

January

2020

Dates for
the Diary:

Diary Dates Week Commencing 20th January 2020

- Monday 20th January - Ebworth Merlin & Kestrel Classes
- Board Games & Risk after school club pick-up 4:15
- Tuesday 21st January - Whole school sport Bentham pick-up 3:15
- After school Sports Club Bentham pick-up 4:15
- Wednesday 22nd January - After school clubs Chess & Arty Crafty pick-up 4:15
- After school club Sewing pick-up 4:30
- Thursday 23rd January - After school clubs STEM & Knitting pick-up 4:15
- Friday 24th January - Celebration Assembly 9:00 In Eagle Classroom
- Riddiford Shield Football - Inside Football 13:00-16:00
- After school clubs Reading & Stay and Play pick-up 4:15

Diary Dates Week Commencing 27th January 2020

- Monday 27th January - Ebworth Eagle Class
- Board Games & Risk after school club pick-up 4:15
- Tuesday 28th January - Whole school sport Bentham pick-up 3:15
- After school Sports Club Bentham pick-up 4:15
- Wednesday 29th January - After school clubs Chess & Arty Crafty pick-up 4:15
- After school club Sewing pick-up 4:30
- Thursday 30th January - After school clubs STEM & Knitting pick-up 4:15
- Friday 31st January - Celebration Assembly 9:00 In Eagle Classroom
- Yr 3/4 Netball 11:30-15:30 - Stratford Park
- After school clubs Reading & Stay and Play pick-up 4:15



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15th January 2020 Newsletter

Dear Parents & Carers,

Happy New Year to you all, the staff and I all hope you all had a lovely break, even though that may already seem a distant memory! The children have settled in to the new term very well and we welcome Mrs Wellings to our teaching team in Merlin Class. We hope she enjoys her new role at Sheepscombe School!

This term's theme is called 'Where on Earth?' and today you will receive the thematic overviews for your child's class. We do endeavour to take on board children's particular interests as we move through the term, so this overview is the outline and may be subject to change as we go along. This term Eagle and Kestrel classes are all focusing on the colder regions of the earth and we've been really impressed with the work the children have done so far. I've also been pleased to see how well Merlin class are working and playing and settling in with their new teacher and I will continue to teach them on a Friday and also alternate Monday afternoons, which I very much look forward to.

Forest School continues this term as far as the weather will allow us. If the wind speed is predicted to be above 20 miles per hour then we have to take heed of the forecast and make alternative arrangements for safety purposes, such as we did this week. We still try to carry out the same activities if we can and this week as the wind did not pick up as anticipated the children in Eagle class were still outside for the majority of the afternoon doing the same activities but closer to home. Actually it was quite popular with many as it avoided the uphill walk to Ebworth which pleased a few children!

This week I've carried out a whole school 'pupil conference' in the children's family groups. Each child was given opportunity to say all the things they liked and disliked about school, as well as pointing out what they'd like more of and putting forward any suggestions they had for the future. I will collate these results over the next week and then feedback to you about the results. I've had a quick peek already and I'm relieved to see there are very many more things on the 'like' list than the 'dislike' list!

Next week our sporting calendar begins again and we will be taking a small team to participate in the 5 a side Riddiford Shield Football Tournament on Friday. Coming up we also have a Netball Competition. I'll send letters out about both next week. We are also looking forward to a visit from 'Dan the Skipping Man' in the next couple of weeks, who will be coming to Bentham to lead a mass skipping session! Next week the children will once again be in the Netball Dome as they were this week rather than the usual dome, after that they will return to the usual dome. Sorry for any confusion this week but we also didn't know we were moving domes.

Year 3 to 6 children will have received their letter about the Residential Trip this week - please make sure you return the reply slip to Mrs Powell as soon as possible.

To help us in our quest against headlice, please check your children's hair regularly and treat appropriately if you find any. This is an ongoing problem in school and we've noticed that some of the Kestrel children have itchy heads this week so please have a look as soon as you can.

In the next couple of weeks I'll be able to let you know about visitors to school linked to our new theme - we've decided not to do a school trip out this term as the children were so busy last term and the weather is unreliable at this time of year but we have some ideas for visitors to school which will enhance our theme and I'm just awaiting some date confirmations before I tell the children.

This week sees the start of our Voice Collectives Project with Gloucestershire Music. I'm really excited about this as by Easter the children will have written, performed and recorded a Sheepscombe School song, which will reflect the special qualities of our school in the children's own words. Very many thanks to FOSS for funding this project. The outcomes I've seen for this project in other schools have been amazing!

Also our thanks go Chloe Turner and Debby Thacker (our Maths and English Governors) as our children will shortly embark on a 'Choose Your Own Adventure' whole school book writing project for which they have gained funding for us. To choose which way to go within the narrative a maths puzzle will need to be solved. This book will be created by the children with support from the teachers, governors and an illustrator and will be professionally published! We can't wait! 'An inspirational setting where all children flourish' what more could we say?

Kind regards, Vicky Barron Head teacher

94%
Attendance





Science Experiments in Kestrel!



Kestrel class with their weaving looms.

JANUARY 2020 JANUARY 2020



Hand sewn cushions made during sewing club.