



Newsletter

Christian Value of the Term: Love

Stanford in the Vale
C of E Business Name

Year 24/25 Issue 9
Friday 17th January

Arrangements in the snow

With our unique and unpredictable weather possibly delivering snow I would like to inform you of the arrangements we have put into place for this winter. My intention is that we will remain open at all times, providing we can maintain sufficient cover for those children that can make it here. When making my decision I have to consider whether I will have enough staff to provide adequate levels of care and support, even if we can't keep to the normal pattern of a school day. I also have to consider whether we can provide food and if the site is safe. I could take the easy view when things are uncertain and make an early decision to close, but I do appreciate the impact this has on parents and carers and other services/work places, when you yourselves are unable to attend work. I will therefore make decisions by 7.30am with the information that is available to me and if that decision is to close will publicise this through our website, parentmail's text facility, class dojo and via the radio stations – Heart, Jack FM and Radio Oxford. As a number of our children live outside of the village, I will of course be understanding in cases of absence, should you make the decision that it is too dangerous to travel, similarly registers will not be marked as 'late' if your arrival takes longer than expected or you delay your journey. I am also happy for the children to wear footwear and clothing more suited to these conditions rather than their normal school shoes and clothes but would ask that you ensure that they have a change available for inside; trainers/ normal school shoes and another set of clothes. I believe that I have a social responsibility to keep the school open and will strive to do so, up to the point where I feel safety is compromised. I know as parents you will also exercise your own judgement as to whether it is sensible to attempt to get to school. I hope this helps, I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff who always rise to the challenge and help to ensure that the school can remain open.

Stanford's Got Talent

On Thursday, we are looking forward to seeing the talents of many children from across the school. The children will get to watch the dress rehearsal on the afternoon of the 23rd January and then family and friends can watch it in the evening from 6pm. FOSS will kindly be selling refreshments before the evening and in the interval. Hot dogs, drinks and snacks.

Our School Day

The school gates open at 8.30am for the arrival of children and close at 8.40am. School finishes at 3.15pm.

At the beginning of the school day parents are encouraged to bring their children into the school playground, accompany them to their line and then leave.

At the end of the day parents are asked to wait on the school playground and then staff will dismiss your child to you. If normal collection arrangements have to be altered please let the School Office know.

We are having numerous children arriving late and numerous children being picked up early which causes disruption and lost learning. Please can everyone adhere to the set school times.

Diary Dates:

Thursday 23rd January—
Stanford's Got Talent @ 6pm
in the school hall
Refreshments will be on sale

Week beg. 3rd February—
Children's Mental Health
Week 'Know Yourself, Grow
Yourself' Every day the children will take part in an activity to understand themselves better.

Friday 7th February—Feel
Good Friday Children can wear clothes that make them feel comfortable

Friday 7th February—
Children's Disco organised
by FOSS
Foundation, Year 1 & 2 from
5.15pm—6.15pm
Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 from
6.30pm—7.30pm

Tickets available on the door at a cost of £3.00 each
Refreshments available for an extra cost

Monday 10th and Tuesday
11th February—Parents
Evening Online 3.30pm—
6.20pm Booking on parentmail will open nearer the time.

Tuesday 11th February—
Safer Internet Day 'Too good to be true?' The children will be learning about internet safety.

Bags to school. Please drop off any bagged unwanted clothing on Tuesday 11th February between 3.30pm and 6.30pm or Wednesday 12th February between 7am and 9am

Love

Hope

Community



Quotes from our recent questionnaire

Below are some quotes from the parental questionnaires sent out in October.

'Very welcoming.'

'Great school values.'

'Such a great friendly atmosphere.'

'All staff are friendly and have the children's best interest in mind.'

'All staff care about the wellbeing of the children.'

'Approachable, hard working and caring teachers who know the children well.'

Great work!!!



Well done to Flo who helped staff and students from FCC put together Christmas hampers and shoe boxes. An annual appeal they do to help struggling families from the school and people without permanent homes in Swindon.

The hampers contained cakes, mince pies, chocolate, savoury items, while the shoeboxes were filled with socks, gloves, hats and toiletries.

Please read with your child daily

It is key that children have access to books and reading. Reading is the gateway to the curriculum and academic success. If a child reads daily their vocabulary will include over one and a half million more words than those who do not read daily.

Reading books also reduces stress, helps you sleep better, improves health, develops your imagination and above all: it is just fun to do. Reading has a tremendous effect in fuelling all aspects of our personality and enhancing our linguistic prowess. In fact, it wouldn't be wrong to say that the entirety of human life depends on it. Whatever we grow up to become in our lives, no matter where we stand, reading has somehow shaped it.

Daily reading will:

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| 1. Improves vocabulary | 2. Better comprehension | 3. Develop critical thinking skills |
| 4. Improve memory | 5. Improve results at school | 6. Improve analytical skills |
| 7. Build confidence | 8. Helps you socialise | 9. Broaden horizons |
| 10. Improve writing skills | 11. Improve focus and concentration | 12. Makes you empathetic |

As parents it is important to read with your child for 5-10 minutes, at a regular time of day, every day. Developing a daily reading routine is important.

When you read together, explain to your child how events or places in books relate to real life. Compare details in stories or non-fiction books with your holidays, places you have visited, or experiences you have shared. These connections and shared experiences help to make reading words on a page seem realistic. For example, 'That's just like when we went to the zoo. Do you remember?'

Pictures are useful to help your child's understanding – ask your child about them. Find out if your child can predict what is likely to happen next – can they work it out from the text and pictures? Can you guess the ending together?