

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

### PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR

HO, HO, HO, the Christmas Fair is at school tomorrow!!

Come along and join Santa and his Elves from 12 noon until 3.00pm. See the school transformed into a winter wonderland. There will be children's crafts, mulled wine, crepes, games, singing and a range of shopping stalls. Entry is by donation and all proceeds will go towards the School.

### SCHOOL LIBRARY

The most amazing reading tree has grown in the new School Library. We are in awe of the creative talents of Mrs Seakens and the children's reactions to the new addition have been great to see. The official opening of the Library is on Friday, 14 December so watch this space!



### YEAR 6 TRIP TO KENT LIFE

Year 6 enjoyed a busy visit to Kent Life yesterday, where they took part in a range of inspiring workshops, including homeguard drill instruction, calculating bearing to launch an attack on Berlin and how to make rag rugs. The children's costumes were superb and the children were a credit to the school.



### VIKING LONGBOATS

Year 4 have had great fun learning about the Vikings this term, and this week we have made our own Viking longboats to travel the high seas! Both classes enjoyed these art lessons, and we are sure you will agree, made some amazing creations!



### SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 03.12.18 Year 5, 4, 3, 6

w/c 10.12.18 Year 4, 3, 6, 5

## KS1 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE

### Tickets

Don't forget to send your ticket requests in by **Tuesday 4 December**.

### Sheep Costume

Early Years need one more sheep costume for the Nativity scene. If anyone has one to fit a 4/5 age child that they would be happy to lend us please contact the office. Thank you.

## CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND FESTIVE JUMPERS

Wednesday 12 December is Christmas Lunch Day. The children are waited on by the staff and there is a festive atmosphere. To get everyone in the Christmas mood, children are invited to wear a festive style jumper in place of their normal school jumper or cardigan that day. Students are expected to wear the rest of their uniform as they would normally. Festive jumpers may include a wintery pattern or an image linked to Christmas. Students are also able to decorate jumpers to create their own festive jumper if they wish.

Please note this is a fun event for the children to enjoy and we will not be seeking donations. Normal lessons will, of course, take place on this day.

## BREAKFAST CLUB

Children arriving at Breakfast Club should be here no later than 8am to ensure they have time to eat their breakfast meal. Children arriving late may not have the opportunity to receive a meal but the minimum charge of £3.00 will still apply.

## LATE ARRIVALS

There are still a number of children arriving late in the mornings. This is not only unsettling for the children who arrive late but their late arrival also disrupts the class for the other children. The first bell goes at 8.35am and the second bell goes at 8.45am. Making sure you get your child to school on time instills a good work ethic in them from a very early age, helping them to continue this through to their secondary education and beyond into employment. After the second bell has rung all pupils should be brought into school via the office as they **must be signed in by an adult**.

## AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

If your child is unable to attend an after school club please ensure they tell the teacher concerned or the school office. This avoids raising concerns if a child is not accounted for when the club register is taken.

## ABSENCE DUE TO SICKNESS

May we remind parents that if your child has sickness or diarrhoea, PLEASE ensure they have been well for at least 24 hours before returning to school. If your child has been repeatedly ill, we ask that you allow the full 48 hours.

## DOGS ON SCHOOL SITE

This is a reminder that dogs are not allowed on the school site at any time.

## 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 **92.25%**

### Class attendance

Special congratulations to **6W16** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic **98.92%**.

## 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. The application process opens on Monday 5 November at [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola) and you must apply by 31 January 2019.

## SITE SECURITY UPDATE

The fencing is now finished and work is partially completed on the main gates. Visitors to the school during the day need to press the intercom on the gate for access. When leaving the site you will need to press the green button to exit. It is essential that the gate is closed behind you.

## HARLEQUIN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

Some of the netball team, who also attend Harlequin, knew just how much noise the Harlequin children can make and invited Harlequin to cheer them on in their match last week against Boughton Monchelsea Primary School. With banner made and chant composed, the netball team had some first class supporters cheering them on. Gosh, they were loud! They must have helped as the School A team won 16-0 and the B team drew 1-1.



If you would like to visit Harlequin just to see what they do, you would be very welcome. Please contact Alison to book a day and time. Even if you just want to be nosey – do go. The children do some fantastic activities. You can claim tax credits for using Harlequin and Harlequin accept childcare vouchers. Harlequin are open until 6.30pm every day.

Email: [alison@hosc.co.uk](mailto:alison@hosc.co.uk) or call 07939838515

## PTA NEWS

### SECRET SANTA

The Secret Santa shop opens on Monday, 3 December. Children will be able to buy gifts for parents and carers for £2 each and the children can buy up to two gifts, which will be wrapped by Santa's helpers! Please send your child in with the correct money if possible.

Classes will be visiting the shop as follows:

Monday – EYD, EYD, 1RS5, 1/2S6, 2KS8, 3G11, 3T12

Tuesday – 4H13, 4S14, 5C17, 5L18, 2O9, 6C15, 6W16

There will be a sweep on the Wednesday for anyone who is absent from school, or forgets their money on either Monday or Tuesday.

### SCHOOL DISCOS

Tickets for the school discos will be on sale at the school gates morning and afternoons from next week. If you miss them pop into the office as we will also have tickets there during the day.

### 300 CLUB

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

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Parents of Daisy and Molly C  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Parents of Sebastian and Oscar C  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Parents of Sophie L

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 £10 per number for membership for the next 10 draws.

### CHRISTMAS CARDS



All the Christmas drawings have now been uploaded onto the [www.mychildsart.co.uk](http://www.mychildsart.co.uk) website. To view the

artwork log in with the following unique codes shown below:

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

The deadline for Christmas delivery is 14 December: orders help raise money for the school as we get up to 20% of the money taken.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### STAPLEHURST MESSY CHURCH

Tomorrow, Saturday, 1 December at Staplehurst United Reformed Church, there will be a Christmas themed Messy Church to make lots of lovely decorations for you to take home including: a Christmas candle; hanging angels; a manger for your tree and; nativity lanterns for your windows. Also Christmas food craft and a Christmas quiz, all followed by the Christmas story and some familiar carols before a yummy tea together.... Doors open at 3.30pm; the Messy Church Team look forward to seeing you there!

### ADVENT WORKSHOP

On Saturday, 8 December at All Saints Church, Staplehurst there will be an Advent Workshop between 10am and 12.30pm. There will be arts and crafts, biscuit making, Christmas cards, woodwork, candle holders, Yuletide activities, angel decorations and a wreath making workshop. Mince pies and refreshments will be on offer and any donations to All Saints Church will be appreciated.

### 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.

### 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](mailto:smufc1@yahoo.co.uk)) and they send you more details.

## DIARY DATES

#### Saturday 1 December

PTA Christmas Fair (12-3pm)

#### Monday 3, Tuesday 4 and Wednesday 5 December

Secret Santa

#### Friday 7 December

Christmas Discos

#### Tuesday 11 December

KS1 Christmas Performance (1.45pm)

#### Wednesday 12 December

KS1 Christmas Performance (9.30am)

#### Wednesday 13 December

Christmas Lunch

#### Wednesday 19 December

KS2 Christmas Performance – All Saints Church (9.30am)

Class Parties (pm)

End of Term 2

#### Thursday 3 January 2019

Start of Term 3

### 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.