

Staplehurst School



NEWSLETTER

School Improvement Plan 2015-2016

REVIEW

Raise attainment of all pupils especially in Reading and Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling (GPS)

REFLECT

Improve communication with parents and increase parental involvement

ACTION

IMPACT

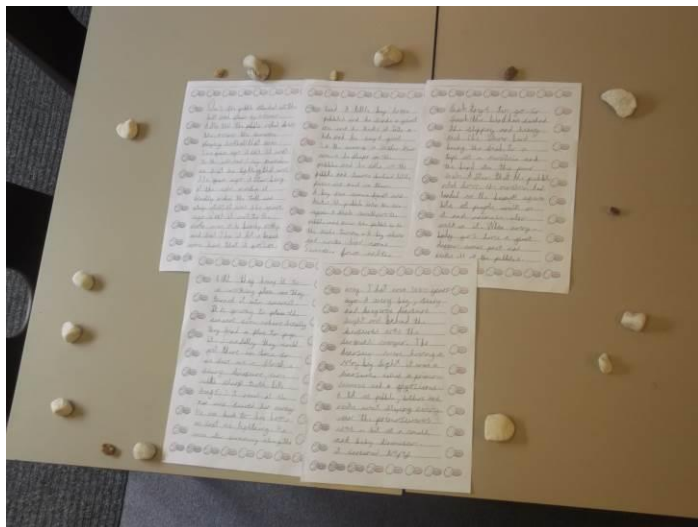
Promote personal development and welfare of all pupils

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

SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 3 CREATIVE WRITING

Our Year 3 children have been busy doing creative writing. They went out into the grounds, found a pebble and have written stories about where their pebble first came from and how it arrived at Staplehurst School.



YEAR 2 WORK ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Pupils in Year 2 have been studying the environment, recycling and saving water, they have created some wonderful posters. They have even used some recycling to help make the posters. Here are a couple of examples:-



KENT MESSENGER PHOTOGRAPHS

The Early Years class photographs taken this week by the Kent Messenger will be in the newspaper on Friday 14 October. Don't forget to buy your copy.

MEET THE TEACHER AMENDMENT

We apologise, but the Year 1 'Meet the Teacher' session is on Wednesday 5 October NOT Tuesday 4 October. If you are unable to meet your child's teacher, any handouts will be available to view shortly afterwards on the school website.

MACMILLAN COFFEE AFTERNOON

We will be holding a coffee afternoon on Friday 14 October at 3.30pm in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support. Our catering company, The Contract Dining Company, has very kindly agreed to donate all the refreshments for this event and we have agreed to pay for the catering staff to attend. This means ALL the money raised will go to straight to Macmillan. Please see attached invitation.

ATTENDANCE

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

Whole school attendance

For week beginning 26 September was 95.86%.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to EY3 Laybirds who achieved a fantastic 99.05% attendance.

CHILDCARE SURVEY

As part of Staplehurst School's parental engagement strategy the Governing Body are interested in the needs of its parents who have children requiring childcare while they are at work before and after normal school hours. As a school we are exploring providing wrap-around care and an on-site pre-school. Please take time to complete the survey, that was emailed home this week, and return it by Friday 14 October. All answers will be kept confidential and reported in such a way that no person can be identified.

ASSEMBLY ROTA

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45
Friday 7 Oct	Year 1	Year 3
Friday 14 Oct	Year 2	Year 6
Friday 21 Oct	Year 1	Year 5

MORNING DROP OFF

For the safety of our children, please wait outside the main gate until the first bell sounds. This is because the playground area is not staffed until 8.35am. Thank you.

WILD WEST THURSDAY-CHANGE OF MENU

On Thursday 6 October, The Contract Dining Company is changing the menu to a Wild West theme. The menu will be:-

Chicken Strips with Barbeque Sauce
Quorn Sausages
Jacket Wedges, Sweetcorn, Baked Beans
Vanilla Ice Cream
Fruit Pots
Yogurts

So why not have a Ye Ha Time and enjoy a school dinner!

PUPIL PREMIUM

Do you receive any of the following benefits?

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (providing you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

If you so, you qualify for Pupil Premium which means your child/ren is/are entitled to:

Free school trips
Free breakfast at Breakfast Club
Free school milk
Assistance towards the purchase of uniform and equipment
Paid swimming sessions
Free school meals if your child is in Years 3-6

If you would like more information please speak to the office or FLO in complete confidence.

WATERPROOF COATS

Please may we remind you that your child should have a named waterproof coat in school at all times. The weather is now becoming unpredictable and, weather permitting, we like the children to have some fresh air and exercise during the day.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH ASTHMA

If your child has been diagnosed with asthma, you should have received forms from school so that we can update our records. It is very important that you return these so that we know what to do in the event of your child being wheezy or having an asthma attack. If your child uses an inhaler and you have not received these forms, please speak to the office staff.

