



Stepaside C.P. School Newsletter



Wednesday 14th September 2022

Dear Stepside families,

Welcome back to the new school year! It was a delight to see the children return to school last Wednesday after their summer holidays. Everyone loves the new look of the school; the *wobble* stools are a huge hit! Staff have worked very hard clearing out, redecorating and setting up their classrooms and I am grateful for their hard work and commitment. I know lots of you have enjoyed watching the video that was posted on the school Facebook page.

Personally, I would like to thank you all for the warm welcome to my new role as Head Teacher this week. I am looking forward to working with everyone to provide the best possible experiences for our children at Stepside.

On Monday and Tuesday of this week the school has taken part in a carousel of 'Well-being Workshops'. Our children have had the opportunity to work with different adults in the school, completing arts and crafts, multi-skills / team games, board games, pasty making, chatterboxes and friendship bracelets. There has been a lot of excitement around the school and the children have thoroughly enjoyed the activities.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

School Photographs:

Next Thursday (22nd September) the School Photographer is visiting school. Please can you make sure that your child / children are wearing full school uniform ready for their photograph. Family groups with out of school siblings will be taken starting at 8.15am until 9am. In school siblings will be taken during the morning.

Meet the Teacher:

Next week we are holding 'Meet the Teacher' for each class. You are invited into school to meet your child's teacher and to see their new classroom. Important information about the school year will be shared during this meeting.

Please see the days and times below:

Nursery/Reception	Miss Tidd	Thursday 22nd 2.40pm
Year 1/2	Mrs Blewitt	Tuesday 20th 2.40pm
Year 3/4	Mrs Chandler-Hall	Friday 23rd 2.50pm
Year 5/6	Mrs Badham	Wednesday 21st 2.50pm

Dinner Money:

For junior pupils, dinner money is still paid online through Pembrokeshire County Council. If you are new to school lunches, please contact Mrs Williams for reference numbers to set up your child's account.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are entitled to a free school meal every day.

School lunch on Thursday 15th is chicken goujons and chips with cake and sprinkles.

Tuesday 20th -fish fingers and chips

School Drop-off and Pick-up times:

Year Group	Drop-off	Pick-up	Location
Nursery	9.00am	11.45am	Car Park
Reception, Y1, Y2	9.00am	3.00pm	Car Park
Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	9.00am	3.10pm	Drop-off point outside school

Seesaw:



This year we are going to use a new app called SEESAW. This is a fantastic tool that will allow teachers and parents to communicate easily. Children will be able to share photos and videos of their work with you and build up a digital portfolio throughout the year. This is a great way for you to see what they have been learning in school each day. Your child will come home with a Seesaw invite letter. You will need to download the free app and follow the instructions to get connected.

This will be one of the main ways the school will communicate with parents, so it is important that everyone signs up.



Christmas Cards:

As a fundraising activity pupils will be designing a Christmas card for you to view and purchase, if you wish, online through the Cauliflower cards website. The designs will be sent away on 19th October and once the designs are uploaded to the Cauliflower site, we will contact you with a link. The school receives a percentage of any income, this will be used to support the cost of transport over the coming year. The packs of cards are £5.50 for 12. Other products are available too.



Death of Queen Elizabeth II:

As I am sure you are now aware, the state funeral of our late Queen Elizabeth II will be on Monday 19th September 2022. This has been declared a bank holiday and school will therefore be closed next Monday.

School Clubs:

School clubs will start back next week. Please see the list of clubs below. If you would like your child to attend any of the clubs, please complete the online form that will be sent to you by text. Clubs start straight after school and **finish at 4pm**.

Art and Craft	Year 1 and 2	Monday	Lunch time
Football	Years 3 - 6	Tuesday	After school
Drama	Years 3 - 6	Thursday	After school
Netball	Years 3 - 6	Thursday	After school

INSET Day:

On **Monday 7th November** the school will be closed to pupils for an INSET training day. We will be meeting with the Tenby Cluster of schools to work together on designing our New Curriculum.

If you have any queries or questions, please get in touch.

Mr Peter Jones

