

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

ANGLO-SAXON POO EXPLORATION

Year 4 had great fun this week excavating coprolites from the past to see what Anglo-Saxons ate! We found that they ate mostly fruit and vegetables, and discovered that it was mainly the rich that ate meat, as they could afford to have the animals slaughtered. The children found it very funny when we learned that they mostly drank beer all the time, as the water was very dirty and full of disease. They thought that a few of their Dad's might have liked to have lived in Anglo-Saxon times!



MATHS DROP IN – 6 NOVEMBER

On Tuesday 6 November Parents and Carers are invited to come into school between 3.15 to 4.00pm to see how maths is taught in each year group. You will be able to look at books and be given information about the methods used to teach maths in each year group. You can move around the school looking at different years. Some pupils (Maths Ambassadors) will man tables in each class, showing how and what they learn. You will also be able to pick up a copy of our Calculation Policy.

FLU VACCINATION

Today, all parents of children in Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 will receive information from School Nursing regarding the Government Flu Vaccination Programme. The vaccination is administered by way of a nasal spray and will take place here at Staplehurst School on Wednesday, 14 November.

SITE SECURITY UPDATE

For many parents, security at the school has been a concern and we are pleased to report that after a lot of hard work, funding was secured and the work has at last begun. The project includes video entry control of the gates, access control on some internal doors and upgrading some of the fencing. We are looking forward to this work being completed by the end of the half term break.

AN EASIER WAY TO BOOK TEACHER CONSULTATIONS APPOINTMENTS

From next week we will be using Parents Evening Manager on ParentMail – so you can book your parents' evening appointments from your smartphone, tablet or computer.

You will be alerted instantly once the appointment booking goes live and will be able to select appointment times that are convenient to you. It's all very straightforward, but if you need help you can visit the ParentMail help site: <https://www.parentmail.co.uk/help/parenthelp/> or pop into the office for assistance.

Please note, you will need to be registered on ParentMail to be able to book appointments – if you haven't received a registration email or text, please contact the school office.

Once registered, if you have an Android or Apple smartphone, we would highly recommend you download the ParentMail App so you can book appointments on your phone as soon as the appointment booking goes live! To do this, simply search for "ParentMail" in your App store.

If you do not wish to book your parents' evening appointment online, you can simply contact the school office where we will book appointments for you.

If you have any issues or queries with the process please contact Sharon Clark or Rebecca Cooper in the school office as soon as possible.

HOLIDAYS DURING TERM-TIME

Please be aware that requests to take children out of school for holidays during term-time will not be approved and may incur a request for a penalty notice to be issued. The fine is £60 per parent, per child. The fine rises to £120 if paid after 21 days but this must be paid within 28 days.

SCHOOL PREMISES

For safeguarding reasons parents and carers must leave the school grounds as soon as they have collected their children at the end of the school day. Children should not be playing on the equipment in the playgrounds or the ramps outside the classrooms in the Early Years block.

DOGS ON SCHOOL SITE

Reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school site at any time.

BREAKTIME SNACKS

Early Years and KS1 are offered a daily snack of fruit and/or vegetables. This is provided by the Government.

In KS2, please note that unless your child has a special dietary requirement, they should only be bringing in a piece of fruit or vegetables for morning break.

SCHOOL BEHAVIOUR POLICY

In line with our school vision we are committed to providing a caring, friendly and safe environment for all members of our school community so that they can learn and work in a relaxed and secure atmosphere. **Bullying of any kind is unacceptable at our school.** If bullying does occur, everybody should be able to tell someone and know that incidents will be dealt with promptly and effectively. We are a **telling** school. This means that *anyone* who knows that bullying is happening is expected to tell someone who can help.

However, we feel it is important that our parents understand that bullying is behaviour that is repeated over time that intentionally hurts another individual either physically or emotionally. Not all behaviour in the playground should be interpreted as 'bullying' but you can be assured that we have a commitment to dealing with any instances promptly:

All reported instances are:

- Logged on our system
- Investigated thoroughly
- Dealt with appropriately

We at Staplehurst School understand our responsibility to respond promptly and effectively with any behaviour that is not in line with our expectations.

VOMITING OR DIARRHOEA

If your child suffers a bout of sickness or diarrhoea they should not return to school until after a minimum of 24 hours after the last episode of illness.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 15.10.18 Year 5, 6, 3, 4

w/c 29.10.18 Year 6, 3, 4, 6

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Following our appeal to support the Maidstone Day Care Centre we were delighted to hand over a bountiful selection of produce which was greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.



CHANGE OF MENU NEXT WEEK

Due to an equipment failure in the kitchen there will be a change to the puddings on offer next week:

Monday – rice pudding

Tuesday – jelly as usual

Wednesday – yum yum

The new mixer has arrived and the menu will return to normal after Half Term.

