

Croscombe C of E Primary School
Long Street Croscombe, Wells
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Mr. Bill Moore, Co-Headteacher



Stoke St. Michael Primary School
Moonshill Road, Stoke St Michael,
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Mrs. Mel Vincent, Co-Headteacher

www.croscombestokefederation.co.uk

12th March 2021

Dear parents and carers,

What a wonderful week we have had! It has been great to have all the children back in school and their enthusiasm and energy have been infectious.

This week has been about reconnecting and renewing, with lots of opportunities for the children and the staff to settle back into friendships, routines and the familiarity of school. We have been able to do lots of activities that are part of our Recovery Curriculum and we are delighted with the way both school communities have settled back into school life.



Thank you for continuing to maintain social distancing at the gates, for wearing your face masks, and for all of your efforts to ensure the children are coming back to school eager, prepared and ready. Here's to a great first week back and all the wonderful glimpses of spring! New beginnings are definitely in the air!

Goodbyes & Hello's

It is with a sad heart that we have to announce that Mrs Young is leaving the Federation and Acorns class at Stoke at Easter. Mrs Young is an excellent teacher and a great member of our Federation team, and we will all miss her enormously!

goodbye!

We are delighted however, that Amy Barnhurst has been appointed in her place and will be teaching Acorns at Stoke St Michael on Thursday's and Friday's. Ms. Barnhurst has extensive experience as a Reception and Year 1 teacher and she has had responsibility for Key stage 1 curriculum design and delivery. She has high expectations for all her pupils and ensures that her lessons are fun and engaging. She is a really positive addition to our team and we look forward to her starting after Easter.

hello!

Mr Mynard will continue to teach Acorns at Stoke on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, until Mrs Vincent is well enough to return and resume teaching, as well as continuing to cover for Mrs Bloom in Chestnuts class at Croscombe on Thursdays and Fridays.

We are also pleased to announce that Fiona Emery, a member of the Croscombe community who has done lots of volunteering at Croscombe school, will also be joining the Federation team. Ms Emery will be working in Acorns class as a TA where she will be covering for Mrs Boardman who has begun her training to become a teacher. Ms Emery will be doing Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays and Mrs Boardman will be working on Thursdays and Fridays. Good luck Mrs Boardman and welcome on board Ms Emery!

Crazy Hair/Dress Up Day Fundraiser!



The PFTA & Fundraising Governors have organised a Crazy Hair Day on **Monday 15th March** and children can either dress-up or crazy style/mess up their hair!

Please donate £2 per child, and £1 for each additional child in the same family. You can either bring your money in on the day or make a donation via bank transfer (please contact the office for details).

No Idling

Please remember to always turn off your engines at pick-up and drop off!
Thank you.



Sara Bannister
Co-Head Business & Premises
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Let Your Light Shine



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Rapid testing to support the return to school

Earlier this week, NHS Test and Trace announced that all adults in households with school and college age children without symptoms can now access regular rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles.

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus and the tests are fast, easy and completely free.

There are different ways for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

- an employer if they offer testing to employees;
- Community Testing via asymptomatic testing site;
- by collecting a home test kit from a Collection Point (RTS / LTS / MTU / CT);
- by ordering a home test kit online.



If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test. Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible.

Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

To check the location of Lateral Flow Test and collection sites near you, or to order home test kits if this is not possible, please visit: www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff A list of Frequently Asked Questions is available on the Somerset County Council website here: www.somerset.gov.uk/coronavirus/coronavirus-testing

Turn on the subtitles

Did you know that turning on the subtitles while children are watching television can **double the chances of a child becoming good at reading**. Visit www.turnonthesubtitles.org for more information or watch this short video with Stephen Fry! It really is very simple and could help your child become a more fluent reader! [YouTube: Turn on the Subtitles](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)



Please find the Community Inclusion Activity Team's Activity Calendar for the Easter Holidays attached. There are a variety of activities for families who have a child or young person with a disability or additional needs, so hopefully there will be something for everyone.



Have a great weekend and well done everyone for a great first week back!!

Bill Moore & Mel Vincent

Co-Headteachers

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