



Occold Primary School

The Street, Occold, Suffolk, IP23 7PL

01379 678330

Executive Headteacher – Dr Paul Parslow-Williams

Head of School – Miss Katie Thornton

www.occoldprimaryschool.org

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) Days

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to tell you about some exciting activities which will be happening in school next week.

Wednesday 31st January – Computing Day

Next Wednesday, the whole school will be completing Computing activities throughout the day. Children will be using Chromebooks, iPads and Microbits to complete a variety of challenges including Coding and App design. At the end of the afternoon, the children will gather in the village hall to watch Mr William's Science Show, which will launch our science day for Thursday.

Thursday 1st February – Science Day

On Thursday, the children will complete a carousel of hands-on science activities which will include bubbles, chocolate and poo! During the afternoon, the children will gather in the Village Hall to complete a building challenge which will test their teamwork, imagination and engineering skills! **For this activity, we will need lots of cardboard boxes big and small! If you have any lurking at home, please bring them into school next week. Thank you!**

Friday 2nd February – NSPCC Number Day

Friday 2nd February is NSPCC Number Day, where we will be inviting all children to come into school wearing non-uniform – with a number on them! This could be an item of clothing which already has a number on it, or you can stick or draw a number on yourself. There is no need to go out and buy any new clothes! We will be raising money for the NSPCC, and so will collect donations on the gate that morning. On this day, the children will be creating their own maths picture books which help other children to learn important maths skills such as counting, times tables, addition and subtraction, shape and pattern spotting! They will have the chance to share their books with one another at the end of the morning. During the afternoon, the whole school will gather in the Village Hall to complete a Human Graph activity!

To finish off our 3 days of STEM, **we would love to invite you into the Village Hall from 2.30pm** so you can see lots of the exciting things the children have been learning about – and maybe even have a go at some STEM challenges yourself!

Occold Primary School is part of the All Saints Schools Trust.

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Registered in England and Wales. Company Number: 11216388.



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Toy Challenge

To get the children thinking about all things STEM, we have launched a small competition which the children can take part in if they wish. Using materials at home such as paper and card, the children can make a simple toy and bring it in on Friday 2nd February. Please find attached a poster with further information on.

Financial Education

Continuing with the theme of maths, this half term our focus across the school in PSHE is Financial Education. As teachers, we feel passionately that this is something which should be taught in primary schools, despite it not being part of the National Curriculum. So, in classes over the coming weeks, children will be learning about finances in age-appropriate ways.

Topics some of the children will cover include:

- Money: wants vs. needs
- Cash, credit cards and debit cards
- Saving & spending
- Salaries, bills and tax
- Mortgages & insurance

Some classes have already started learning about these topics and the children are really enjoying the conversations and have lots of interesting questions. Please continue these conversations at home!

We are really looking forward to an action-packed few days of all things science, computing and maths next week. Should you have any questions about these activities, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind Regards

Miss Katie Thornton

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