

Staplehurst School



NEWSLETTER

PRIDE

P
ositivityR
espectI
ndependenceD
eterminationE
xcellence

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

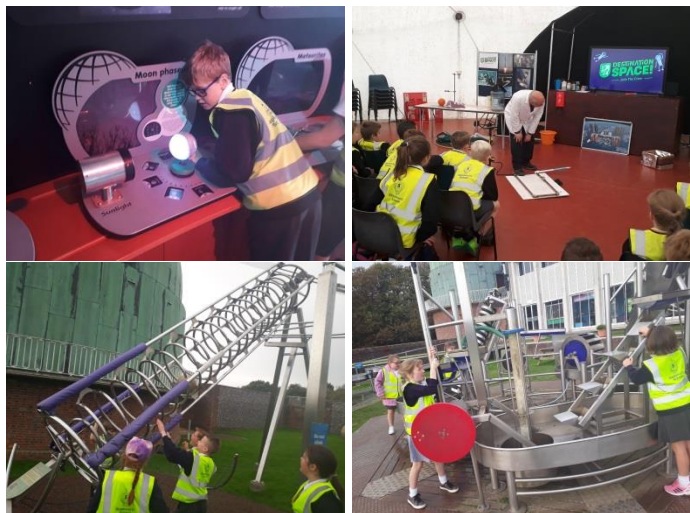
SCHOOL NEWS

HALF TERM

The children have worked extremely hard this term and as next week is the Half Term holiday we hope you all have a good break. We look forward to seeing everyone back safe and sound by 8.45am on Monday 30 October.

YEAR 5 VISIT TO HERSTMONCEUX

On Tuesday Year 5 visited the Observatory at Herstmonceux, as part of their topic work. They had a wonderful day and their behaviour was exemplary. Herstmonceux, as you can see, is very hands on which the children thoroughly enjoyed. Year 5 would like to thank all the parents who came along to help because without parents' help these trips would not be possible.



HIGH WEALD ACADEMY PRIMARY MATHS CHALLENGE

Six of our Year 6 pupils represented Staplehurst School at the Primary Maths Challenge at High Weald Academy on Thursday. The children performed really well and were a credit to the school. Well done Amy, Fionnbharr and Freddie from 6C and Anthony, Joshua and Maddie from 6L.

SCHOOL ENTRANCE

In the interest of safety the main school entrance gates will be locked at 8.50am. All children should be in school by 8.45am.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Yesterday was our Harvest Festival. The children brought in tins of produce to help support this year's chosen charity – Maidstone Day Care Centre. This is always a beautiful assembly and the children asked insightful questions.



LOCAL AUTHOR VISIT

The children in Early Years and KS1 really enjoyed having a local author visit on Thursday afternoon. Michael Walter told them all about the books he has written including the Buzzy Friends series. Thank you to all parents who purchased a book. If you would like to find out more please visit www.buzzyfriends.com.



HOUSE POINT CHALLENGE

Congratulations to all in Blue House as they won this term's House Point Challenge and were able to wear their own clothes today.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

If your child has applied for a place in Choir, Netball or French Club, we are pleased to say that they do have a place and the clubs will start w/c 30 October.

DONATIONS PLEASE

If anyone has any old CDs they no longer want please bring them into the office as they can be used in our sensory room. Thank you for those donated so far.

PARENT COUNCIL

We are still looking for volunteers to step forward for the new Parent Council and we are asking for 2 people from each class to share in this new venture. The Council will meet at least 3 times a year and focus on specific objectives which they feel, as a group, will bring about positive change for the pupils at the school.

If you feel that you are able to make a consistent and positive contribution to this new forum then please let your class teacher know via your child's contact book. If more than 2 parents from a class step forward then it will be down to the class teacher to draw names from a hat.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Victoria Laslett via the Inclusion Team.

COMPLAINTS ON SOCIAL MEDIA

At Staplehurst School we strive to achieve the best for all of our children, however we recognise that on some occasions you may feel that we could have done better.

