

## STAPLEHURST SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

## SCHOOL NEWS

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers

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

Thank you to everyone who attended our Parent Teacher Consultations this week and for those of you who completed the online feedback. Should you still wish to, please visit: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

We are very pleased that 95% of the responses agreed or strongly agreed with the statement ‘my child is happy at this school’ and 92% agreed or strongly agreed with the statement ‘my child does well at this school’. We will use your feedback to continue to make sure we are providing the highest quality education and care.

World book day was celebrated in style this year; such wonderful vocabulary choices and costumes. Many thanks to our talented children who participated with such enthusiasm and for your support in making this a special day!

Once again our parents into reading session was extremely well attended today; reading for pleasure it is such an important life-long gift that we are able to give our children.

Enjoy your family time this weekend,

Miss Davenport  
Headteacher

## CURRICULUM NEWS

### STEM WEEK – 9-13 MARCH 2020



Driver subjects during STEM week will be Design and Technology (DT) and Science.

STEM week learning will take place in the afternoons only. Each year group will spend 5 afternoons on either DT or Science:

DT	Science
EYFS	Year 1
Year 2	Year 3
Year 4	Year 5
Year 6	

The aim of the week is to equip our children with the skills they need to be successful members of society in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We will be teaching them life skills alongside subject specific skills:

Life skills/soft skills	Subject specific skills
<p><b>We are passionate about supporting our children to develop the skills to be...</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- risk takers</li> <li>- able to work Collaboratively</li> <li>- think critically</li> <li>- able to confidently make ‘marvelous mistakes!’ (growth mindset)</li> <li>- innovative</li> <li>- problem solvers</li> <li>- reflective</li> </ul>	<p><b>DT</b> (threshold Concepts)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Master practical skills (materials)</li> <li>- To design, make, evaluate and improve</li> <li>- Take inspiration from history</li> </ul> <p><b>Science</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Prediction</li> <li>- Observation</li> <li>- Concluding</li> <li>- Fair testing</li> </ul>

On Friday, 20 March parents and carers will have the opportunity to look at the work done during STEM Week during the Parents into Read session from 8.45 – 9.15am. This will apply to ALL year groups, not just Years R-4.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

Some of the fabulous costumes for our Vocabulary Parade! What a great selection of words and costumes on show today - excellent effort from children, parents and staff! Well done to our winners of the Parade from EYFS, KS1, Lower KS2 and Upper KS2 (snowball, geology, refuse and gluttony). Hopefully this has inspired a greater love for literacy and reading and all children were given a World Book day voucher to exchange for one of a range of exciting books.



## EARLY YEARS NEWS

Well done to Ruby W in EYD who used Numicon to do her maths today. She was learning addition and recorded her work in her own way. Great independent learning!



## YEAR 1 – THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER'S LUNCH

As part of their work on The Lighthouse Keeper's Lunch, Year 1 have been helping Mr Grinling, the lighthouse keeper, who has been having problems with his lunch each day. The pesky seagulls have eaten his lunch so he sent us his ruined lunch basket and asked if we could help him. The children evaluated different types lunch boxes so that they could get good ideas to use for their own designs. The worst lunch box was far too small for Mr Grinling's lunch and didn't have a lid. The lunch bag voted the best was large, had a strong zip, was colourful, had a lining to keep it cool and even a handle to send it down the wire to him. The children then spent a day designing, making and testing a new lunch box for Mr Grinling with great success!



## SCHOOL INFORMATION



On Friday 13 March 2018 children may wear any sports clothes to school for a donation to support Sport Relief 2020.

### What is Sport Relief?

Sport Relief is a fundraising event run by Comic Relief that harnesses the power of sport, both to raise money and transform lives.

Comic Relief is a UK charity which aims to create a just world free from poverty.

Last Sport Relief, schools and nurseries across the UK raised over £4 million to help vulnerable people here and in the world's poorest communities.

### Why we're taking part

Pupils learn valuable life skills and gain understanding and empathy for others in the world.

