



Sageston CP School Newsletter – May 2024



This Term's Values: Politeness and Empathy; Happiness and Resilience

It has been a while since my last newsletter – apologies for the absence of an April newsletter. Hopefully, you were kept up to date with key information through Class Dojo.

There is quite a bit of information to share with you in this month's newsletter. As always, I hope you find it useful and informative. If you have any suggestions for the contents of future newsletter, please let me know.

Upcoming Dates

May

Monday 6th May:	School closed – Bank Holiday
Wednesday 15th May:	Barn Owl Bug Farm visit
Thursday 23rd May:	Girls Cricket Festival – Carew Cricket Club (Year 5 and 6 pupils) Swan Class beach trip to Dale with the Darwin Centre
Friday 24th May:	End of the half term
Monday 3rd June:	Start of the second half of the summer term Kingfisher Class residential visit to Cardiff (return on Wednesday 5 th June)

The Latest from FOSS

The polytunnel will hopefully be installed in the next few days – we are waiting for some dry weather! Miss Cole's Eco Council are desperate to start using it!

On behalf of the staff and pupils of the school, I would like to thank Mrs Yvonne Marriott for all her incredible work in the wild area recently. She has been incredibly busy creating pathways which run throughout the area and preparing the space for the polytunnel. She has also resurrected the outdoor classroom which is part of the wild area. Finally, she has constructed some raised beds for additional planting.

I know that Miss Cole and Mrs Marriott's husband Dave have also been working hard in supporting the wonderful work that has been going on.

We will share photos of all the work once it has been completed – like me, I'm sure you'll be amazed!

Important Messages

Class Dojo

Please can I remind everyone that staff are unable to pick up and respond to Dojo messages during the day whilst they are teaching. It is highly likely that they will not even see messages until they have finished teaching for the day. In addition, sometimes they are on training or on PPA time and, in these circumstances, may not be able to do anything about the message as they will not be in school. If you need to share an important message, have a general enquiry or are reporting an absence, please phone the school in the first instance to ensure that someone has received your correspondence.

Staff also will not receive messages outside of their normal working hours, when they will have 'quiet hours' activated on their Class Dojo accounts.

Staffing

We were delighted to welcome Mrs Nancy Simes and Miss Emma Barnes to our staffing team at the start of the summer term. They are both working in Robin Class and we hope they will enjoy their time working with the wonderful pupils, families, staff and governors at Sageston CP School.

INSET Days – 2024/25

Next year will start with an INSET day on Monday 2nd September. This is a designated INSET day meaning that all schools in Pembrokeshire will be closed for staff training. In addition, we have organised a second INSET day on Friday 13th September so that we can engage in some professional learning with staff at Tenby Primary School, St Oswald's Primary School and Stepside CP School. This day has been chosen based on the availability of the trainer.

There will be an additional four INSET days throughout the year. We have provisionally set Monday 4th November as a whole cluster INSET day where we will be working with colleagues from across the Tenby/Greenhill cluster of schools. Monday 28th April 2025 is also a designated INSET day in Pembrokeshire. Monday 21st July 2025 will be an INSET day, with staff having engaged in twilight training during the spring and summer terms to make up the time for this day. This will mean that school will finish for the summer holidays on Friday 18th July 2025. The sixth and final INSET for the day will be set at a later date and I will inform you of this in due course.

School Uniform

A quick reminder that if pupils wear earrings, they should only be wearing studs not hooped or dangling earrings. They should also not be wearing any other jewellery such as necklaces and bracelets.

Pick Up at the End of the Day

To make things easier for teachers dismissing all the pupils from their classes at the end each school day, please could I ask that, as parents, you position yourselves where the class teacher can see you easily. I appreciate some parents may have children being released from two classes at the same time, and I would ask that, if it is practical to do so, that you position yourself centrally on the yard so that both class teachers are able to see you. This will help us to ensure that all pupils are released safely to their adults in a timely manner. A reminder that pupils should be picked up at 3.20pm if they are in Robin and Barn Owl Classes and 3.30pm if they are in Swanth and Kingfisher Classes. After school clubs finish at 4.15pm and we would be grateful if pupils are collected promptly if they are attending a club.

Breakfast Club

The school does not open until 8am for Breakfast Club. Please ensure that any children waiting to come into the school are adequately supervised until staff have opened the doors.

