



Sageston CP School

Newsletter – September 2024



This Term's Values: Respect and Friendship; Self-belief and Kindness

It has been wonderful to welcome back the pupils following the summer holidays. We're also delighted to welcome our newest pupils in Nursery – they have settled into their new surroundings brilliantly. In fact, I am very pleased with how well all pupils have all settled back into their learning. We've had a fantastic start to the year!

I have plenty to share in my first newsletter of the new academic year. As always, I hope you find it useful and informative. If you have any suggestions for the contents of future newsletters, please let me know.

Upcoming Dates

September

Tuesday 10 th :	Kerbcraft sessions for Year 1 pupils start
Wednesday 11 th :	Individual photographs with Bluestone Studios
Thursday 12 th :	Fundraising Day for LATCH – non-uniform, bake sale and evening cinema
Friday 13 th :	INSET Day – school closed
Monday 16 th :	FaCE Sessions start (6 weeks)
Friday 20 th :	Ironkids Sageston
Thursday 26 th :	Kingfisher Class to visit Dragon LNG

October

Wednesday 2 nd :	Harvest Service at St Mary's Church – 2pm Open Evening – 3.40pm to 5pm
Thursday 10 th :	Hello Yellow Day
Friday 11 th :	LATCH Coffee Afternoon – 2.30pm
Tuesday 15 th :	Shwmae Day
Monday 21 st :	Appointments for Parents' Evenings released
Wednesday 23 rd :	Halloween Disco – 4.30 – 5.10pm Robins and Barn Owls and 5.15 - 6pm Swans and Kingfishers Final day for Rotary Club Shoebox Appeal donations
Friday 25 th :	Final day of the half term Shoeboxes for Rotary Club appeal collected

Important Messages

Seesaw

Thank you to everyone who has now signed up to Seesaw. This will be our primary means of communicating key class and whole school messages with parents in the future. If you need the QR code to be sent home again so that you can connect with your child's account, please ask your child's class teacher who will be happy to arrange this for you. If you have more than one child at the school, it is important to connect with each of their journals so that you get class specific messages as well as whole school posts that I will be making. We hope that you find it easier to find the information sent out – you can search using folders and there is the ability to search for posts between given dates.

Should you wish to contact us, please either phone the office to speak with Mrs Shatford or myself, email admin.sageston@pembrokeshire.gov.uk, speak to me at the gate in the morning or approach your child's class teacher at the end of the school day.

School Uniform

We have had a number of issues with lost/misplaced items of clothing at the start of term. Please ensure that **all belongings are labelled with your child's name**. Could I also request that you carefully check any items of clothing that your child brings home to ensure someone else's belongings haven't been picked up by mistake? You'd be surprised how often this happens!

Pick Up at the End of the Day

As I have requested in earlier newsletters, to make things easier for teachers dismissing all the pupils from their classes at the end of each school day, please could I ask that, as parents, you position yourselves where the class teacher can see you. 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 Swan 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.

In addition, please ensure that, if you would like to speak to your child's class teacher, you wait until all other pupils have been dismissed before approaching them. This will allow the class teacher to accurately dismiss all pupils to the person picking them up. As you will appreciate, our number one priority is the safety and wellbeing of all of our pupils and teachers need to fully concentrate when dismissing pupils to avoid any mistakes being made.

Model Preschool Status for Playgroup

Over the summer, we received the excellent news that our playgroup has received Model Preschool status with PATHS (Promoting Alternative Thinking Strategies). A huge well done to the team who have been working in Ducklings over the past year, in particular to Mrs Anna O'Leary who led all the work carried out to achieve this notable success.

The School Site

We are always grateful to parents for respecting the rules we have in place on the school site. These rules are for the safety of all site users. At the start of this new academic year, I want to take this opportunity to remind you all of these key rules:

- When parking cars in the school car park, please ensure that you reverse into spaces so that you are able to have a greater awareness of pedestrians using the car park when pulling out of spaces.
- The school site is a no smoking site - this includes vaping. We would be grateful for anyone who chooses to smoke outside of the school premises does so well away from the gates and fencing that runs around the site.
- No dogs (except from assistance dogs) are permitted on the school site. This includes dogs carried by their owners.

We appreciate your support in following these rules for the benefit and safety of the whole school community.

Key Events and Visits

This section is where I normally let parents know about the events that have been happening at the school. However, this month, I want to let you know about some key events coming up in the next couple of months (as well as letting you know about some important events that have already happened at the start of term).

