



WHERE INDIVIDUALS THRIVE

Sopley Primary School

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Newsletter Issue 7 Spring Term

12th January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you shared a wonderful Christmas with loved ones. On behalf of the Sopley team we would like to wish you all a very 'Happy New Year'.

The children seem really excited to be back at school which is lovely to see.

We have a very busy yet exciting term ahead, including interesting trips and events, as well as opportunities to share the children's progress in their learning. In the meantime, we shall keep you informed about life at Sopley School, through our curriculum letters which you will shortly be receiving and through notices within our regular newsletters.

Our dedicated Friends of Sopley School (FSS) continue to work tirelessly raising funds and have many marvellous events planned for this term and next.

We urge you to continue to support this hard-working parental team in all their fundraising efforts on behalf of the school. It truly makes a huge difference to the school and enhances your child's education.

Please do not hesitate to speak to any member of staff should you have any questions.



HAPPY 2018!

Elizabeth Knowles and Andrea Hodgson



Office News

Following the retirement of Liz Holroyd, we are delighted to announce:

Lynne Solly will be working across Sopley and Burley.

Elaine Down has joined the office at Sopley,

Clare Roche will be based at Burley, but we will still see Clare in the office at Sopley too!

These moves are a result of the work we are undertaking to establish a more seamless and productive Admin Department across the Federation.

Thank you for welcoming our new members of staff to the team..

Site Safety

Parents are respectfully asked not to park in the staff car park at the beginning and end of the school day. We have a policy of no traffic movement at these times because of the high numbers of pedestrian visitors to the site.

Thank you for your help in looking after our families.



ATTENDANCE

School attendance is subject to various education laws and it is very important that you make sure your child attends regularly. For each child to reach their full educational achievement a high level of school attendance is essential.

Good attendance is important because:

- **Statistics show a direct link between underachievement and absence below 95%,**
- **Regular attenders make better progress, both socially and academically,**
- **Regular attenders find school routines, school learning and friendships easier to cope with,**
- **Regular attenders find learning more satisfying,**
- **Regular attenders are more successful in transferring between primary school, secondary school and higher education, employment or training.**

For our children to take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered it is vital your child is at school, on time, every day the school is open unless absence is unavoidable.

Reduce absence due to medical reasons by making non-urgent appointments for your child outside of school hours.

If your child has an ongoing pattern of unauthorised absence you may receive a written warning of the possibility of a penalty notice being issued.

Further support, advice and guidance is available from The Department of Education:-

www.gov.uk/government/publications/parental-responsibility-measures-for-behaviour-and-attendance

Thank you

A BIG THANK YOU

A huge well done to all the children and families who undertook the Christmas challenge and scavenger hunt. The children have done exceptionally well finding so many items from old and foreign coins to clothing. All of these items are going to form rich and authentic resources to enhance children's daily learning in school. If your child is yet to bring in their collection, please do still bring them in so they can earn their Dojos. We hope the family enjoyed the Christmas challenges to get into the festive spirit. Please keep hunting as these real objects form such valuable learning tools, holding greater learning potential than can be sought from the educational catalogues.

Year 5 Bikeability

Personal Best Education will be providing **FREE** bikeability training for Year 5 from Monday to Thursday during the week commencing 29th January 2018.

Further details will be sent to parents nearer the time, but children will need bikes and helmets in school during that week.

However, if your child doesn't have appropriate equipment, this can be provided by Personal Best.

Thank you in anticipation of your support for this training which is important in keeping our children safe on the roads.



Enhancement Time

We have exciting activities taking place as part of our new 'Enhancement Time'. This will take place every Friday from 2pm until 2.45pm. Every child will choose an enhancement activity they are interested in and participate in this for the half term. Enhancements offered this half term are as follows:

- ◆ **Calligraphy**
- ◆ **Learning to play the recorder**
- ◆ **Construction activities**
- ◆ **Cosmic yoga**
- ◆ **Paper crafts**
- ◆ **Producing a school magazine**
- ◆ **Sewing**
- ◆ **Clay modelling**
- ◆ **Multi-sports (run by Mr Hine from Personal Best Education)**



Collecting dojos, or housepoints, has become extremely important at Sopley since the winning house will be first to choose their enhancement activities every half term when new activities are introduced!.

TERM DATES 2018

Half Term Mon 12th Feb - Fri 16th Feb

Inset Day Mon 19th Feb

Easter Holidays Fri 30th Mar - Fri 13th Apr

May Half Term Mon 28th May - Fri 1st

Inset Day Mon 4th June

Inset Day Mon 23rd July

Summer Holiday starts Tues 24th July

SAFEGUARDING

The welfare of children is at the heart of what we do.

We are committed to safeguarding children and have a range of policies and procedures that reflect and support this duty. Policies are available on request from the school office.

If you have any concerns about the welfare of a child, please speak to a member of school staff or, outside of school hours, contact Children's Services:

Hampshire 0845 6035620
Dorset 01305 221000

Social Media Use

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/life-in-likes/>

You may be interested in reading a report from the Children's Commissioner called 'Life in Likes' around the use of social media by children. Many children access social media even before they reach the age limit of 13 years that most social media sites feature as their own minimum age limit. Some research has suggested three quarters of 10 to 12 year olds have a social media account.

Part of the summary on the link page to this report explains, "While 8 to 10s use social media in a playful, creative way - often to play games - this changes significantly as children's social circles expand as they grow older. This report shows that many Year 7 children are finding social media hard to manage and becoming over-dependent on 'likes' and 'comments' for social validation. They are also adapting their offline behaviour to fit an online image, and becoming increasingly anxious about 'keeping up appearances' as they get older.

If you wish to discuss or seek guidance on safe use of the internet, mobile technologies or social media for your children, please contact the school office who will pass on your request to the staff member best placed to help you and your children



After School Clubs

Please note that AFC Bournemouth are no longer running a football club after school on a Monday.

<u>Monday</u>	Personal Best Education will be running a Football club starting after half term. A letter will be sent out with details over the next couple of weeks.
<u>Tuesday</u>	Choir 3.20-4.20pm
<u>Thursday</u>	Netball 3.20-4.20pm Football Training for the School Team 3.20-4.20pm
<u>Friday</u>	Street Dance 3.20-4.20pm