

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

ACTION PACKED JUNE

There's been a lot going on this week at Staplehurst School. The choir performed two concerts, Year 6 went on their Safety in Action course at Maidstone Barracks, Early Years went on their first ever school trip, Year 2 were also out this week at Kent Life and 6L visited the Air Raid Shelters at MGS today (6T go in two weeks' time). To finish off an exciting week the children wore their own clothes today to raise funds for Diabetes Week!

BOOK FAIR

Don't forget the Book Fair in the Infant Hall after school until Tuesday, 20 June. There's a wide range of books to choose from at great prices and every book sold raised funds for the school too!

FUNDRAISING FOR CHARLIE FARRAGHER

We would like to say a massive thank you for all the donations for Charlie. The response has been amazing and we are pleased to report that a fantastic £392.94 has been raised so far.

We were also thrilled to receive some extra money this week which had been raised by Hollie (1G) and Sophie (4R) who baked and sold cakes in aid of Charlie's campaign. Well done girls!

DIABETES WEEK 11-17 JUNE 2017

Today the children came to school wearing home clothes in support of Diabetes Week. Once again your generosity of this most worthy charity was amazing and we have collected an incredible £339.20 at the school gates this morning. More donations came in throughout the day and we will update you next week on the final total.

ASSEMBLY ROTA

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
23 June	Year 2	Year 6
30 June	Year 1	Year 5
7 July	EYrs	Year 4
14 July	Year 2	Open Afternoon (2pm)

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 19.06.17 Year 6, 3, 4, 5
w/c 26.06.17 Year 3, 4, 5, 6

YEAR 6 SAFETY IN ACTION

On Tuesday, Year 6 attended 'Safety in Action', which is an annual event held at Maidstone Barracks. They learnt about how to keep safe in a variety of situations, including water safety, electrical safety, safety in the home, first aid, road safety and e-safety. They also had the opportunity to see a demonstration of some of the weapons and other kit used by the soldiers there.



YEAR R VISIT TO RARE BREEDS CENTRE

On Wednesday our Early Years went on their very first school trip to the Rare Breeds Centre. The children had a wonderful day looking at the animals, going on a trailer ride and listening to a talk all about how to look after animals. Our staff were very proud of how well the children behaved.



YEAR 2 VISIT TO KENT LIFE MUSEUM

Year 2 had a brilliant time at Kent Life and enjoyed a very bumpy tractor ride and cuddles with rabbits and guinea pigs. The children also learnt about different nocturnal animals and had the chance to stroke an owl and a skunk! Everyone was well behaved and enjoyed a great day out. A big thank you to all our parent helpers as these trips could not take place without your help.



YEAR 2 LOVE LEARNING OUTSIDE

This week Year 2 have made the most of the glorious weather. They have been investigating questions in maths by turning children into giants. They used metre sticks to measure body parts and rounded the measurements to the nearest 10cm. They then multiplied these by 5 and drew new giants on the playground with chalk. They also worked hard on their spellings so to make it more exciting they practised on the playground using water and paint brushes. They had to write the words as quick as they could before the sun made them disappear. Which words can you see?



CHOIR CONCERTS

On Monday some members of the Choir performed a short concert at the McCabe Centre which was thoroughly enjoyed by all the residents.



On Wednesday this year's Choir performed their last concert to parents at All Saints Church. It was a wonderful show which included a wide variety of songs and also some instrumental musical pieces. The children behaved impeccably and we would also like to thank the families who came along to support them.

SPORTS DAY

Weather permitting we are hoping to hold Sports Day this Thursday 22 June. It will be KS2 (Years 3-6) in the morning and KS1 (Year R,1&2) in the afternoon. Parents are invited to come along and support their children. For KS2 please arrive for 9.15am and for KS1 please arrive for 1.30pm. KS1 pupils please ensure your child has their PE kit, including running shoes with them on that day along with a water bottle, hat and sun cream. Team colour stickers will be provided. KS2 please wear a coloured T-Shirt to represent your house colour. Some of our Year 6 parents will be there to sell Pink Lemonade at 50p per cup. Thank you.

