



Dear parents and carers,

Message from Mr. Partridge

Welcome back to the Spring Term. I hope that you all had a wonderful Christmas and a chilled holiday break. Following the disruption of last week our children have come back and have immediately immersed themselves into their learning and school life. Well done everyone on a fantastic start to the term.



Staff Illness – Chestnuts

Unfortunately, Mrs. Diamond is unwell and will be off this week after falling ill over the weekend. We wish her a speedy recovery and hope to see her back at school very soon.

In the meantime, the team has been absolutely amazing in coming together to ensure that learning continues seamlessly in Chestnuts, with minimal disruption to the children. We held a meeting this morning to carefully plan and put measures in place to maintain consistency and support for the class. Please rest assured that key activities for Chestnuts Class, including Forest School, will go ahead as planned.

We will keep you updated on Mrs. Dimond's progress and let you know as soon as we have more information. In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to a member of the school leadership team. Thank you for your understanding and support during this time.



School Closure

Thank you for your support last week during the snow days. Closing the school is always a last resort, but we must consider the safety of staff members traveling to school. We truly appreciate your positive and supportive comments regarding how we kept you informed and the speed of our decision-making—thank you. We will continue to share updates with you through Class Dojo and text messages. A special thank you to those parents who helped spread the word to others. Hopefully, the weather will start to warm up soon so we can continue with the exciting learning taking place at our school. Thank you again for your understanding and support.

Forest School

Chestnuts have started their Forest School sessions. They will attend every Thursday throughout both terms, with the last session scheduled for Thursday 3rd April.

Please ensure that Chestnuts come dressed in suitable clothing for Forest School. This includes warm, waterproof clothes and wellies to ensure they are prepared for all weather conditions.

Temp°C	Base layer	Base Layer	Mid layer	Mid layer	Outer layer	Outer layer	footwear	Accessories	Notes
30° 21-30°			Long sleeved cotton t-shirt	Lightweight or cotton trousers			Walking boots/shoes or trainers	Cap or sun hat	
20° 16-20°			Long sleeved cotton t-shirt	Lightweight or cotton trousers			Walking boots/shoes or trainers	Cap or sun hat	Lightweight water resistant coat if wet
15° 6-15°	Vest/t-shirt on wet or windy days		Long sleeved t-shirt	Trousers (not-cotton)	Jumper/fleece & waterproof coat		Wellington boots		Waterproof coat & trousers on wet days
5° 1-5°	Vest/t-shirt	leggings or Woolly tights	Long sleeved t-shirt (not-cotton)	Trousers (not-cotton)	Jumper/fleece & waterproof coat	Waterproof Trousers	Wellington boots	Woolly hat & gloves	Warm socks (not-cotton)
0° -5 - 0°	Thermal Long sleeved	Thermal leggings or Woolly tights	Long sleeved t-shirt (non-cotton)	Trousers (not-cotton)	Jumper/fleece & waterproof coat	Waterproof Trousers	Wellington boots, or Snow boots	Woolly hat & gloves Snood or balaclava	Warm socks (not-cotton)
-10° -6 - 10°	Thermal Long sleeved	Thermal leggings or Woolly tights	Long sleeved t-shirt (non-cotton)	Trousers (not-cotton)	Jumper/fleece & waterproof coat	Waterproof Trousers	Wellington boots, or Snow boots	Woolly hat & gloves Snood or balaclava	Warm socks (not-cotton)
-15° -11 - 15° and colder	Thermal Long sleeved	Thermal leggings	Long sleeved t-shirt (not-cotton)	Trousers (not-cotton)	Jumper/fleece & waterproof coat	Waterproof Trousers	Snow boots	Woolly hat & gloves Snood or balaclava	Warm socks (not-cotton)



Primary School Application

Please note that Wednesday 15th January is the final day to submit your application for Primary Schools for your child to start school in September 2025.

To apply, please use the following link: [Apply for a school place.](#)

Mobiles / Smartwatches

We want to remind all parents and carers that if children need to bring mobile phones into school they must be switched off and handed to the class teacher on entry into school and will not be allowed to be used during the school day. Smart Watches with camera facilities and independent access to the internet must also be switched off and handed to the teacher and will not be allowed to be used during the school day.



Any child found to be inappropriately using a mobile phone or Smart Watch will have their device confiscated and kept by the school until appropriate arrangements can be made for the collection of the device by a parent/carers.

The child will not be able to bring any mobile device into school from this point and will be dealt with in accordance with the school Behaviour Policy. Under no circumstances should a mobile phone or Smart Watch be used by children to record still or video images, or to record audio whilst on the school premises.

Parents/Carers who need to contact their child in the case of an emergency should always do so by phoning the school office. Thank you for your support.

Online Safety

While the digital world offers many opportunities for learning and fun, it can also pose risks such as bullying, exploitation, and sadly, online abuse.

To help you navigate these challenges, we've provided links below to resources that can support you in understanding the risks associated with popular apps, their age restrictions, and how to have important conversations with your children if you have concerns.

[Parents and Carers - UK Safer Internet Centre](#)

[What is social media? | NSPCC](#)

[Get advice](#)

Thank you for your continued support in keeping our children safe online. If you have any questions or need further advice, please do not hesitate to contact us.





Stoke St. Michael Primary School

Together We Are Proud, Together We Are STOKE

The weekly Newsletter from Stoke St Michael

Monday 13th January 2025

Term Dates

January	
Tuesday 21 st	Family Forum: Meet Libby Fidock, Wessex Learning Trust Director of Primary Education – 2:50pm in the school hall
Wednesday 29th	Chinese New Year (Snake)
February	
Tuesday 11th	Safer Internet Day
Friday 14th	Last Day of Term 3
Monday 17th – Friday 21st	School Holiday
Monday 24th	Start of Term 4
March	
Thursday 6th	World Book Day