

Staplehurst School



NEWSLETTER

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Staplehurst School is an inclusive community and we do not tolerate bullying – race, gender, disability, sexual orientation or age.

SCHOOL NEWS

ONLINE SAFETY

As we approach Safer Internet Day 2017 on Tuesday 7 February, it's a time to remember that the internet can be an inspiring and positive resource if used appropriately. This year's message is '**Be the change: unite for a better internet**'.

On Monday we welcomed Sue Kemsley, eSafety PCSO West Division from Kent Police. She spent the whole day in school holding a KS2 assembly talking about taking photos of strangers without permission and the perils of posting photos of yourself on the internet and who may receive them. She then spent the rest of the day in class with Year 5 and Year 6 discussing these topics further. The children were really interested in learning about this very important matter.

During the day on 7 February, all children will be involved in activities around internet use and we look forward to sharing what they get up to in a future newsletter.

YEAR 1 WELCOME CHINESE NEW YEAR

Year 1 classes have been learning about the Chinese New Year, which starts on 28 January. This year it is the year of the Rooster. Dragons, which are a symbol of good luck, are very important to the Chinese people, so we have been making our own dancing dragons practicing our cutting, folding and assembling skills. The children have really enjoyed this activity.



CORRECTION

Apologies to 1G Geckos, for incorrectly reporting that 4M and 5S achieved the highest attendance last week. Although they were the top classes in KS2, it was Geckos who achieved the highest attendance for the **whole** school with a fantastic 99.57%. Here they are proudly showing off their certificate with Attendance Ted who has been displayed in their classroom all this week. Attendance Ted is a new character in school and awarded to the class with the highest attendance in KS1. Well done Geckos for also getting the top score for the whole school too!



ATTENDANCE

The Department for Education's target for attendance is 96%. We always strive for 100%.

Whole school attendance

For week beginning 23 January was 91.68%.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to 3S Sea Otters who achieved a fantastic 98.67% attendance.

BUSTER BOOK CLUB

Further to the information sent home last week, we are very pleased to announce that the initial response to the Buster Book Club has been amazing. So please carry on and keep up the excellent reading.

ASSEMBLY ROTA

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45
Friday 3 Feb	EYrs	Parent Drop In
Friday 10 Feb	YR2	YR5

SAFEGUARDING POLICY

An updated version of our safeguarding policy is now on the school website. It is important that parents familiarise themselves with the policies and adhere to them wherever possible. Likewise, parents should support the school in their efforts to safeguard children, staff and visitors to the site. We would always encourage parents to discuss safeguarding with their child(ren) and to contact the school if they have any safeguarding concerns. We would also welcome any suggestions regarding the contents of the policy.

VACANCY – Clerk to the Governing Body

There is a vacancy for a Clerk to the Governing Body of Staplehurst School. The role is a job-share and the number of hours varies from week to week, but can be up to 30 per month in term time only. The successful applicant will be expected to work from home and have access to a computer and the internet. They will also need to attend Governors' meetings at the school, which usually take place at 8am or 6.30pm. For a full job description and details on how to apply, please contact: clerktogovernors@staplehurst.sch.kent.uk or call the office on 01580 891765.

UNIFORM

We have had lots of visitors to the school recently who are always complimentary about our children, their behaviour and how smart they look. Please ensure that your children are correctly dressed in full uniform every day including shoes, ties and appropriate hair ties in line with the school policy which can be found on our website

ACTIVE KIDS 2017

Sainsbury's Active Kids launches on 25 January 2017. This is an excellent opportunity for us to collect vouchers to purchase additional sports equipment. The School Council is very keen to use the vouchers to purchase sports equipment to play with at break-times. Vouchers can be collected at Sainsbury's local and main supermarkets and online. The box will be placed in reception for vouchers and the School Council will be putting together a wish-list of equipment which will be shared with you in the next newsletter. So let's jump into action and get collecting!

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 30.01/17 Year 6, 3, 4, 5

w/c 06/02/17 Year 3, 4, 5, 6

MIDDAY SUPERVISOR VACANCIES

Due to internal staff changes we currently have vacancies for Midday Supervisors. If you are interested in joining our happy, hardworking team then we would love to hear from you. Please contact Fran Zimmer to discuss the opportunities. Thank you.

SEVERE WEATHER PROCEDURE

The DfE (Department for Education) states that "schools should, wherever possible, stay open in severe weather"

and we recognise that it is important for Staplehurst School to remain **open** so that parents are able to work and children can continue to learn. Our fundamental principle is that every effort will be made to ensure that Staplehurst School remains open even if only limited numbers of children can attend.

In each instance the school will determine:

- whether the school site is safe
- how many staff are likely to be in

then make a decision based on the safety of children.

If the school is CLOSED we will notify you by TEXT and EMAIL.

PREMIER SPORT - TAG RUGBY

After half term the Premier Sport Tag Rugby Club will change to Multi-Sports. If your child is interested in attending, please contact Premier Sport on www.premiereducation.com or 01580 212401.

PTA NEWS

PTA MEETING

The next PTA meeting will be on Wednesday 22 February at 3.30pm. All parents are more than welcome, so please do come along.

COMMUNITY NEWS

BABY & CHILDREN'S MARKET

On Sunday 29 January from 10am–12pm at East Peckham Village Hall, a Baby & Children's Market is being held. There will be over 20 stalls selling a large range of excellent quality nearly-new boys' and girls' items from birth to eight years. So why not pop along and grab a bargain? If you would like to book and have a stall contact lydia@babyandchildrensmarket.co.uk.

MESSY CHURCH

Saturday 4 February is Messy Church at Staplehurst United Reformed Church, (opposite the chemist), on the theme of two parables about seeking and finding treasure. We'll be making crafts such as treasure maps, treasure boxes and money boxes, edible pearls, and royalty pictures, as well as challenges on the theme. After all that there'll be a short service to think about those parables a bit more in a family friendly way, sing some songs and finally all sit down together for a sandwich and cake tea provided, and home around 6pm. Doors open at 3.30pm for a 4pm start. Everyone is very welcome to come and join the Messy fun. We'd love to see you there.

DIARY DATES

Friday 3 February

2.45pm Parent Drop In

Wednesday 8 February

Parent & SEN Consultations (see letter for timings)

Thursday 9 February

Parent & SEN Consultations (see letter for timings)

Monday 13 – Friday 17 February

Half Term

Wednesday 22 February

3.30pm – PTA Meeting

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Early Years News

ADMIN**Online payments**

This is the preferred method. Please pay online for School Dinners, Breakfast Club, Trips, Swimming, Uniform and Equipment.

Dinner Money queries and payments

Please contact Maxine on 07501 007835.

School Uniform

Uniform can be ordered and paid for online (orders will be sent home with your child). The Uniform Shop is open anytime, but **please avoid Monday mornings and Friday afternoons**. Thank you.