



Sageston CP School

Newsletter – February 2024



This Term's Values: Honesty and Self-Confidence; Responsibility and Teamwork

Welcome to my first monthly newsletter. You will notice that I have changed the layout and each month there will be the same sections as you find here. I hope that you find it informative and useful. As always, if there is anything you need to know, please feel free to contact me, Mrs Shatford in the school office or your child's class teacher via Class Dojo.

Important Messages

Active Travel Survey

Please take a few minutes to complete this survey about how your child comes to school. This will help us to create an effective Active Travel Plan for the school, which will become a requirement for all schools in the not-to-distant future.

<https://forms.office.com/e/vtJhGWE9UJ>

Use of the School Car Park

Last week, I sent the following information about the use of the school car park on Class Dojo:

Please could I just remind all users of the car park to ensure that you only use the marked bays provided when parking at drop off and pick up times. Parking outside of the bays can lead to obstructions, making entering and leaving the car park difficult.

Please all ensure that you follow the instructions on the signs in the car park to reverse into the bays.

We appreciate your cooperation in this matter. The safe and proper use of the school car park is necessary to protect the health and safety of all those using the school site, particularly the car park.

If you have relatives or friends who regularly use the school park to drop off or pick up your child/ren on your behalf and they don't have access to Class Dojo or the newsletter, we would be very grateful if you could please remind them of these guidelines for using the school car park.

The Latest from FOSS

You may remember that at the end of last term, I informed you of the news that FOSS had been successful in securing a £3000 grant to fund the installation of a polytunnel on the school grounds. The polytunnel has now been ordered and we are looking forward to having it installed so that pupils can begin to use it to grow plants and vegetables. Miss Cole, the Eco Council and our newly formed Eco Club will lead the growing programme but all pupils will be involved in the process.

Key Events and Visits

During January, I completed some monitoring activities with Governors and our Improvement Adviser, Mrs Botarelli, to look at learning activities taking place in the school. Firstly, Governors and the Senior Leadership Team examined books from each of the classes and we were all very impressed with the quality of the work we saw. The books reflect the range of engaging and exciting learning pupils throughout the school have been undertaking this year. Mrs Botarelli and I met with small groups of learners from each class to ask them questions about their learning. We were both struck by how well the pupils could recall key aspects of their learning and how much enthusiasm and positivity they spoke with about the school and their classes.

At the end of the month, Kingfisher Class worked with Sam and her team from the Darwin Centre. During the session, they engaged in activities related to climate change and sustainable and renewable energies, including activities linked to wind turbines.

Swan Class have been fortunate enough to have weekly sessions this term with Mr Wilkinson, from Pembrokeshire Music Services, as part of the First Experiences programme. They have been learning songs and how to play the pBuzz musical instrument.

Each Tuesday afternoon this term, Barn Owl Class have been visiting Tenby Leisure Centre to develop their swimming skills. This is a vital life-skill and pupils enjoy their chance to learn and practise new swimming skills and techniques each week.

Celebration Videos

Each week we celebrate pupils' successes both in and out of school. At the end of the week, I create a video which celebrates those who has been awarded Star of the Week certificates, Headteacher Awards and Cymro/Cymraes yr Wythnos certificates. In addition, each class creates a PicCollage highlighting some of the learning that has taken place that week and there are also slides with weekly and termly totals for house points. The videos are posted each week on Class Dojo. However, in case you missed them, the videos for the past month can be found here:

[Friday 12th January](#)

[Friday 19th January](#)

[Friday 26th January](#)

[Friday 2nd February](#)

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.

Upcoming Dates

February:

Friday 9 th February:	Final Day of the Half Term
Monday 19 th February:	First Day of the Second Half Term
Monday 26 th February:	Welsh Week/Wythnos Cymraeg

March:

Friday 1 st March:	Dydd Gŵyl Dewi Sant/St David's Day Celebrations
Thursday 7 th March:	World Book Day
Monday 11 th March to Thursday 14 th March:	Parents' Evening Meetings Please note – only Board Games Club and Netball Club will run this week.
Friday 15 th March:	Comic Relief: Red Nose Day
Monday 18 th March to Friday 22 nd March:	Scholastic Book Fair in School
Friday 22 nd March:	Final Day of the Term

School Council News: Eco Council

Last week, Isla and George from the Eco Council met with the full governing body to update them on the work of the Eco Council this year. Here is what they told them:

"Firstly, we undertook an audit/survey of our current eco practices and we found that there are several things we could improve upon as a school to become more ecofriendly. This biggest thing we found was how little recycling we are doing in the school at the moment. We plan to encourage children and adults throughout to think more carefully about what can be recycled so that we do more of it in the future. We have identified a need for more bins (both recycling and rubbish) throughout the school and outside as litter on the school grounds is a concern.

We are going to apply for the Silver Eco Schools Award. We want to meet the targets of the award so that we can show that we are being more ecofriendly. The Eco Council will lead this throughout the school and support pupils in making sure they change their behaviours so they are more aware of eco issues and behave in a more ecofriendly way. As a Council, it is our plan to write an Eco Code which will help us all to meet the targets needed to achieve the Eco Schools Silver Award. It will also ensure all pupils and staff become more ecofriendly. We will present this in assembly so that it is clear to all of the pupils what we need to do.

Miss Cole has set up an Eco Club which many of the members of the Eco Council attend as well as any other pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 who want to. Mrs Marriot helps with this club and at the moment the focus is on the polytunnel which FOSS have acquired a grant of £3000 towards. The polytunnel has been ordered and Eco Club have been considering how to use the polytunnel most effectively. We are hoping the tunnel will be installed shortly."