

Staplehurst School

# NEWSLETTER



## PRIDE

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Staplehurst School is an inclusive community. We do not tolerate bullying – race, gender, disability, sexual orientation or age

## SCHOOL NEWS

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

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

Dear Parents and Carers

A very warm welcome to the start of a new term, and with the beautiful sunshine it does feel as if spring is here! Our children have returned from the break full of enthusiasm and positivity. It has been a pleasure to see them share their holiday homework and to begin their new topics. I have been particularly impressed with holiday homework and reading that our children have completed across the school. This term's whole school value is 'determination' – please join with us in celebrating with your children when they have demonstrated this important life skill with their learning in school and at home.

Thank you to all parents and carers who have attended our parents' evening this week – these events are vital as they ensure you have a clear understanding of your child's attainment and progress and are clear about the areas that we need to address; working together ensures that our children will fulfil their potential.

At Staplehurst School listening to, and understanding the views of our children and parents is very important to us as it allows us to address any issues swiftly and to further develop and broaden the opportunities that we provide. Thank you to parents who completed the parent questionnaire as your views are truly valued. In addition this term I will be holding a Parents' Forum on Tuesday 2 April from 2.15 – 3pm. This will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child's experience at the school and how by working together we can develop our practice even further.

Have a lovely weekend

Miss Davenport  
Headteacher

### WORLD BOOK DAY

On Thursday 7 March, we will be going Harry Potter mad, with a themed day based around the popular children's books. As you know, we are asking all children to dress up as either a witch, wizard, magical character or muggle (non-magical person) and the teachers will be planning a whole day of activities based around this wonderful magical world. We will also be giving the children a World Book day voucher to exchange for one of a range of exciting books.

We hope you will support us on this creative and exciting day for the children. At the end of the day (3.30pm) parents and carers are invited into the Junior Hall to look around some of the work that the children have done on the day.

### CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

On Wednesday 13 March our photographers will be in to take class photos and carry out a sweep of individuals and families who missed the last session. As always, please ensure your child is wearing the correct school uniform on that day. Thank you.

### RED NOSE DAY

The School Council have decided they would like to celebrate Red Nose Day next Friday 15 March. Children may wear their own clothes but must include something red in their outfit. Please note that football kits are not permitted. Please send in a donation with your child.

### HOUSE POINT CHALLENGE WINNERS

Congratulations to Attenborough – Red House who won last term's House Point Challenge and were allowed to wear their own clothes to school today.

### DESIGN A CLASSROOM COMPETITION

Don't forget there's still plenty of time to enter JBH Refurbishments' 'Design the Best Classroom Ever' Competition. If you would like a copy of the application pack please click on the link to view the resources available: <https://www.jbhrefurbishments.co.uk/design-the-best-classroom-ever-competition/>

## CURRICULUM NEWS

### EARLY YEARS NEWS

This week in EYFS the children found the story 'The Sea of Tranquillity' in the nest. The children are very excited that this term we will be learning all about Space!

During exploring time this week it has been wonderful to see the children begin to explore our Space activities with such enthusiasm, building space stations and rockets!





**YEAR 2**

Year 2 have been using their understanding of verbs and adverbs to write instructions for making pancakes. To demonstrate to their teachers that they understood what they had learnt and to make use of the glorious weather this week, the children **ran, jumped, hopped and skipped** outside, **quietly, quickly, slowly, etc.** Next Tuesday the children are very excited to be using our children's kitchen to make pancakes and will be following their instructions, using verbs and adverbs.



**YEAR 5**

As part of their introduction to the Tudors, Year 5 re-enacted the Battle of Bosworth. The classes separated into the Houses of York and Lancaster and had great fun hitting each other with paper swords, culminating in the death of Richard III and crowning Henry VII King of England. This dramatisation has informed the children's writing work in class this week.



**SCHOOL INFORMATION**

**MENU CHANGE – WORLD BOOK DAY**

We have a Harry Potter inspired menu on Thursday 7 March to tie in with World Book Day:

- Harry's Hot Dog Feast  
(Meat and Veggie option)
- Hermione's Homemade Potato Wedges
- Bertie Bott's BBQ beans
- Professor Sprout's Peas
- followed by*
- Chocolate Frog Cake & Liquid Chocolate Sauce

**CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES**

Date	Class	Time/Location
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:

**Thursday 7 March**

World Book Day (WBD)  
Display of WBD Work (Junior Hall – 3.30pm)

**Wednesday 13 March**

Class Photographs

**Friday 15 March**

Red Nose Day

**Friday 29 March**

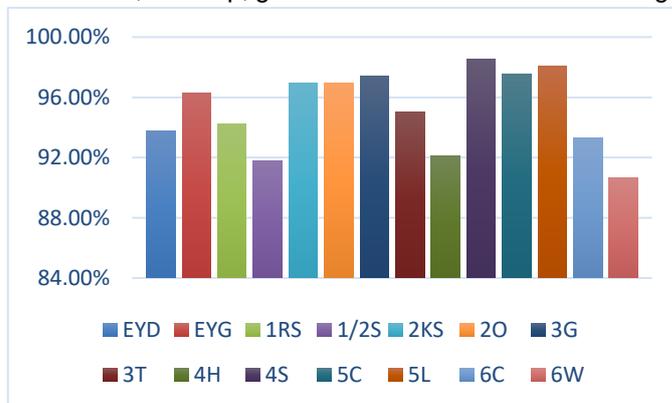
PTA School Discos

**Tuesday 2 April**

Parents' Forum (2.15pm)

**ATTENDANCE**

CONGRATULATIONS - TO THE AMAZING LEWIS CLASS 5L – 98.08% attendance – you are setting the standard and we are very proud of you. Punctuality and good attendance is important to establish positive habits as children, develop, grow and move on to their next stage.



**SCHOOL DINNER ROTA**

w/c 04.03.19 Year 4, 6, 5  
w/c 11.03.19 Year 6, 5, 4

## 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

### SCHOOL DISCOS

Please note that the date has changed for the next School Discos. They were originally published in the School Diary Dates on Friday 22 March but will now take place on **Friday 29 March**. More details will be announced soon.

### 300 CLUB

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

1 <sup>st</sup> Prize:	Parents of Freya E
2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize:	Parents of William B
3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize:	Parents of Kieran T

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 £7 per number for membership for the next 7 draws.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### CO-OPTED GOVERNOR VACANCY

We are currently looking for a member of the community to join our friendly and dedicated Governing Body. We have one vacancy for a Co-opted Governor and would like to encourage anyone who has the time and commitment to fulfil the role to consider applying. For more information or an informal chat about what the role involves, please contact the school or email [clerktogovernors@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:clerktogovernors@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk). A person specification and application form can be found on <http://www.staplehurstschool.co.uk/community/governors>

The deadline for applications is Friday, 22 March 2019.

### STAPLEHURST MESSY CHURCH

Tomorrow, Saturday 2 March at Staplehurst United Reformed Church, 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 kindness, friendship & the example of Jesus. They will be making friendship bracelets, heart wreaths, sand pictures & emoji biscuits as well as a quiz & bridge building challenge.

Doors open at 3.30pm; the Messy Church Team look forward to seeing you there!

### FUNDRAISING FOR MAF UK

If you have any used or new postcards at home that you no longer need Mrs Ralph is collecting them as they can be used for fundraising to support the charity MAF which supports people living in isolated areas in the world by flying in teachers, school supplies, medical aid and food and aid workers to the most remote communities. You can find out more by visiting [www.maf-uk.org](http://www.maf-uk.org) or by phoning 01303 850 950.