

STAPLEHURST SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been a calm and productive week at Staplehurst. Can you believe that it is a year ago that our lives changed so dramatically?! We have so much to be proud of; even in the most challenging of situations we have seen such fantastic team work, resilience and shown incredible support for each other.

On Tuesday our Year 6 Learning Ambassadors led our assembly to mark a national day of reflection; it has been a year since our school was closed to all pupils, except the children of critical workers, and we felt it was important to mark this significant event in our history. As a school we reflected on how our lives and those of others have changed over this year; we acknowledged how adversity allows us to demonstrate great strength of character, and paused as a mark of respect for those who have suffered or died due to Coronavirus. I was incredibly proud and moved by the personal reflections and unique experiences that our ambassadors shared with the school. Now they are busy planning ways in which we will all have an opportunity to capture our memories and leave a lasting memorial.

Thank you for supporting us on the journey the last year has taken us on; we are very lucky to have the school community that we do!

Miss Davenport & the Senior Leadership Team

KEY DATES/INFORMATION

Uniform: Winter uniform until Term 5

Easter Egg Competition: 29th & 30th March

End of Term: 1st April (Thursday)

Students return: 19th April (Monday)

Class Photos: 11 May (Tuesday)

Communication: Messages

- From next term: please email staff non urgent messages; staff will respond within 2-3 working days. We have taken this decision in order to maximize the amount of time staff are working directly with children in school hours.
- If you have an urgent message e.g. you need to inform the school that someone other than yourself is picking up your child, please phone the office speak to a member of the team.
- Reading books will continue to be changed on Monday and Friday; comments regarding reading will be monitored and responded to on those days as usual.
- Thank you for your ongoing support.

Important Reminders

- Parents (+1 person per family) will need to enter the main gate and follow our one way system as normal.
- Please maintain social distancing at all times.

EARLY YEARS

Early years have continued learning about space this week and during exploring time, they have enjoyed using different construction materials to build rockets. For our maths learning, we have been copying and creating our own repeating patterns. In the garden, we were excited to discover that our robin eggs have started to hatch.



YEAR 1

In our school assembly this week, the Year 6 ambassadors told us about their lock-down experiences as we reached a whole year since the first one. Later, all of year 1 went to the outdoor class to think of ideas about how to commemorate the anniversary. We will need to vote on our favourite as part of our ongoing learning about British Values.



Year 1 had great fun doing hands-on maths this week. We made 2-digit numbers using lots of different manipulatives. Hands-on equipment is a great way to learn about maths and the children could clearly show their understanding. We worked in pairs so there was lots of great maths talk too.



YEAR 2

In our Art lessons this term, we have been planning, designing and building our very own Tudor houses. Tudor houses were very popular around the time of The Great Fire of London. These types of houses were built very close together which made the fire spread quickly. We evaluated our houses and talked about how we can design our houses differently next time.



YEAR 3

This week Year 3 were thinking about 'empathy' and getting into someone else's shoes, they acted as characters from Iron Man and shared their thoughts and feelings about Iron Man's capture.



Anticipation is high in year 3! We are testing the effect of different drinks on the surface of an egg, replicating the effect of different drink on our teeth enamel. The children have made predictions and discussed how to make the test fair. On Friday we'll observe changes and record our results.



YEAR 4

Children in Year 4 have been busy this week publishing their formal persuasive letters. Their letters were written to try and persuade the man from the story 'The Great Kapok Tree' by Lynne Cherry, not to cut down the rainforest. The children used the different points of view of the animals to help them write their letters.



Cara



Phoebe-Mae



Betsy

YEAR 5

This week, Year 5 have been acting out their inner most thoughts as Banquo from Shakespeare's Macbeth. We followed this up by writing up the speech, thinking about the correct use of punctuation.



Year 5 have been taking part in dance lessons in PE this term. We learned some street dance moves and then put them into our own routines thinking about body shape and movement.



YEAR 6

As part of their literacy work on narrative poems, Year 6 spent a lesson focusing on performance poetry. The children read, practiced and performed a range of poems including The Raven by Edgar Allan Poe, The Jabberwocky by Lewis Carroll and The Owl and The Pussycat by Edward Lear.



Year 6 have been learning about Dick Turpin and Highwaymen. They looked at different sources of information to develop their knowledge, then had a debate as to whether he was really a hardened criminal or the romantic hero portrayed in books, film and television. They used a conscience alley to consider the argument from all perspectives.



Year 6 are running an Easter Egg Raffle in aid of the Year 6 Leaver's fund. There are over a hundred prizes to be won and tickets are only 50p each. Tickets will be on sale on Monday and Tuesday in school. Please bring exact change only. Thank you and good luck!



PRIDE CERTIFICATE WINNERS

EYKR	Carmen has worked really hard on her letter formation. What a difference in her writing now! Well done Carmen.
EYG	Poppy has continued to work hard throughout this time and this week has shown some fabulous maths learning, finding and making 9 and 10 in different ways
1A	Rosanna always show a lot a of determination in her work. She consistently tries hard even when she finds the work tricky. She is ready to use number lines and counters if she needs which is a brilliant way to become independent.
1SS	Fuschia has been demonstrating the PRIDE values of Independence, Determination and Excellence throughout lockdown. She consistently sends in work that is completed to a high standard. This week she has thought hard about what Trixie might say when she lost her toy. She then wrote some sentences with question marks and exclamation marks to show what she thought Trixie might say. Well done Fuschia.
2S	Reggie consistently works hard in all areas of his learning. Reggie has shown a great understanding of materials in our Science unit and recently was able to sort raw and synthetic materials well.
2O	Ameilia has shown great perseverance and determination in her home learning! Ameilia's comprehension skills are progressing each week and she has shown a great understanding of our recent Maths unit on statistics.
3S	Ben. For having such a positive attitude towards all of his home learning so far, we have been really impressed with Ben's resilience. He has done particularly well in his daily reading and has moved up to the next level. Well done Ben!
3HS	Dexter. For consistently producing high quality work and completing all his home learning tasks! Dexter has worked hard on his creative writing and handwriting resulting in some beautifully written work. Well done!
4LC	Evie. Always going above and beyond with all of her work. Evie has consistently pushed herself further and makes sure that she turns is high quality work.
4NC	Ella always takes her time to think through her work and consistently produces Maths and English to a very impressive standard. Her work is always immaculately presented, and methodically worked out.
5W	Luca. For working hard in all lessons and always taking part and completing all subjects. Luca always completes the challenge in Maths and has shown great resilience and determination in his home learning.
5S	Diya. For putting in huge effort across all areas of the curriculum and particularly in Maths. Well done Diya.
6F	Ellie. For constantly working hard and producing work of a very high standard.
6T	Grace. For consistently showing determination and resilience every day, putting high levels of effort into her blended learning and challenging herself in her learning,

Sonny in Year 5 was a Virtual Mascot for the West Ham v Arsenal Game on Sunday



This week, year 4 considered which percussion instruments and body percussion best represented sounds in a rainforest. Drums worked well to create rain falling and there were some great animal impressions! Next week, we will continue to compose using the graphic score.

