

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 FROM THE HEADTEACHER

"Children always come first. They are our future."

Dear Parents and Carers

As I begin my role as Headteacher at Staplehurst School it was a delight to visit every class and talk to the children about their learning. On my visits to the school I have always been impressed with their impeccable behaviour and manners and the way in which they uphold our 'P.R.I.D.E' values – today was no exception!

I would like to thank Mrs Stevenson, her senior leaders and staff for making my handover seamless; I am privileged to be leading a very strong and dedicated team of staff and community who work together to ensure our pupils achieve the very best that they can, so that they are prepared for the world of work in the 21st century.

Thank you to those who greeted me warmly at the start and end of the day. As the term progresses I look forward to working very closely with parents/carers through parent forums – an informal opportunity for us to identify key aspects of how we can further improve our school. By partnering together we will ensure that we provide the highest quality curriculum where children continue to thrive and fulfil their true potential.

Lucy Davenport  
Headteacher

### KENT OWL ACADEMY VISIT

On Wednesday, the children in Early Years and Year 1 had a fantastic time when the Kent Owl Academy visited us. They learnt lots of exciting facts about owls and really enjoyed getting so close to these amazing birds.



There are more photos in the Early Years News enclosed.

### BIRD FEEDER COMPETITION

Miss Decker was impressed by the number and high standard of entries, all of which were unique.



Miss Decker had a difficult job to decide the best designs but the winners are:

EYFS Winner - Charlie

KS1 Winner - Ronan

KS2 Winner - Henry K

All children received a certificate and the winners received a hanging bird bath. Thank you to everyone who took part. We hope to put the feeders up around the school grounds next week unless any children wish to take their feeder home.





Staplehurst School is supporting Children's Mental Health Week which is 4 – 10 February.

The Week was set up by the children's mental health charity Place2Be to shine a spotlight on the importance of children and young people's mental health.

This year's theme is Healthy: Inside and Out to encourage everyone to think about how they look after their bodies and minds. Click on the link below for free resources:

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/>

The children will be discussing this in class and assemblies during next week.

### SAFER INTERNET DAY 2019

Don't forget that there will be a drop in session for Years 1 to 6 at 2.45pm on Tuesday 5 February. This will be an opportunity to find out a little bit about what your child is learning at school and also some tips on how to support safer internet access at home.

### CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Today we welcomed the parents and carers of Class 1/2S to the KS1 Celebration Assembly. The children were very excited to share their learning on their frozen planet topic.



The children really enjoy parents attending their celebration assemblies and it's a great opportunity for them to share their successes with family members. Here's the timetable for the rest of the year so you can plan ahead and we hope you will be able to come along.

Date	Class	Time/Location
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

### DIARY DATES

Forthcoming events at Staplehurst School:

#### Tuesday 5 February

Young Voices at O2  
Safer Internet Day Drop In (Years 1-6) (2.45pm)

#### Friday 8 February

Class 4H13 Celebration Assembly (2.30pm)

#### Monday 18 – Friday 22 February

Half Term

#### Monday 25 February

KS1 + EYFS Parent Consultations (5.00-7.30pm)

#### Tuesday 26 February

KS1 + EYFS Parent Consultations (3.30-5.30pm)

#### Thursday 28 February

KS2 Parent Consultations (5.00-7.30pm)

#### Friday 29 February

KS2 Parent Consultations (3.30-5.30pm)

#### Thursday 7 March

World Book Day

#### Wednesday 13 March

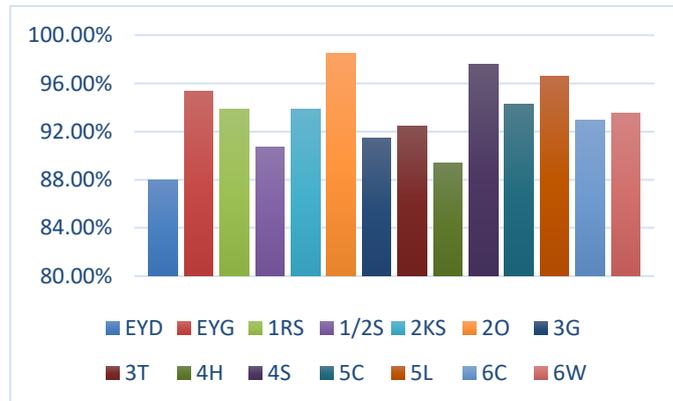
Class Photographs

#### Friday 15 March

Red Nose Day

### ATTENDANCE

Well done 2O9 who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic 98.47%.



### SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 04.02.19 Year 4, 6, 5

w/c 11.02.19 Year 6, 5, 4

### MENU CHANGE

There will be a special menu for Valentine's Day on Thursday, 14 February:

Hearty Meatballs & Penne Pasta  
served in a Tomato *Sauce*

or

Cupid's Vegetable Pockets with Potato Wedges  
*served with*

Cute Carrots and Perfect Peas

Strawberry Mousse with a Mini Heart Shaped  
Shortbread Biscuit

*followed by*

Fruit Jelly or Fresh Fruit

## 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.

## 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.**

## PTA NEWS

### SHED

Work has now been completed on the PTA shed in the Lower Junior Playground. Huge thanks to Whites Landscaping who kindly donated materials and their time to make the repairs.



## VALENTINE'S DAY BAKE OFF

Any children who love to bake - please enter our Valentine's Day cake competition. All cakes in the competition will be sold at a cake sale after school on Friday 15 February. There will be a prize for KS1 and for KS2. We would also be grateful for donations of shop-bought cakes or parent-baked cakes for the cake sale. More information and an entry form for the competition in the letter enclosed with the Newsletter.

## 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 £8 per number for membership for the next 8 draws.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### STAPLEHURST MESSY CHURCH

Tomorrow, Saturday 2 February at Staplehurst United Reformed Church, there will be 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](mailto:info@staplehurstcricket.com) or leave a message on the Club's Facebook page.