's choir club has already begun but she is still looking for additional members who love to perform! Plans are in place for some local Christmas performances so please do give it a try. Choir runs from 3.15-4.15pm every Thursday after school. This Club is FREE and available to book via ParentPay.

Netball Club

Miss Johnson and Andrea Gibbs will be running a Netball Club on Tuesdays after school from 3.15-4.15pm. This is a free club but needs to be booked via ParentPay to secure a place for you child. The club will start on Tuesday 12th October and run until Tuesday 7th December.



Free computers for Somerset pupils



Community Interest Company

Computing the answer to the digital divide

Working across the community in Somerset, UK

7th July 2021: 172 laptops delivered
306 laptops have been/are in our 'orbit' since Jan 2021

Thanks to Becca for sharing this link for FREE computers for children in Somerset. If your child does not have a device to use at home for homework this local charity may be able to help you. Link here:

<https://bit.ly/3zPrey7>

School Bus - Behaviour Reminder

I was very disappointed to hear that some of the children travelling by bus have been less than respectful to our new driver and operator this week. Reports of rudeness and name-calling have been reported. We have spoken to the children in school about this.

May I remind all parents and carers who use this service, that the contract for the bus is between yourselves and Somerset School Transport but poor behaviour reflects very poorly on the school. I do know, that SCC has the power to ban pupils who behave in this way and will do so if there is no improvement in future. Please talk with your children about how to behave appropriately going forward. Not only is this a matter of **respect**, but it is also about **safety**: we do not want a driver who is being distracted by pupils who are misbehaving and is not able to concentrate on driving safely.

Thank you.



Just a friendly reminder...



Harvest Festival

Thank you so much to everyone who donated produce to our Harvest Collection this week. Churchstanton's reputation for generosity has been confirmed once again! Thank you to Mrs Blatcher who transported the goods to Taunton Foodbank. They were delighted with our donation and will add their thanks to their Facebook page.

We were joined by Rev Jim & Rev Nick for our Harvest Assembly, where the children performed songs and poems to give thanks.



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Attendance

This week, the Golden Gnome is awarded to

Hedgehog Class! Well done! Good attendance is directly linked to good progress. Keep it up!



Community Catch-Up



Ballet with Creative Movement Lessons in the Village Hall

With Moira Mansbridge - member of Legat
Foundation of Russian Classic Ballet



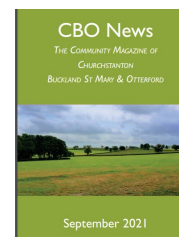
Group lessons for children aged 4 - 6 ½ (£4.50) and aged 7 & over (£5)

Further information is available from Moira on 07808 688635

Please contact her directly.

CBO news for September can be found on line here.

www.cbonews.org.uk



Online Safety



In school we have regular Online Safety Lessons, to help your children develop resilience and understand their own role in staying safe and healthy when they are online. Use the link below to see how you can support your child at home.

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/online-safety-activities-you-can-do-from-home>



The NSPCC also have advice for how to have a conversation with your children about Online Safety at :

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/talking-child-online-safety/>





Classroom Catch-up



Hedgehog Class

We have been very busy in Hedgehog class this week. Reception children have begun full days and they are enjoying being with their friends. This week we have combined our English and Science lessons and we have been writing sentences about animals using adjectives.

During forest school we have made some fantastic outdoor art. The children have created animals using natural materials.



Squirrel Class

Over the past couple of weeks, Squirrel class have been developing their understanding of circuits and using electricity. We have been using a range of equipment and materials to investigate how electricity flows around a circuit as well as organising materials into those that are insulators and those that are conductors.

In maths, we have been looking at place value using thousands, hundreds, tens and ones as well as building number lines and discovering different ways to partition a number. We also had a brilliant time learning our harvest song with Ms Berry called 'Bean Harvest' in which we



(The children as 'broad beans')



Badger Class

Over the last couple of weeks in Badger Class, we have been learning about materials and their properties in Science. We have tested which materials make good insulators by observing ice cubes and how quickly or slowly they melted in containers made of various materials. The class then designed their own lunchboxes based on their findings.

In Maths we have been learning about negative numbers. We made a human number line to help us learn about counting backwards and forwards through zero.

Year 6 have had a very exciting couple of days this week too. They had their two-day Bikeability course on Tuesday and Wednesday. They did very well - even with the terrible weather!



