

STAPLEHURST SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

SCHOOL NEWS

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

“Children always come first. They are our future.”

Dear Parents & Carers,

Another week of great learning for all of our children. Learning Ambassadors have been very productive; they have scripted, and rehearsed, short videos to explain what learning looks like from a pupil perspective: these will be available to view soon on our website!

Attendance continues to be a real strength since our return this academic year: in particular there is a significant reduction in lates – keep up the fabulous effort everyone!

Thank you so much everyone for adopting our new pick up and drop off systems, and maintaining social distancing. This now means that we are able to maximise our learning time in school. Please remember that if you have any problems collecting your children at the end of the day, that it is essential that you inform the school office. Unfortunately we are not able to supervise children after 3.20pm.

OFSTED Parent View

Could I ask that you register your views about our school by completing Ofsted’s online survey, Ofsted Parent View, at: <http://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk>

This survey gives you the opportunity to give your views and opinions on our school to Ofsted and needs to be completed every academic year. This will allow us to identify our strengths, and how we continue to improve our provision for your child.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Miss Davenport
Headteacher

CURRICULUM NEWS

EARLY YEARS

This week we have been comparing objects by weighing them. We used the scales to compare our toys and equipment, developing our mathematical vocabulary such as heavy and lighter. We have also enjoyed making repeating patterns, firstly using body percussion, then with cubes and other equipment.



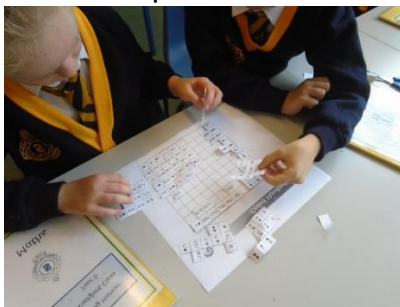
YEAR 4

Children in Year 4 made their Ancient Greek pots this week using clay. They need to make a coil pot, by rolling their clay into sausage and smoothing the joins with their fingers. Lots of fun and learning by all.



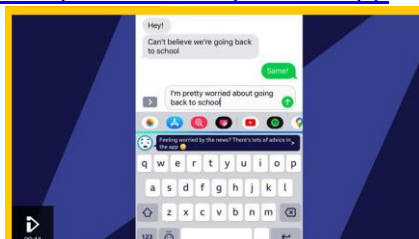
YEAR 5

We have used their reasoning and problem solving skills in maths this week to crack the code and create a new 100 square. The children worked in pairs and showed great resilience and teamwork.



For children in years five and six with mobile phones, the Own IT app gives you advice when you need, helping you to make smart choices and stay safe online!

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/take-control/own-it-app>





Internet Safety Newsletter

Winter 2020



Websites Worth A Look

There are a number of useful websites that can give parents and carers information about the apps they hear their child talking about and wanting to use. A useful place to start finding out more is

<https://nationalonlinesafety.com/guides>



There are parental guides for apps such as Minecraft, TikTok, Fortnite as well as guides covering mental health, cyber-bullying and social media. The guides can be viewed or downloaded and include safety tips for Parents and Carers.

Swiggle is a free child friendly search engine from online safety experts at the South West Grid for Learning. Swiggle has been designed to help support your child when searching for information and images online. Generic search engines can often throw up inappropriate content but Swiggle is built on Google's Safe Search technology and encourages user to report any inappropriate content. You can even install a screen cover widget to cover the screen if your child comes across something they don't like.



Year 5 and 6



If your child has just been given their first phone, or you are thinking of getting them one shortly, it is worth knowing about the BBC Own It App (available in the App Store or Google Play).

This BBC app provides a helping hand to your child as they receive their first smartphone, helping them to make smarter and more informed choices and supporting their digital wellbeing.

Using a combination of self-reporting and 'machine learning', the app builds up a picture of your child's digital wellbeing and serves relevant content, information and interventions designed to help your child understand the impact that their online behaviours can have on themselves, and on others e.g the app will intervene and ask a child to "think safe" if typing in an e-mail address or mobile phone number and sharing this information.

You can find out more information about this app by going to:

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/about-us/own-it-app-faqs>