PARKING

Like so many schools, Staplehurst School continues to have issues with parking and increased traffic in the area at the beginning and end of each school day.

Please do not stop or wait on the yellow zig zagged area outside the school. Please park with consideration for residents and other road users and consider your speed when approaching the school in case any small children or pedestrians suddenly step out. The informal one-way system that aids movement outside the school is a helpful solution that many parents follow.

If you have any other suggestions as to how we can help ensure the safety of the children at Staplehurst School and the parents and carers who bring them, we would be very glad to hear them.

REPORTING TO THE OFFICE

It is sometimes necessary to collect children during the day for medical appointments. Please ensure you report straight to the office. This ensures that, in the event of an emergency, we know who is present on the premises.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 03/10/16 Years 3, 4, 5, 6

w/c 10/10/16 Years 4, 5, 6, 3

KENT SCHOOL HEALTH TEAM – YEAR 6

We emailed a leaflet to Year 6 parent/carers from Kent School Health Team asking you to complete an online questionnaire. The link to access the questionnaire is: <https://www.kentcht.nhs.uk/forms/year-6-parent-questionnaire>.

The aim of the questionnaire is to identify and address any unmet health needs prior to your child leaving primary school and entering secondary school, in line with the Healthy Child Programme.

YR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

You can apply for a place online at <https://ola.kent.gov.uk> or paper application forms are available from the school office.

The national closing date is **Monday 31 October 2016**.

The National Offer Day is **Wednesday 1 March 2017**.

Emails are sent after **4pm** and letters are sent **1st class**.

Places should be accepted or declined by **16 March 2017**.

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN SESSIONS

There is a list in Reception of the dates for the various secondary schools' open events.

MIDDAY SUPERVISOR VACANCIES

Due to internal staff changes we currently have vacancies for Midday Supervisors. The vacancies may suit someone who has been, or would be interested in becoming, first aid trained. If you are interested in joining our hardworking team of lovely ladies, please contact Andrea Baker in the office to discuss.

PTA NEWS

PTA AGM

The next PTA meeting and AGM will be next Tuesday 4 October at 7pm.

NEXT EVENT

Pamper Night on 11 November, 7:30 - 10pm. If you are interested in having a stall at our Pamper Night then please contact Jo Kerley on 01580 890543 or email staplehurstschoolpta@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS**POTTERY AT THE FREE CHURCH CAFE**

The ever popular Doodlebugs Pottery will be visiting the cafe at Staplehurst Free Church on Saturday 1 October. From 11am to 3pm you can choose your pottery and enjoy a relaxing, creative time. Your artwork will then be glazed, fired and returned to you a week or so later looking amazing. While you are being creative, the cafe staff will be serving the usual range of snacks, light lunches, drinks and cakes. If you've never tried before, why not make this your first visit?

MESSY CHURCH – STAPLEHURST URC

On 1 October at URC, from 3:30 - 6pm, an afternoon of games and crafts followed by a short service and tea. This month it's all on the theme of Salt & Light. There'll be a candle cake to make, lighthouses to design and create, salt paintings and salt dough, as well as other activities, all on the theme of being salt & light and making a difference in our world. A warm welcome to everyone!

CHAPEL LANE PRE-SCHOOL

Chapel Lane Pre-school is now open Mondays and Fridays 9am-12 noon and Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9am-3pm. Spaces are still available. Open Afternoon, Wednesday 28th September, 1pm to 2.30pm. To receive more information about Chapel Lane Pre-school please go to www.chapellanepreschool.org.uk or to book a place, please telephone Sally on 01580 892807 or email chapel.lane@hotmail.com.

THE LEARNING TREE

Staplehurst and Sissinghurst have spaces available. They are open every morning and some afternoons. Contact Anna Reiss on 01797 260843 or 07870 213952 or email annalearningtree@btinternet.com.

DIARY DATES**Tuesday 4 October**

PTA Meeting 7pm

Thursday 13 October

Year 5 Herstmonceux Science Observatory Trip

Friday 14 October

3.30pm Macmillan Coffee Afternoon

Wednesday 19 October

Year 6 Museum of Kent Life Trip

Monday 24 October to Friday 28 October

Half Term

Wednesday 2 November

Individual and family photographs (Staplehurst School children only)

Friday 18 November

Children In Need – Wear Something Spotty

Wednesday 4 January 2017

Spring Term begins

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Early Years News

Macmillan Coffee Afternoon invitation

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.