PTA Catch-up:

Thanks to everyone who made the annual general meeting, held on Friday 24th September at The York Inn. It was a great and productive meeting & lovely to be back to to one after a long break.

Thank you also to those that have volunteered for autumn term events, there is time to still offer help.

Secretary: we are still in desperate need of a PTA Secretary, if you are interested please let us know.

Treasurer: A huge thank you to Tamara who has been out trusty treasurer for a fair few years, she is kindly overlapping and passing on her role as she will step down at the end of this term. We say a huge welcome and thank you to Amy Day who who will be taking over as our Treasurer, officially at our spring term meeting.

Autumn term events & fundraisers:

Halloween Disco:

Date: **Tuesday 2nd November** after half term– Hedgehogs 3.30-4.30, Squirrels & Badgers 4.45-5.45- Thanks to Anne for organising and those that have volunteered to help, if you'd like to help too, let us know.



Christmas Raffle:

This is our 2nd biggest fundraiser of the year, please let us know if you can help as part of the raffle team. We need your help to get funds for our children's enrichment!

Hummingbird Craft Fair:

Saturday 20th November 11-2, churchinford village hall, we have a kindly had a stall table donated for us to raise funds. If you can help on the stall please let us know and definitely promote and come and shop.

Personalised Xmas Cards:

Kindly being organised by Rosie, look out for your pack etc very soon, don't miss out on your fantastic order.

Christmas school day:

On Wednesday 15th December school will have a wonderful Christ-massy day. With Lunch, Christmas jumpers and a special visitor from the North Pole!! Thanks to Marie, Gemma, Cara & Keri for helping on this. Look out for more information next half term.

Churchinford table top sale:

Sunday 12th December 10-1: a table top sale with us as the beneficiary of funds raised upon entry. We have also been donated a table to fundraise, we are looking for volunteers to run our table please.

PTA officers:

Chair: Becca Williams

Vice Chair: Rosie James

Secretary: **VACANCY**

Treasurer: Tamara Paul autumn term & Amy Day from spring term.

Contact us on:

Churchstantonschoolpta@hotmail.com

Churchstanton Primary PTA



working on behalf of the school

Easy fund raising: It's so easy to register and then even easier to earn money for school, no hard work needed. Some companies give 8% on your purchase as a donation! Get money for school whilst you make those Christmas purchases and more.

[https://
www.easyfundraising.org.u
k/causes/
churchstantonpta/?
utm_campaign=raise-
more&utm_content=qs-f1](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/churchstantonpta/?utm_campaign=raise-more&utm_content=qs-f1)



Hang about aerial workshop
Children's aerial yoga fitness classes
Suitable for Age 8+
Starting Tuesday 5th October 4.30-5.15
Churchinford

With Frances Aitken
Limited spaces available
Please message Becca and I will give
you more information.

Diary Catch-up

Dates for your Diary: (Subject to change)

October 2021

4th - Black History Month begins

22nd - Half term begins

November 2021

1st - **INSET** - school closed to pupils

2nd - Return to school

3rd & 4th - **Parents' Evening** in School

15th-19th - Anti-bullying week with SAV workshops for KS2

December 2021

KS1 Nativity - **Tuesday** 7th December – am

- **Wednesday** 8th December - pm

14th - Whole School Theatre trip to the
Brewhouse - Wind in the Willows

15th - Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas
Jumper Day

16th - KS2 Carol Concert 2pm

17th - End of Term

January 2022

3rd - **INSET**—school closed to pupils

4th - Return to school - Spring Term

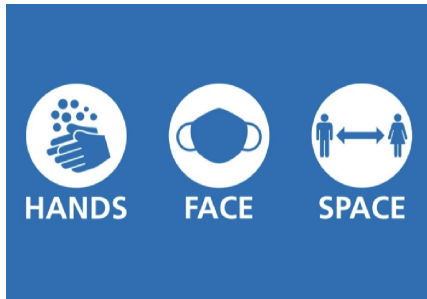
February 2022

18th - half term begins

28th - **INSET** school closed to pupils

March 2022

1st - Return to school



COVID update

Just a reminder of the procedures for parents if your child is displaying any of the symptoms associated with Coronavirus.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, please **DO NOT** send your child to school. Contact the school office and leave a message on **01823 601345** **and** email **sch.105@educ.somerset.gov.uk** **and your child's class account** to be sure that the message is received. You should organise for your child to take a PCR test via the NHS online portal or by calling 119. Members of the household do not need to isolate unless they themselves have symptoms.

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

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