

Staplehurst School



NEWSLETTER

PRIDE

Positivity

Respect

Independence

Determination

Excellence

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

SCHOOL NEWS

BRINGING THE OUTDOORS INTO THE CLASSROOM

We were delighted to be contacted by Millbrook Garden Centre to take part in their 'Bring the Outdoors in' campaign. This is a brand new campaign to encourage people to home a variety of environmentally-friendly houseplants to improve living spaces inside homes, schools, hospitals and offices. Studies have proved that houseplants are hugely beneficial to health as they improve concentration and productivity, purify the air and boost mood.

The children from our Eco Committee were very excited to meet the Millbrook Team on Wednesday and choose the plants for the school. We look forward to seeing the results!



PARKING

Please do not block the entrance to the school gates when dropping off children for Breakfast Club as staff are arriving through the gates at this time. Parents are responsible for their children's safety until they are within the school building.

MENU CHANGE

Please note that the pudding on Mondays in Week 1 will now be iced sponge rather than rice pudding.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	Class	Time/Location
1 Feb	1/S6	9.00am Infant Hall
8 Feb	4H13	2.30pm Junior Hall
15 Mar	4S14	2.30pm Junior Hall
29 Mar	Early Years	9.00am Infant Hall
3 May	3T12	2.30pm Junior Hall
10 May	3G11	2.30pm Junior Hall
7 Jun	2O9	9.00am Infant Hall
14 Jun	2KS8	9.00am Infant Hall

ATTENDANCE

The Department for Education's target for attendance is 95%. We always strive for 100%.

Whole school attendance

Attendance for the whole school for the week is **94.29%**

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **4S14** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a perfect **100%**.

PUPIL PREMIUM

Did you know that if you are on a low income and claiming benefits you may qualify for extra funding for your child and we would be able to help with costs for Breakfast Club, school trips and school uniform?

To receive this support you must apply for free school meals, even if your child is in Years R-3, but it is not necessary for your child to eat a school dinner, they may bring a packed lunch if they prefer.

If you think you might qualify and would like us to make an application for you, all we need is your National Insurance number and your date of birth. We can do this over the phone so please speak to a member of staff in the office in confidence.

COUGH SWEETS & LIP BALMS

Please may we remind you that if children need to bring cough sweets with them to school they must be handed into the office and may be administered at breaks and lunchtime.

Lip Balms may be brought into school if they are needed but they should not be coloured or flavoured. Children may keep them in their coat pocket and use them during breaks and lunchtimes. Any other use is at the discretion of their class teacher. They are the responsibility of the child and should not be shared with other children. Thank you for your co-operation.

DONATIONS PLEASE

Spare Clothes: If anyone has any spare clothes for ages 5-8 years, particularly trousers, pants and socks, they would be gratefully received, especially in Early Years.

Wet Play Games: If anyone has some suitable unwanted board games that our children could use for wet play they would be gratefully received.

Please bring them into the office, or hand them to your child's class teacher and they will be allocated to the appropriate year group.

LIBRARY VOLUNTEERS

We would like to hear from anyone who has a spare lunchtime during the week and would like to come in a help our Year 5 Library Monitors keep the library tidy. Please contact the lovely ladies in the office.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 28.01.19 Year 5, 4, 6

w/c 04.02.19 Year 4, 6, 5

PRIMARY ADMISSIONS 2019

If you have a child born between 1 September 2014 and 31 August 2015, you need to apply for their place at a primary school. You must submit one application per child, even if you already have a sibling at school. Applying online is quick, simple and convenient. Go to www.kent.gov.uk/ola and you must apply by 31 January 2019.

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 via ParentMail and also publish a message on our website and Facebook page.

LOST PROPERTY

One of our pupils dropped their Fitbit watch just outside the school gates. The watch straps were found, but unfortunately not the watch part. If anyone has found it please hand it in to the school office so it may be returned to its owner.

STAFF CHANGES

We are sorry to be saying goodbye to Miss Nelson who has left us today. Miss Nelson has been a Teaching Assistant here for nearly two years and has also been a member of the Breakfast Club team. She will be missed by staff and children alike and we would like to take this opportunity to thank her for everything she has done during her time here at Staplehurst School.

PTA NEWS

300 CLUB

January's draw took place today and the winners are:

1 st Prize:	Parents of Ronan L
2 nd Prize:	Grandparents of Diya and Rohan C
3 rd Prize:	Parents of Matthew W

Prizes can be collected from the office.

It's not too late to join in the fun so if you fancy a chance to win please complete the 300 club form (available from the office) and return to school with £8 per number for membership for the next 8 draws.

