

We are now half way through the school year and it is wonderful to see how well the children are doing. The teachers and I often look back in the children's books and the rate of progress they are making is impressive to see.

The curriculum in primary schools today is very much focused on the 3 Rs of Reading, Writing and Arithmetic, which could potentially lead to a rather dry diet. Our Curriculum Showcase, held once a term, shows that the diet is, in fact, a rich but healthy one! The Curriculum Showcase is an opportunity for family members to come into school and look at the wide range of learning that has been taking place in each of the classes. Projects covered this term have included The World of the Dinosaur, Forces and Flight, The Weather, and a Study on The Indus Valley. I challenge anyone to find four more wide-ranging topics...

This theme-based approach also gives an opportunity for the children to carry on their learning at home, often working with parents to develop something special which is then brought in for the Curriculum Showcase. The quality of the work produced shows how much the children are enjoying their learning, and it's lovely to see the pride on their faces as they explain to our visitors how their invention works, as they talk through the contents of a fact-sheet, and as they fix that leg back onto their dinosaur.

Curriculum Showcase Afternoon is yet another opportunity for the PTFA (Parents, Teachers and Friends Association) show their amazing support for the school, on this occasion providing welcome tea to visitors, and manning a second-hand uniform stall. Their plans for this term include ambitious projects to smarten up the grounds, including along the front of the school, as well as offering the children the chance to come back to school in the evenings for the ever-popular Film Night, followed a couple of weeks later by the Disco.

With Shrove Tuesday falling during the half term holiday, we didn't manage the usual Pancake making marathon this year, but it has been interesting to talk to the children about the sacrifices they're making for Lent. Tidying bedrooms, doing homework on the night it is set, not talking so much(!) and inevitably, many of them have decided to have a rest from chocolate. As we break up on Maundy Thursday at the end of a short half term, it won't be long before they can once again satisfy sweet teeth!

James Stanford  
Acting Headteacher  
Stower Provost Primary School  
01747 838370  
office@stowerprovost.dorset.sch.uk