

Octavo July/August 2021

#### News from Stower Provost School

We have been enjoying some better weather this term and the children have really been enjoying cooling off in the school swimming pool; with it operating at 30°C, however, it has not been particularly cool! Having not opened the pool at all last year and with public pools being closed for much of the time, it has been wonderful having this facility on site so the children can learn this vital life-skill.

For the first time in two years we also have the field marked out for athletics and rounders. Although we were hoping to have a traditional sports day near the end of term, continuing restrictions mean we will have to keep to our 'bubbles' and reduce the size of the crowd, but it will be brilliant to have a more normal end to the term.

Our end of term celebrations include a full summer Musical Play. This year's offering of 'Troy Story' tells the adventures of a preening Paris, some rather devious gods and a large wooden horse, all set to catchy songs. The children are really enjoying the rehearsals, and are learning to project their voices as they prepare for the open-air performances. We are hoping we will have Aegean-style weather, too, as the costumes would be rather spoilt by rain...

We will be holding a Leavers' Assembly, also outside, at which the children will tell us their memories of their time at Stower Provost Primary School and share their hopes for the future. It is always a very special occasion as our eleven year olds recall how one of them slipped in a puddle, or played an angel in the nativity, or received their 'pen-licence' once their handwriting became neat enough. As always, we are immensely proud of them, but perhaps even more so this year than usual as, despite two disrupted years, they have worked particularly hard to catch up on any missed learning, been consistently responsible around the school and been superb ambassadors for the school on a recent trip out to the Fonthill Estates. Well done to all of them.

When we return to school in September it will be to welcome our new cohort of four-year-olds. We are all hoping that we will also be able to welcome members of the community back into school to resume the invaluable support given hearing readers, supporting clubs, and sharing talents. We are also looking for a part-time handy person to join our staff team. This post, involving just a few hours a month, would suit someone reasonably practical and ready to tackle the growing list of minor repairs and regular safety checks that need doing. Training would be provided!

With best wishes for a very relaxing summer

James Stanford  
Headteacher