FUNDRAISING NEWS

We have received over £160 commission from 'My Child's Art' as a result of all the orders placed by parents for their child's Christmas cards. Thank you to all those who placed orders.

With the money raised from the Christmas events we have been able to help the school purchase 8 more ipads, which takes the total the school has up to 30, so there is now a full class set. In addition we are paying a theatre production for year 6 to help prepare them for the transition to secondary school.

A really easy way you can help the PTA raise money for the school is by shopping online through Easy Fundraising. Go to easyfundraising.org.uk and search for Staplehurst PTA, then it takes seconds to register and every time you shop on line, the retailer will give a percentage donation to Staplehurst School PTA! Why not make easyfundraising.org.uk your homepage?

COMMUNITY NEWS

FLU VACCINATION – ADDITIONAL CLINICS

We have been advised by that due to unprecedented demand and winter pressures there will be additional flu vaccination clinics for any children in Years R to 5 who did not receive this at the school session last term.

Appointments can be booked by calling the Immunisation Service on 0300 123 5205 and consent forms will be available on the day. Please note these are not drop in clinics.

Saturday 26 January 2019 (10am - 13.30pm)

Tonbridge Cottage Hospital, Vauxhall Lane, Tonbridge, Kent, TN11 0NE

Monday 28 January 2019 (15.30 - 17:30pm)

Medway Maritime Hospital, Magpies Centre, Level 2, Green Zone, Windmill Road, Gillingham, ME7 5NY

Tuesday 29 January 2019 (15.00pm - 16.30pm)

Exchange House, Thomas Way, Lakesview International Business Park, Hersden, Canterbury, CT3 4NH

Tuesday 29 January 2019 (16.45 - 18.45pm)

Gravesham Community Hospital, Room 6, Bath Street, Gravesend, DA11 0GG

Tuesday 29 January 2019 (15.30 – 18.30pm)

Royal Victoria Hospital, Art Room, Radnor Park Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT19 5BN

STAPLEHURST MESSY CHURCH

On Saturday 2 February at Staplehurst United Reformed Church, there will be the usual messy fun which is open for everyone who wants to come and enjoy some games, crafts, singing, story and prayer with tea together afterwards. This month they are thinking about Gideon, a character in the bible who didn't think he was anything special, but God had a special job for him to do - reminding us that God sees something special in each of us. They will be making edible fire on a rock, doves of peace, test tube vases, a huge poster for Church and some physical challenges to keep everyone busy! Doors open at 3.30pm; the Messy Church Team look forward to seeing you there!

STAPLEHURST CRICKET & TENNIS CLUB

Swallows & Amazons is a new fun and fitness programme for 6-9 year olds delivered by qualified coaches from Staplehurst Cricket & Tennis Club. It is focused on developing balance, co-ordination, reactions, speed, and resilience through running, throwing, lifting, kicking, catching and general play. An 8 week indoor pilot will run on Thursday evenings – 5.00-6.00 pm – at the Weald Sports Centre from February 7 to March 28 inclusive.

The winter cricket training programme for all Under-11 squad players takes place on the same dates from 6.00-7.00pm, also at the Weald Sports Centre. All existing and new Year 5 and 6 boys and girls are welcome to join this preparatory programme looking forward to the outdoor season.

Both programmes are FREE for junior Club members and new members are welcome at the junior subscription rate of only £3 per month payable by direct debit. For more information and to book, email info@staplehurstcricket.com or leave a message on the Club's Facebook page.

STAPLEHURST GIRLS FOOTBALL

Staplehurst Monarchs are looking for more girls to come and play football with the Monarchs & If you are in year 2 or 3 we have spaces in the Under 8 team.

If you are interested in giving football a try please contact Staplehurst Monarchs Youth via the Facebook page or email ghaywood@tiscali.co.uk.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Calling all budding young singers! All Saints Staplehurst has started a new children's choir *Sing!* running on Friday evenings from 6.00pm until 6.50pm. They sing a wide selection of music and look to find opportunities to perform. The choir meets weekly and new members are always welcome, just come along and see if it's for you – best suited to children age 7 and up. No need to be a congregation member. Find them at the back of the church on the right – see you there! Any questions please call Jacqui on 07796 487538.

DIARY DATES**Wednesday 30 January**

Owl Academy Visit (Year R & 1)

Friday 1 February

Class 1/26 Celebration Assembly (9.00am)

Friday 8 February

Class 4H13 Celebration Assembly (2.30pm)

Monday 18 – Friday 22 February

Half Term

ADMIN

Online payments - This is the preferred method. Please pay online for School Dinners, Trips, Uniform and Equipment (via ParentMail) and Breakfast Club (via Scopay).

Dinner Money queries and payments - Please contact Maxine on 07501 007835.

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