Scarlets Tickets

I have some more complimentary tickets the Scarlets' United Rugby Championship match against Ulster on Saturday 11th May. If you would like 4 of these tickets, please contact me. I will hand them out on a first-come-first-served basis. There are 8 tickets to be given out.

Outdoor Learning

As you are aware, staff spent last Friday (26th April) at Stepside CP School during our INSET Day. We spent the day engaging in some training which was aimed at explaining the significant benefits to pupils of learning outdoors and giving staff ideas for providing effective and enjoyable outdoor learning opportunities with their classes.

Outdoor Clothing:

To make the most of our fantastic grounds throughout the year, from September, we would like for pupils to have the following items in school so that we can go out in any weather:

- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof trousers
- Wellington boots

These items will need to be kept in school so that we can go outdoors whenever there is a possibility that the learning can be enhanced when it is done outdoors. As always, these items need to be clearly labelled with your child's name.

If you have any of these items that your child has grown out of and you no longer need, we would be very grateful for any donations which we could use to create a bank of 'spare' resources.

For the rest of this term, as we all get used to being outdoors more often, it would be really helpful if your child has at least an old coat and old footwear that they can wear whenever we learn outdoors and which can be kept in school.

Grab and Go Boxes:

We would like to set up some boxes of resources which will support our learning outdoors. We are asking all parents and families to see if they have any of these resources at home or are able to collect them in the coming weeks and send them into school. As you will see, none of these will cost any money.

- Egg boxes-all sizes
- Yogurt pots/paper cups/collecting pots
- Kitchen roll tubes
- Natural materials: shells, pine cones, acorns, conkers, etc.

If you are able to help us out with any of these resources, please send them into school with your child/ren and we will have some boxes to collect them in situated in the lobby to the school.

Strategic Equality Plan

Every four years, the Governors are required to create a Strategic Equality Plan to ensure that we work towards making the school an inclusive place for all those who are part of our school community. Part of the process is to get the views of all key stakeholders, including pupils and parents. Please read the information on the Form and, if you would like to, take some time to complete the following Form so that we can include your views in our plan for 2024 to 2028. Please also complete the pupil questionnaire with your child/ren if you feel it is relevant to them.

[Parental Questionnaire](#)

[Pupil Questionnaire](#)

School Council News – Health and Wellbeing Council

This week, Lois, Wilson and Olivia from the Health and Wellbeing Council met with the school Governors at their Full Governing Body meeting. They informed Governors about what the council has been learning and how they plan to share this knowledge with all the pupils through posters and presentations in the future. This will help them to encourage pupils to bring healthy snacks and water to school and to be more active and use screens less.

As I mentioned in a previous newsletter, the Health and Wellbeing Council will be working on a revised policy for healthy eating at the school. The policy will include guidance on what constitute a healthy snack and what drink pupils should bring to school. Once the policy is finalised and has been approved by Governors, we will share the key parts of it with pupils and parents.

Key Events and Visits

Since the last newsletter, there have been a number of key events at the school.

In early March, we celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 7th March – many thanks to you all for supporting the children in dressing up as book characters.

Towards the end of the month, the Scholastic Book Fair was in school. I am grateful to staff and Lois and Betsy from Kingfisher Class for running the fair throughout the week. I hope you all had a chance to visit.

Mrs Jayne Etherington, a resident of Sageston and an educational consultant, visited the school on March 11th to introduce the ‘My River’ project which Swan and Kingfisher Classes are currently engaging with.

On the 21st March, we had a visit from Welsh Water. At the same time, pupils from Swan Class were at Greenhill School participating in the First Experiences music concert with pupils from across the cluster.

At the start of the summer term, we had a visit from RNLI lifeguards to teach all of the pupils about water safety, which is especially important as we approach the summer months.

Bluestone Studios visited the school on April 24th to take photos of each class group and a special leavers’ photo for our Year 6 pupils. You should have received a proof of your child’s class photo. If you have not, please contact us and we will endeavour to get one sent home so that you can decide whether you would like to order a copy. Please return order forms and money to school by Tuesday 7th May.

Celebration Videos

Here are the links to the celebration assembly videos for March and April (as well as today’s Celebration Assembly).

[Friday 1st March](#)

[Friday 8th March](#)

[Friday 12th April](#)

[Friday 19th April](#)

[Friday 26th April](#)

[Friday 3rd May](#)

If you don’t already know the password to access these videos, please contact me via Class Dojo and I’ll be happy to share it with you.