It brings the whole school community together to get active and have fun.

Our school can make a real difference to people's lives.

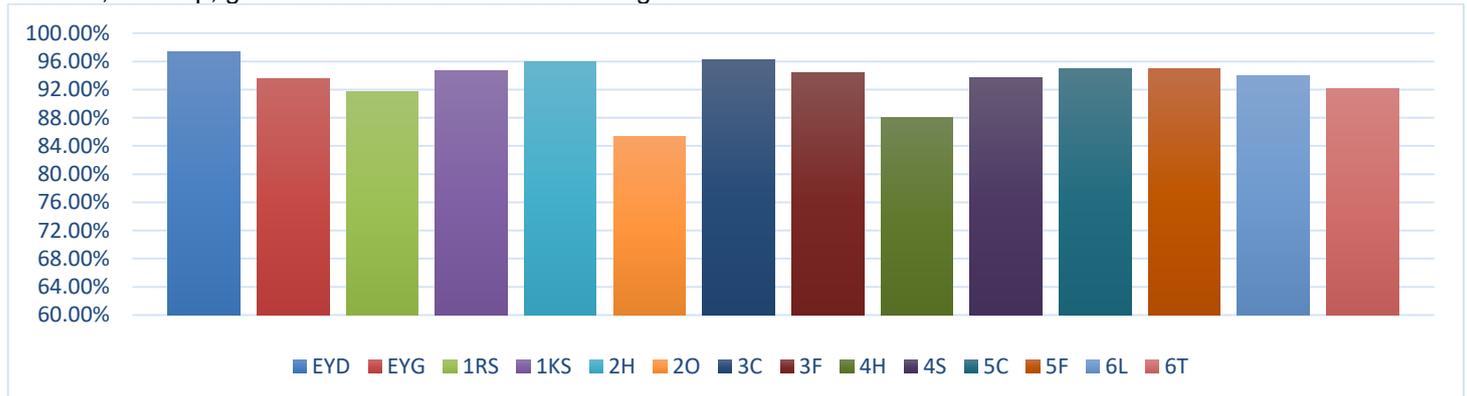
### Where the money goes

£20 could help a child in Kenya return to school after living on the streets.

£250 could provide an hours' childcare for 25 mums in the UK with postnatal depression so they can get counselling and support.

## ATTENDANCE

CONGRATULATIONS - TO THE AMAZING DONALDSON (EYD) CLASS – 97.35% 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:

### Monday 9 – Friday 13 March

STEM Week

### Thursday 12 March

Agility Competition (Years 1 and 2) (am)

### Friday 13 March

Sport Relief (wear sporty clothes to school)  
PTA Discos

### Monday 16 March

Class Photographs

### Monday 16 – Tuesday 24 March

Year 5 Bikeability

### Friday 20 March

STEM Week Exhibits (8.45am)  
Year 5 Trip to Canterbury Museum

### Tuesday 24 March

Parents' Forum (2pm)

### Thursday 26 March

EYFS Space Celebration Assembly (9am)

### Friday 27 March

PTA Mother's Day Treat Night

### Wednesday 1 April

PTA Easter Egg Hunt  
End of Term 4

### Thursday 16 April

Start of Term 5  
National Offer Day (Primary School places)

### Wednesday 6 May

Year 5 Trip to Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

### Tuesday 19 May

Parents' Forum (2pm)

### Saturday 20 June

PTA Summer Fair

### Tuesday 30 June

Parents' Forum (2pm)

## COVID-19 – UPDATE

Further to the confirmed Coronavirus case of an employee at Maidstone Studios, please be assured that we are following advice from Public Health England, and monitoring updates daily.

Please follow the published advice should you have any concerns regarding you or your family's health, where the Public Health England advice is to call NHS 111, and not visit your GP.

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/> and <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

### Department for Education Coronavirus helpline

Today, we have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

We are talking to the children about the importance of washing hands, and have posters up showing how to do so and for how long: please reiterate the importance of doing so at home.



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

### 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