

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



Wow! What a fantastic event the Christmas Fair was on Saturday. There was a lovely atmosphere and our wonderful PTA raised over £1,000 for the school. The refreshments in the Infant Hall were extremely popular and we would also like to thank Mrs J Seymour for organising the Choir to sing carols to

enhance the Christmas mood.



SPORTS NEWS

What an amazing week of sporting achievements!

2018 Tunbridge Wells Basketball Champions!

On Wednesday evening, Mr Littleton and Mrs Stevenson took our Year 6 Basketball team to Mascalls Academy for the Play-Off Final against St James' School, for a place in the prestigious Kent Finals!

After a gruelling match, the score was tied at 10-10, which meant that a two minute extra time session was needed to decide the winner. Thankfully, our team of heroes were able to maintain the intensity and motivation needed in this sort of sporting situation and it makes us very proud to say that they went on to win the match 13-10.

As a result, our Year 6 Basketball team will now go on to represent Tunbridge Wells at the 2018 Kent School Games Finals.

Well Done Team Staplehurst!



2018 Sporthall Athletics Champions!

On Thursday, Mrs Stevenson and Mr Littleton took two teams to the 2018 Sporthall Athletics event at High Weald Academy. Despite a little hiccup with heading to the wrong venue, team Staplehurst arrived ready for action!

Team A and B took part in a number of different track and field events, including a handful of very exciting relay races! Both teams battled hard throughout the day and we are phenomenally proud to say that our Team A won the whole event and have been crowned as the **2018 Cranbrook Sporthall Athletics Champions!**

We would also like to say a huge congratulations to our Team B who showed true resilience and determination throughout the day, you did our school proud!

Well Done Team Staplehurst!



CHRISTMAS TREES



Hartley Dyke Farm Shop at Charity Farm, Cranbrook have once again donated two fabulous Christmas trees this year. We would like to thank them and our PTA members and children who attend Harlequin who have kindly decorated the trees which are situated in the Junior and Infant Halls.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

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

w/c 17.12.18 Year 3, 6, 5, 4

KS1 PERFORMANCE TICKETS

Tickets for the Early Years and KS1 Christmas Production were sent home today. Unfortunately there were no spare tickets for the Tuesday performance but we were able to accommodate requests for the Wednesday. If anyone no longer needs their ticket for either performance, please bring them back to the office so they can be given to someone else.

Our collection this year is for Five Acre Wood School who are raising funds to build a hydrotherapy pool. We hope you will give generously at the performances.

HELPERS NEEDED - KS2 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE REHEARSAL

As in previous years, KS2 will be performing at All Saints Church on the last day of term at 9.30am. There will be a rehearsal on Tuesday, 18 December and our Year 2 children would like to go along and watch. However, we need helpers to walk them to the Church and back, leaving School at approximately 9.15/9.30am and returning around 11.00/11.30. If you are able to help, please contact the office or one of the Year 2 teachers. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH & FESTIVE JUMPERS

Next Wednesday 12 December, is Christmas Lunch Day. The children are waited on by the staff and there is a very festive atmosphere. Due to high demand parents are unable to have lunch with their children that day.

The menu will be:

Roast Turkey, Chipolata and Stuffing

Vegetarian Parcel

Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas and Gravy

Festive Biscuits, Satsumas or Christmas Pudding

Don't forget that children may 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.

SPRING TERM LUNCH MENUS

Today your child should have brought home a new lunch menu for the Spring Term. Further copies are available from the office and on our website.

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 **95.36%**

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **3G11** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic **99.26%**.

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 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.

PTA NEWS

SECRET SANTA

Once again the children were excited to take part in Secret Santa and have the chance to do some Christmas shopping of their own. The PTA would like to say a huge thank you for all the donations and to all the parents who kindly came and wrapped the presents. Without your help and generosity events like this could not take place and the PTA has raised just over £1,500 for the school which is fantastic!





PTA DISCOS

Tonight is Disco Night. Please don't worry if you have missed the ladies selling tickets as you will be able to purchase them on the door.

Years 1, 2 & 3 Disco 4.30pm to 5.45pm £4.50 entry ticket only.

Years 4, 5, & 6 Disco 6pm to 7.30pm £4.50 entry ticket only.

There will be a tuck shop open at both discos where children can purchase drinks (50p), crisps (30p) and sweets (20p). Children will be given two free glow sticks.

Please note: parents/carers are not permitted to attend the discos.

Parents/Carers will drop their child at the door of the Junior Hall with their completed entry ticket. Please complete the contact details in advance to avoid delays on the door.

Children will enter the hall where there will be teachers and PTA members on hand to look after and assist them at their age-related disco.

At the end of the discos, Parents/Carers will be able to come into the hall where children will be sitting in their year groups. Children will not be allowed to leave unless accompanied by an adult.

CHRISTMAS FAIR COMPETITION WINNERS

Cake Winner

Mrs Stevenson was the lucky winner of the Guess the Weight of the Cake Competition. She was kind enough to share with the cake with the staff at School and it was absolutely delicious!

Lego Winner

Joshua, brother of Daisy in EYD, won the Guess How Many Lego in the Jar Competition with his guess of 742 and is now the proud owner of the jar of Lego! The answer was 734.

Stocking Winners

Ronnie in 3T got the most answers correct in the Guess the Stocking Contents Competition. The next two highest scorers were Kieran in 1RS and Ewan in 2S. All the children were presented with a festive pair of socks and a candy cane treat.

Teddy Winner

Finley in 5C was the lucky winner of Name the Bear Competition at the Christmas Fair. The winning name was Ted. Congratulations Fin, hope you can find somewhere to keep him!



300 CLUB

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 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

EARLY LEARNING STEPS

There will be a new Pre-School in the village next year. Early Learning Steps will be opening on 7 January 2019 and are holding an open morning on Tuesday 11 December from 9.30-11.30am for any prospective parents who would like to go along. For more information see their Facebook page: 'Early Learning Steps Staplehurst'.

ADVENT WORKSHOP

Tomorrow, 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.

NATIVITY SERVICE



Nativity Service for All Ages

Staplehurst United Reformed Church
TN12 0AS

Sunday 16th December, 10.30 – 11.30

Please do come and join us as we retell the story of Jesus' birth.

You could simply come and enjoy the service in which there will be something for everyone to enjoy.

OR.....and there's no pressure to do this.....

If you fancy breaking out your inner Mary, Joseph, shepherd, king, angel, donkey, sheep, camel.....(you get the idea!), please do come along either in full dress, or just a prop, and you'll get the chance to shine at the appropriate moment!

We do have a few children's costumes available.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

CHRISTMAS COFFEE MORNING IN AID OF THE WEALD FAMILY HUB.

We have received an email to say thank you for our support for this event. As a result around £720 has been raised for the Weald Family Hub! This is amazing when you consider that this will enable the hub to match fund a school's input for counselling from Fegans and double

the number of children in the school being able to access the service. THANK YOU!

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) and they send you more details.

DIARY DATES

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.