

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

CHOIR SINGS AT THE O2

On Monday, 51 members of our School Choir took part in Young Voices at the O2 arena in London. They joined lots of other schools to form a choir of 7,139 children! They were lucky enough to sing with Natalie Williams and Tabby Callaghan and watched amazing performances by street dance groups Urban Strides and Beatbox Collectives. A wonderful time was had by all the children, members of staff and parents. A huge thank you to all the parents who came to watch.



ASSEMBLY ROTA

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45
Friday 27 Jan	YR1	YR6
Friday 3 Feb	EYrs	Parent Drop In
Friday 10 Feb	EYrs	YR5

ATTENDANCE

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

Whole school attendance

For week beginning 16 January was 94.70%.

Class attendance

Congratulations to 4M Meerkats and 5S Scorpions who both achieved 96.77% attendance.

BUSTER BOOK CLUB

We are very excited to announce that, as a school, we are taking part in the Kent Messenger 2017 Year of Reading with the launch of Buster's Book Club. The aim of the project is to motivate the children to engage in extra reading at home and outside the classroom. We are competing against other classes in our key stages, and also against other schools in the district to win tickets to Kent attractions such as Pirate Cove at Bluewater, Silver Blades ice rink and Leeds Castle. All you need to do is listen to your child read on a Wednesday night and sign their bookmark (inside contact books next week) to add the valuable reading minutes to your class total. We hope you will support and encourage your child in this exciting initiative. More details have been sent out in book-bags today.

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**'. Attached with the newsletter is a handout from Childnet International, one of the charities which supports the day, reminding us about keeping an open dialogue about our children's use of the internet. Please take the time to read this and start the discussion with your child/ren. 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. In addition, during the day on Monday, 23 January, Sue Kemsley, e-Safety Officer from Kent Police will be working with the children in Years 5 and 6 about online safety.

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

GOVERNING BODY NEWS

We are sad to announce that one of our Governors, Simon Hoult, has stepped down from the Governing Body due to family and work commitments. Simon is one of our longest-serving Governors, having joined in 2012. We're sure that you would like to join us in thanking Simon for his involvement in the work of the Governing Body and for all the time he has given to the school over the past five years.

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!

JOLLY JANUARY MENU CHANGE

Yesterday was **School Census Day** and we would like to thank all those who tried a school dinner. This has helped us ensure we receive all the funding from the government.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 23/01/17 Year 5, 6, 3, 4
w/c 30.01/17 Year 6, 3, 4, 5

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 Zimber 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.

KAI NELL - MEMORIAL SERVICE

There will be a memorial service at 6.30pm on Monday 23 January 2017 at All Saints Church, Staplehurst to celebrate the life of Kai Nell. Anyone who wants to attend is welcome, children included. If people want to wear something green (Kai's favourite colour) then they can and children are welcome to dress as their favourite super

hero. We know Kai has affected many people in Staplehurst and it would be nice to see everyone there.

PTA NEWS

PTA MEETING

The date for the next PTA meeting is this Tuesday, 24 January at 7pm here at the school. All parents are welcome to 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.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 24 January

7pm PTA Meeting

Friday 3 February

2.45 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

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Childnet International Handout

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.