

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

WELCOME EARLY YEARS

This has been the first week of school for our new Reception classes. They have settled extremely well and we hope that they will be very happy during their time at Staplehurst School.

GARDENING CLUB SUCCESS

Congratulations to the children and helpers in our Gardening Club for their success at the Village Horticultural Flower Show. They swept the board beating some more experienced and older gardeners to win 7 Firsts, 4 Seconds and 1 Third of the 14 Classes they entered! Thank you to Chris Ralph and her band of volunteers who work extremely hard with the children each week and who also help keep our grounds looking so lovely.



ALIENS HAVE LANDED!

In year 1 this week the children were disturbed by an almighty banging and crashing noise coming from the playground outside their classrooms. When they went to investigate they found that a peculiar looking spaceship had crash-landed in the school! Upon closer inspection, some children found a trail of footprints leading away from the spaceship.... Fortunately the children were able to track down their alien friend Beegu and teach her some of the wonderful things about life here on earth.



THANKS

Huge thanks to the Staplehurst Society, and Bill Piper in particular, who have been very helpful in supplying the school with photographs of Staplehurst needed for the Year 1 geography topic 'Our local Area'.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 17.09.18 Year 5, 6, 3, 4

w/c 24.09.18 Year 6, 3, 4, 5

START OF THE SCHOOL DAY

The first morning bell rings at 8.35am and children should arrive promptly in class ready to start work by 8.45am when the register is taken.

WELCOME BACK BBQ AND GAMES

The teachers and PTA would like to thank everyone who came to the welcome back BBQ on Saturday. It was great to see so many of our families, both new and old, join us and parents and children had a fantastic time playing rounders, welly wanging and tucking into the delicious food from the BBQ.



SCIENCE FUN IN YEAR 4

In science this week, Year 4 has been investigating the functions of the different teeth that we use for chewing food. The children ate various food types to see which particular teeth were used for different foods. The children found these exercises lots of fun!



ONE WAY SYSTEM FOR CARS

Can we please remind parents there is an unofficial one way system for approaching and leaving the school by car. Please **drive up Fletcher Road and then turn right into Gybbon Rise, exiting at Offens Drive**. Thank you for your cooperation as this will help relieve congestion and help make it easier to cross the road.

Please also be considerate when parking as we had an incident this week where a transport ambulance could not get through because cars were parked across drives and next to the bollards on the corner.

IMPROVING SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

Don't forget to register for ParentMail if you haven't already done so. We are now using ParentMail for our communications and payments so it's important that we are able to keep in touch with you. Please note that ParentMail cannot facilitate Breakfast Club at the moment so please continue to use Scopay for payments.

If you are experiencing any difficulties please contact the office.

SERIOUS ILLNESS IN SCHOOL

Just a reminder that if there was an outbreak of a serious illness within the school that could affect other children we would notify parents and carers immediately.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We still have spaces in the following Clubs for which joining letters are available from the office:

Basketball Club (Years 5&6)
Football Club (Years 5&6)
Netball Club (Years 5&6)
Choir (Years 3,4,5&6)
Science (Year 3)

Art Club has proved extremely popular and is now full. Please note this Club will start after half term and will be on **Friday**.

HOME SCHOOL CONTACT BOOKS

The Home School Contact Books have now been issued to children – these are invaluable and provide an important communication link between parents and teachers. However, they are expensive to produce so we ask that you keep them safe and look after them. If the book is lost there will be a £2 charge to replace it.

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN SESSIONS FOR YR 6

Look out for open events being offered at the secondary schools in the area as they are now being promoted on school websites.

Please note that attendance at the sessions offered during school hours will only be authorised for pupils in Year 6.

YR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

You can apply for a place online at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places> or paper application forms are available from the school office.

The closing date is **Wednesday 31 October 2018** (parents of children who took the Kent Test (11+) will be notified of the results on **Thursday 11 October**).

The National Offer Day is **Friday 1 March 2019**. Emails are sent after **4pm** and letters are sent **1st class**.

Places should be accepted or declined by **Friday 15 March 2019**.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED

We are looking for a person/s to spare an hour or two a week and come and listen to our pupils across the school read. If you are happy to complete an application form and undergo a DBS Check we would love to hear from you. Training and support will be given by Mrs Seymour so if you are interested please contact the office.

NEW MEMBERS OF STAFF

Apologies from last week's newsletter as we omitted to give a warm welcome to Miss Cook (Class 5C) who has also joined us this year.

DONATIONS PLEASE

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.

FOR SALE

Pianos

If anyone would like to buy two pianos we have for sale please speak to the office. We are willing to take offers and Mrs Seal is happy to show them to anyone interested. Buyer must be able to collect.

Table Tennis Tables

We also have two table tennis tables for sale - brand new in packaging. If anyone would like to buy one we are willing to sell them for £150 each. Buyer must be able to collect.

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 **97.21%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **EYD** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic **100%**.

HARLEQUIN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Harlequin would like to recruit staff locally for the After School Club which has now opened its doors here at Staplehurst School. They are recruiting trained and untrained staff to work alongside their trained team.

Hours will be 7-26 hours per week. Paid annual leave, company pension, etc.

If you would like more information please email alison@hosc.co.uk

All children from the Reception up to the Year 6 are welcome to attend the after-school club. Places must be booked in advance and you can book 1 – 5 afternoons per week.

At After School Club, a team of staff collect the children from their class at the end of their school day just as a parent would. We provide a healthy snack with a drink at about 4:00pm, which is always popular. The children then have the chance to experience the huge variety of resources and planned activities on offer within our quiet area, active area and craft area. Harlequin will also have use of the outside play spaces on the school grounds. After School Club finishes at either 6:00pm or 6:30pm, depending what is booked.

PTA NEWS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We are fortunate to have an active and supportive PTA. The PTA Annual General Meeting is being held on Tuesday 18 September at 7pm and all parents/carers are welcome.

The PTA have helped provide much needed resources over the years and have worked tirelessly to think of new exciting fund raising events. So if you would like to join them, why not pop along and see what they are all about.

BINGO

There will be a Family Bingo Night on Saturday 6 October at 6pm. Tickets will go on sale very soon. Tickets will be £5 for adults and £3 for children. Bring your own drink and nibbles and join in the fun!

COMMUNITY NEWS

SUMMER AND HARVEST ACTIVITIES

All Saints Church welcomes everyone to join in an end of summer morning of free crafts and activities from 9.30 until 12 tomorrow, Saturday September 15 2018. Pop along for a fun time, making and doing; refreshments will be available.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 18 September

PTA Annual General Meeting (7pm)

Wednesday 19 September

Year 1 Meet the Teacher (3.30pm)

Thursday 20 September

Year 6 Meeting (3.30pm)

Wednesday 3 October

Year 5 Trip to Drusillas

Thursday 4 October

Year R Class Photos by Kent Messenger

Saturday 6 October

PTA BINGO Night (6pm)

ADMIN

Online payments - This is the preferred method. Please pay online for School Dinners, Trips, Swimming, 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.