Harvest Service at St Mary's Church, Carew Cheriton: Wednesday 2nd October at 2pm.

We would love to see parents and families attending our annual Harvest festival, which will be at St Mary's Church this year. Pupils who attend the school part-time are more than welcome to join us at the church. Parents will be able to collect children from the church. Alternatively, we will walk back to school with the pupils and they can be collected as normal. We will be collecting tinned and packet foods to be donated to PATCH and adding these to the collection at the church. There will not be a collection plate passed around during the service but, if you would like to make a donation to the church funds, a collection plate will be positioned near the exit.

Open Evening: Wednesday 2nd October between 3.40pm and 5pm

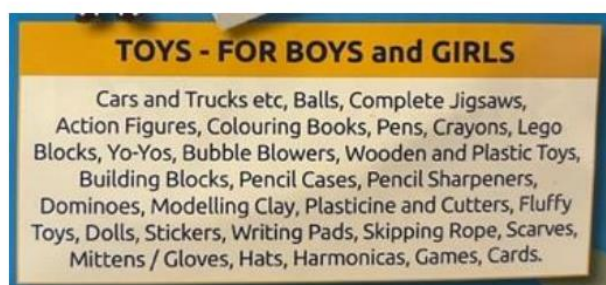
We are pleased to be able to offer families an opportunity to visit the school during our Open Evening. This will allow you to have a look at your child's current classroom. You will be able to meet their class teacher and your child can show you around their learning environment. You are also welcome to visit all of the other classes if you wish to do so. Please note, individual discussions about pupils' progress will take place later in the term during Parents' Evening appointments, not during this event.

Coffee Afternoon in support of LATCH: Friday 11th October at 2pm

As you will be aware, we raised a fantastic £511 for LATCH during our non-uniform day, bake sale and cinema evening on Thursday 12th September. We plan to add to this wonderful sum of money with further donations during our annual coffee afternoon. We usually support the national Macmillan event but are very pleased to be able to support LATCH following a request from Henry in Kingfisher Class to raise money for this brilliant charity that has done so much to help Henry and his family over the past four years.

Rotary Club Shoebox Appeal

As we did last year, we will be supporting the Rotary Club's annual Shoebox Appeal again this year. Each class will have two boxes to fill and we would like items for each class to reflect the ages of the pupils donating items (i.e. pupils in Robins to bring items suitable for 3- to 5-year old children, those in Barn Owl Class to bring items for 5- to 7-year old children and so on). The shoeboxes will be collected on Friday 25th October and then will make their way to children across Eastern Europe in time for Christmas. Please can you ensure that all donations are brought into school by Wednesday 23rd October?



Please follow these guidelines for what can and cannot be added to the boxes.

School Council News – New Look Councils

As I mentioned in my final newsletter of last year, we have made some changes to the way school councils will run this year. Councils will meet every fortnight. Councils will include all full-time pupils. This means every pupil from Reception to Year 6 have now been assigned to one of our four councils: School Council, Criw Cymraeg, Health and Wellbeing Council and Eco Council. During the session they have each fortnight, pupils will work on a range of projects relevant to their council and undertaken to make improvements throughout the school. Every other week, classes will then have time to discuss matters arising from each council and make suggestions about the work each council should be undertaking in the future.

We look forward to ensuring that all pupils are given a strong voice within the school through this new approach to our school councils.

The Latest from FOSS

The autumn term is a very busy time for the Friends of Sageston School. They will be supporting us by organising and helping with several key events throughout the term. These include:

- LATCH Coffee Afternoon
- Halloween Disco
- Remembrance Day Service
- Christmas Crafting Day
- Christmas Fayre
- Christmas Pantomime Trip
- Christmas Dinner

Please see the list of key dates for the autumn term for further information about when these events will be happening.

Look out for information about a meeting of the FOSS where they will be encouraging any and all family members to come along and discuss ways they can help support the brilliant work the FOSS are planning to do this year.

As ever, we are very grateful for their ongoing support; we would not be able to achieve so much as a school without it and the funds they raise are crucial and always used to provide resources and fund events for the benefit of all pupils in the school.

Celebration Videos

Here are the links to the celebration assembly videos for September.

[September 12th](#)

[September 20th](#)

If you don't already know the password to access these videos, please contact me via the methods shared earlier in this newsletter and I'll be happy to share it with you.