YEAR 6 FUNDRAISING EVENTS

On Monday 12 June there will be an Ice Lolly sale after school. Please also note these other two events:

- 22 June Drinks at Sports Day and Ice Lollies after school
 23 June Disco at Staplehurst Cricket Club (KS2 age group) - (5-7pm)
 Tickets just £5 include a burger and drink are available from Jo Crafter via messenger or 07808502401 and other Year 6 parents.
 The children that attended last year had a great time so get your tickets quick.
 Parents are welcome to drop off children or stay, the bar will be open!

ATTENDANCE

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

Whole school attendance

For week beginning 12 June was **95.7%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **3S Sea Otters and 4M Meerkats** who achieved the highest attendance for the week with **99.7%**.

PARENT COUNCIL

The school greatly value the involvement and ongoing commitment of its parents. Following the change to the Parents Forum last year, it has now been decided to create a new Parent Council from September 2017. At the class welcome meetings in September each teacher will ask for a volunteer to represent the class at the meetings (to be held a minimum of 3 times a year). If there is more than one person willing to take on this role then names will be drawn from a hat. Also in attendance at the meetings will be a representative from the Student Council, a member of the Senior Leadership Team, a member of the Inclusion Team and other visitors as agreed by the council.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT!!!

Staplehurst is a large school of approximately 420 pupils and it is natural for there to be a turnover of staff for many reasons, including promotion and relocation. Teachers do not have to give their resignation until 31 May, (for September) and as staff do not have to disclose their intentions, Mrs Farthing will not know who is staying or who is going until that date.

An issue which can often occur is that teachers may resign at the latest date and replacing them becomes problematic because prospective candidates cannot resign from their current posts until the following autumn. This is a common

situation in many schools and must be managed carefully by the Senior Leadership Team in order to ensure the high standards expected of our teachers are maintained year on year.

Parents want their children to know who their class teacher is going to be and often feel frustrated; it may even appear as though the school is disorganised. This is not the case. There is a hive of recruitment activity and class allocation going on behind the scenes; please try not to worry and we will keep you informed as much as we are able!

NSPCC SHAREAWARE CAMPAIGN

The NSPCC have updated their #ShareAware campaign with new resources to enable parents and carers to 'untangle' the online world and to help them teach children to be 'Share Aware'.

The ShareAware campaign focuses on the need to talk to children about online safety, much like we do "real" world safety such as crossing the road, bullying and speaking to strangers. These resources can be found by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.kelsi.org.uk/news-and-events/news/primary/nspcc-launch-new-tools-to-help-parents-ensure-children-are-shareaware>

E-SAFETY

In the ever changing cyber world we live in it is vital that we keep internet safety at the forefront of our minds (and our conversations with our children). The E-Safety Group at school meets in order to discuss new risks and ensure the school employs all necessary safeguarding measures. We would like to remind parents that **children are not allowed to bring in any electronic devices to school**. The only exception is children in Years 5 or 6 who are permitted to bring in a mobile phone which is handed in at registration and collected at the end of the day. This is agreed by school as children in upper KS2 can walk home without a parent or carer.

YEAR 5 – PESE 2018 (11+ KENT TEST)

Registration for the 11+ opens on the 1 June and closes on the 3 July. Parents will be able to register online by visiting www.kent.gov.uk/ola, or fill in a paper registration form, which will be available at the office after 1 June.

MIDDAY SUPERVISORS

Is your child now at school? Are you looking for a little part time job, during term time? In September we will have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor, 5 hours a week. If you would like to find out more information about joining our friendly dedicated team then please contact Mrs Zimmer in the office. Thank you.

YEAR 6 HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Parents of our current Year 6 children will need to apply to Kent County Council for transport to secondary schools using Form T1. You can apply online www.kent.gov.uk/schooltransport or paper copies are available from the office. Applications must be made by the end of July to ensure the travel pass is ready for the start of term in September.

PTA NEWS

SUMMER FAIR NEWS

There is less than a month now to the school fair, and preparations are finally under way. We would like to thank everyone so far who has supported the school and sent in Crockery, Teddies, entered the Guess how much pasta competition, and especially the keen helpers who have offered their help on the day.

We are still in need of some helpers though so even if you can only help for half an hour it will be greatly appreciated. Please either return your help slips, or see the sheets which will be up at classroom doors (from next week; just add your name and number in your preferred time slot, and we will be able to allocate a slot for you. Alternatively, contact Anita Moore on 07967 405021.

