

STAPLEHURST SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

## SCHOOL NEWS

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers

**“Children always come first. They are our future.”**

Wow, what a busy and exciting week we have had! World Week is a part of our enrichment programme and there has been fabulous cross curricular learning, trips, cooking, and many visitors to our school. If you are following us on Twitter I hope you have enjoyed the updates this week and we are also looking forward to welcoming you to our open classrooms on Monday so that you have a flavour of the opportunities your child has experienced.

Thank you to the parents who attended our forum today. As always your views are truly welcomed as together we can further improve the provision for your child. It was good to have an understanding of the communication issues you sometimes face and how we use our social media better to address this. As always your positive comments about the learning and improvements in the school are very much appreciated. If you are unable to attend please remember that we have an open door policy should you wish to raise any issues or share ideas for improvements.

As we move towards the month of December, we have a range of seasonal events and performances lined up. We have listed some of these on the back of this newsletter but please also look out for updates on Twitter and Facebook.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Miss Davenport  
Headteacher

### REMINDER – WORLD WEEK EXHIBITION – MONDAY 2 DECEMBER

On Monday 2 December parents and carers are invited to go on a short journey around the world, to discover the amazing work the children will have produced during World Week. We shall be displaying the creative pieces of learning in pupils' classrooms between **2:30 and 3:15pm**. You will be able to collect your child/children from their classroom and using the outside doors, visit the different countries and locations they have studied. However, please only visit your own children's classrooms to see their work. Once you have finished your journey, you are welcome to take your child/children home.

The school gates will be open from 2:15pm, to allow you to enter the school site and be waiting outside the classrooms for the doors to open. If you are unable to join us for the exhibition, children will remain with their teacher until 3:15pm, before being dismissed at the normal time.

We look forward to seeing you then.

### PARENT WORKSHOPS

Reminder that forthcoming coffee morning workshops have been arranged on the following topics:

Friday 6 December      Maths  
Friday 13 December    Reading

The workshops and forum will be held at 9.15-10.15am in the Infant Hall after the Parents into Read session. We look forward to welcoming you.

### 2019- 2020 WHOLE SCHOOL PRIORITIES:

- To raise and maintain standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics to ensure we are in line with national standards
- To implement an ambitious curriculum that reflects the vision and values of the school
- To further improve parental engagement: improving communication and promoting the school

## CHOIR VISITS

Our School Choir performed their first Christmas performance this week at Benenden Hospital. The children all sang beautifully and the patients and staff greatly appreciated their visit. We would like to particularly thank those parents who were able to offer help to transport the children to the hospital.



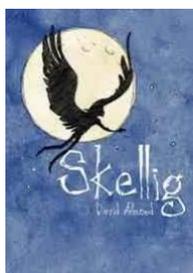
## CURRICULUM NEWS

### AFRICAN DRUMMING WORKSHOP

World Week finished with a bang today. We welcomed Kwame Bakoji-Hume from African Activities who amazed all the children with his fantastic music, dancing and storytelling as part of an African drumming workshop.



### READING AT STAPLEHURST SCHOOL



The pupils in 5F are reading *Skellig* by David Almond. The children have been gripped by this tale, which follows school boy Michael as he discovers an enigmatic creature in his garage while also dealing with emotional trauma in his family life.

I found the book really interesting and at the end of each chapter I can't wait to find out what will happen next.

Levi says:

I really like how each chapter gives us more clues about the creature in the garage.

The mysterious and fantastical element of the story is what Henry said he is most enjoying, he says:

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### FOR SALE – TABLE TENNIS TABLES

We have three table tennis tables for sale – two are brand new and still in the original packaging. They would make an ideal Christmas present so if anyone would like to buy one we are offering them for £75 each. Buyer must be able to collect.

### PUPIL PHOTOGRAPHS

The children brought home the proofs for their school photos last week. If you have not ordered them online, the deadline for you to return the proofs to school is **Thursday, 5 December**.

### REHEARSALS

Rehearsals are well underway for the KS1 Christmas Performance. Don't forget to send your ticket requests in by **Tuesday 3 December**.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND FESTIVE JUMPERS

Monday 16 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. Children 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.

### HELPERS NEEDED - KS2 CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE REHEARSAL

As in previous years, KS2 will be performing at All Saints' Church on the last day of term. There will be a rehearsal on Tuesday, 17 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.

### YEAR R ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

If you have a child due to start in Year R in September 2020, please note that online applications will open on the 5 November 2019 for parents wanting to apply. The closing date is midnight on the 15 January 2020. Applications should, where possible, be made online using [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola). Offer day is 16 April 2020 where you will be offered a school for your child. Please see [www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions) for full details or contact Mrs Clark in the school office should you have any enquiries. We are doing one further tour round the school on Wednesday morning at 9.30am on 20 November. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place.

### ATTENDANCE

CONGRATULATIONS - TO THE AMAZING RYLANCE (5F) CLASS – 97.69% attendance – you are setting the standard and we are very proud of you. Punctuality and good attendance are important to establish as positive habits as children, develop, grow and move on to their next stage.

### DIARY DATES

Forthcoming events:

#### Saturday 30 November

Choir to Sing at Millbrook Garden Centre (11.30am)  
Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime

#### Sunday 1 December

Choir to sing at Staplehurst Christmas Tree Parade and Lights (5pm)

#### Monday 2 December

World Week Exhibition (2.30pm)

#### Thursday 5 December

Deadline for Photograph Orders

#### Friday 6 December

Maths Workshop (9.15am)  
Class 6T Celebration Assembly (2.30pm)

#### Wednesday 11 December

Infant Nativity Performance to Parents (9.15am)

#### Thursday 12 December

Infant Nativity Performance to Parents (1.45pm)  
Choir to sing at Tesco's, Tenterden (4.15pm)

#### Friday 13 December

Reading Workshop (9.15am)  
Secret Santa Shop  
Choir to sing at Staplehurst Manor (2pm)

#### Saturday 14 December

Choir to sing at Iden Manor Christmas Fayre (2.30pm)

#### Monday 16 December

Secret Santa Shop  
Christmas Jumper Day  
Christmas Lunch

#### Wednesday 18 December

KS2 Christmas Performance – All Saints Church (am)  
Class Parties (pm)  
End of Term 2

## SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

From next week Year 4 will follow Year 3 into lunch, then Years 5 and 6 will rotate weekly.

w/c 02.12.19 Year 5, 6

w/c 09.12.19 Year 6, 5

## PTA NEWS

### EASY FUNDRAISING

Don't forget to register to support the PTA and your child's education by signing up to [Easyfundraising.org.uk](http://Easyfundraising.org.uk) - where you can earn free donations while you shop online. There are also regular chances for you to win, sometimes just by visiting a retailers website.



**Please remember if you would like daily updates about the learning at Staplehurst join us on twitter @StaplehurstSch.**