On Thursday, the menu will be the Friday menu from Week 1.

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 **94.44%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **4S14** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic **99.52%**.

YR6 – KINGSWOOD TRIP 2019

Please note that the deadline to pay the deposit for Kingswood next year is **20 October**. The method of payment is by credit/debit card through ParentMail. If you are experiencing any payment difficulties please speak to the office in confidence.

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**).

FOR SALE

Pianos

We still have one piano for sale so please speak to the office. We are willing to take offers and Mrs Seal is happy to show the piano 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.

HARLEQUIN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

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

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

HARLEQUIN HOLIDAY CLUB

Harlequin's holiday club will be open in the October holiday at Coxheath Primary School.

The key points are:

- Open 7.30am – 6.30pm
- Half days are available.
- Childcare vouchers are accepted
- As an Ofsted registered setting, parents can claim tax credits if using Harlequin.
- As many or as few days as needed can be booked.
- High staff:child ratios
- Outings
- Different activities planned each day

Please contact enquiries@hosc.co.uk for further information or go to the website www.hosc.co.uk

PTA NEWS

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM SALE

The PTA will be holding a second-hand uniform sale on **Thursday 18 October**, in the Junior Hall (or outside, weather permitting). The sale will open about **2.45pm** so that you can come and shop before collecting children. Good quality used uniform - everything at 50p.

HALLOWEEN & FIREWORKS CAKE SALE

Friday 2 November

Spooky or sparkly? but always yummy! Please bring donations of cakes into the office on Friday morning, and come and buy something delicious after school in the Junior Hall (or outside, weather permitting). Please name any cake tins and they will be left in the office for you to collect. Bought cakes are very welcome but please keep them in their original packaging.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

All the Christmas drawings have now been uploaded onto the www.mychildsart.co.uk website. To view the artwork log in with the following unique codes shown below:

Username: **Staplehurst**
Password: **HvasfmrA**

We hope lots of you will wish to order Christmas cards and other Christmas gifts with your child's design on which will help support the school.

300 CLUB

Lots of numbers already have been 'bought' for the year which is fantastic. The closing date for entries is **Wednesday 17 October**, with the first draw taking place after half term. The office will be happy to supply you with another letter if you need. The more people that enter...the bigger the prizes!

OUR PTA SHED

Our PTA shed which we use to store lots of our resources in, is in a very poor condition. Water gets in through the roof and this can ruin our equipment. We would love a company to donate a shed to us in return for promotion on the shed and on the school's Facebook page. If you are someone who can help (or know someone) please get in touch with us via the school office. Thank you.

DONATIONS PLEASE

The PTA is preparing a new library and want to make it a welcoming place that's cosy for the children. If anyone has any clean cushions or beanbags they would be willing to donate they would be very gratefully received.

COMMUNITY NEWS

STAPLEHURST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Tonight is Quiz and Chips Night at Staplehurst School from 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Entrance is £6 per person at the door with an optional fish and chips supper for £6 per person. Alternatively call 01580 892665 before 5 October and you can get a 6 person table package including food for £60! Maximum tables of 6 and all proceeds to Staplehurst Horticultural Society.

LIGHT PARTY AT STAPLEHURST FREE CHURCH

Prefer not to take your children out trick or treating on Halloween? Why not come along to this Light Party instead?

Parents/carers and their child(ren) are all very welcome to come to this **free** event being organised by Staplehurst Free Church on Wednesday 31 October between 4 and 6pm.

There will be plenty of arts and crafts activities, along with games including apple bobbing.

Something for all ages; from preschool up to about age 8 but older siblings are very welcome to join in too!

Please bring a named plate of party food for your own child(ren) to eat at teatime, so that they can ensure children with allergies and/or intolerances are not accidentally given something unsuitable for them. Free Squash will be provided and free tea/coffee will be available for the adults.

FOOTIE MAD GIRLS!

Staplehurst Monarchs Youth FC are looking to get more players (Years 2 and 3) for their new U8 Girls team. They train at the school on Saturday mornings and will soon start to play matches against other teams. If your daughter would like to give it a go, please email them (smufc1@yahoo.co.uk) and they send you more details.

HOLIDAY FOOTBALL COURSE

Football Five Star will be holding their next holiday courses at Jubilee Sports Field on the 24 and 25 October. You can book your child's place at the following link:

www.footballfivestarr.co.uk/enrol.php

These courses have proved to be very popular so please book early to avoid disappointment!

DIARY DATES

Thursday 18 October

Second-Hand Uniform Sale (2.45pm)

Friday 19 October

INSET Day

Friday 2 November

Halloween & Fireworks Cake Sale

Tuesday 6 November

Maths Drop In (3.15-4pm)

Wednesday 14 November

Flu Vaccinations Year R - 5

Thursday 29 November

Year 6 Trip to Kent Life

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.