We are happy for you to bring your children with you and let them help and join in on the stall too, and don't forget if you offer to help you will be entered into draw to win a bottle of Prosecco.

Please keep a look out in the following weeks for further updates either in the newsletter or our board.

MEMBERSHIP

We are still actively looking for a new Chairperson to come and join our existing friendly team and work with us for the benefit of the children and the school.

We are also looking for any new members who could join the PTA or just help where they can.

If anyone is interested in joining the PTA or would like more information then please contact Anita Moore (Vice Chair) 07967 405021 or leave your details with the office.

COMMUNITY NEWS

THE GREAT GET TOGETHER (INSPIRED BY JO COX) – SUNDAY JUNE 18

All Saints' Church invites you to bring your picnic lunch to the churchyard on Sunday 18 June from 12.30pm to 3.00pm. Come along and enjoy this beautiful space in the heart of our village, meet new people and celebrate the fact that Staplehurst is a great place to live.

There will be a Treasure Hunt, tea, coffee and soft drinks available, and guided tours of the church. Just bring something to sit on, and your picnic.

For more information about this national event visit: <https://www.greatgettogether.org/>

MAIDSTONE GRAMMAR SCHOOL – FANTASTIC MR FOX

On Thursday 22 June and Friday 23 June there will be a MGS Lower School Production of Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl which will take place at the school at 7.00pm. If you would like to attend tickets are £5 and can be purchased from the school Bursary or at the door on the night (provided it has not sold out.)

DISCO NIGHT

On Friday 23 June the Year 6 are holding a Disco at Staplehurst cricket Club to help raise funds for their leavers' party. The disco is from 5pm – 7pm, Tickets are £5 and will be on sale at the school gate or you may contact Jo Crafter on 07808 502401. The disco is for children in Years 3 – 6. Numbers will be limited so get your tickets early.

SMARDEN PRE-SCHOOL CHARITY EVENT

On Saturday 24 June there will be a charity gig night presented by Smarden Pre-School at Smarden Charter Hall from 8pm. Tickets for the Raspberry Hedgehogs are £5 in advance or £7 on the night and are on sale at Smarden Butchers, Post Office and the Pre-School. For any enquiries please ring Mel on 07803 929121.

TONBRIDGE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CLUB

On Saturday 1 July, from 09.45 – 11.30, Tonbridge Junior Football Club are hosting a Girls Football Open Day. All training is provided by qualified FA Coaches. Please make sure they bring shin pads and a drink. This is open to girls in Year 3, 4, & 5. For more information please contact tonbridgejuniors@gmail.com

CHARITY SHOW JUMPING EVENT

On Sunday 2 July, Sutton Valence School will be hosting a Charity Show Jumping Event at Duckhurst Farm, Staplehurst The event is in support of Riding for the Disabled. Classes will be from 40cm to 1m and there will be sashes and mini trophies for first place and individuals. All competitors will receive a goodie bag. For further information or to book online please visit www.svs.org.uk/SVSShowjumping.aspx

GARAGE SALE SAFARI

Staplehurst Under 5s Playgroup are once again organising a Garage Sale Safari on Saturday 15 July. Staplehurst residents are invited to sell their unwanted items as part of a boot fair extravaganza with a twist.

The Garage Sale Safari gives you the opportunity to sell your unwanted items, without having to leave the comfort of your own home. You can even offer a refreshment stand, or similar if you prefer. Simply set up shop on your drive, or within your garden and let your customers come to you.

Stall holders pay just £6 to be plotted on the map, which will be available to bargain hunters from Helen's coffee shop on the day of the event. Please email under5events@gmail.com to secure your address on the map. Find out more information on the event Facebook page.

DIARY DATES**Wednesday 21 June**

Choir Trip to Lion King Performance

Thursday 22 June

Sports Day

Friday 23 June

Non Uniform Day – 6L only

Thursday 29 June

Back Up Sports Day

Friday 30 June

Non Uniform Day for donations to PTA Tombola (not 6T)
6T MGS Air Raid Shelter Visit

Friday 7 July

Non Uniform Day – 6T only

Tuesday 11 July

Year 6 Leavers' Performance to Parents (2pm)

Wednesday 12 July

Year 6 Leavers' Performance to Parents (7pm)

Wednesday 19 July

Year 6 Leavers' Party

Thursday 20 July

End of Term

Friday 21 July

INSET Day

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

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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.