We would be grateful if parents do not use social media to raise complaints but instead we encourage you to come into school and speak with us in the first instance so that we can understand your concerns and help solve the problem as soon as possible. Complaints on social media can be damaging for the school, its staff and most importantly the pupils.

If you still feel that the issue has not been dealt with appropriately then we will provide you with a copy of our Complaints Procedures.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
3 Nov	Year 2	Year 4
10 Nov	Year 1	Year 3
17 Nov	Year 2	Year 6
24 Nov	Year 1	Year 5

FRIDAY MORNING ASSEMBLIES

Today we welcomed the parents of children in Year 1 who joined us for a cup of coffee and chat after the Celebration Assembly. The children were pleased to be able to show off their work as an extra celebration of their achievements. After Half Term we look forward to welcoming parents from Year 2.

ATTENDANCE

The Department for Education's target for attendance is 96%. We always strive for 100%.

Whole school attendance

For week beginning 16 October was **92.43%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **6L** who achieved **96.88%**.

NEW MUSICAL THEATRE CLUB

We are excited to inform you about a new school club starting on Wednesday 1 November. Musical Theatre Club will incorporate singing, dancing and acting, looking at well-known musicals such as Annie, Matilda, Mamma Mia, Oliver and much more. Suitable for children in Years 1-6 and is a fantastic class to boost your child's confidence whilst channelling their creativity. It will run from 3.20pm to 4.10pm and be held in the Junior Hall.

For further information or to book a space please contact jack.star.davidson@googlemail.com. The cost for the club is £35 per half term.

CONTRACT DINING COMPANY – SIMPLY SERVING SCHOOLS



Did you know your school serves a **Gold Food For Life Menu**? For more information go to <http://www.foodforlife.org.uk/served> here and use the online map to discover more.

This means the pupils we serve are powered by food that is fresh, local and honest with a minimum of 15% being organic.

Our Gold Food For Life Served Here Award means all of the food on the menu is freshly prepared on site, it will always be free from undesirable trans fats, sweeteners and additives, be prepared by trained cooks, and use ingredients from sustainable and ethical sources.

Every search you make will enter the school into the Food For Life's weekly prize draw to win some amazing cooking prizes including exclusive classroom cooking kits.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 30.10.17 Year 6, 3, 4, 5

w/c 06.11.17 Year 3, 4, 5, 6

ONLINE SAFETY GROUP – PARENT REP

We are looking for a new parent representative to join the Online Safety Group which meets about three times a year. This role helps the school by providing a parental perspective on this extremely important issue and keeping our children safe online. If you are interested in getting involved please contact the office. The next meeting is in January.

DRIVING ON SCHOOL PREMISES

It has been noticed an increasing number of parents driving through the goods entrance gate to drop children off, and then reversing out of the gate whilst children are trying to come in. On Tuesday a car nearly hit a couple of children walking in through the gate. **ONLY** parents with special requirements have permission to enter the school premises with their vehicles. Thank you for your co-operation.

YR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

If you have a child in Year 6 don't forget that the closing date for secondary school applications is **Tuesday, 31 October**. You can apply for a place online at <https://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-places/secondary-school-places> or paper application forms are available from the school office.

The National Offer Day is **Wednesday 1 March 2018**. Emails are sent after **4pm** and letters are sent **1st class**.

Places should be accepted or declined by **Thursday 15 March 2018**.

PTA NEWS

The PTA would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Half Term. They are busy Elves in the background planning and arranging some fantastic Christmas fundraising and fun for all to enjoy. So please watch this space as the Christmas PTA newsletter will be with you soon which will have more details on Secret Santa, School Discos and the Christmas Fair.

The PTA would also like to thank you all in advance for all your support and hope that you will be able to help them and support where you can in making this year's Christmas fundraisers a success!

Don't forget that the PTA is looking for Stall holders for the Christmas Fair on Saturday 9 December, 12pm to 3pm.

If you are interested or would like more information, please speak to Rebecca Piggott or Anita Moore.

FUN LABELS

The PTA has created a link with a company My Name Tags, where you can order online and each order generates money for the school. You can place orders by going to www.MyNametags.com using School ID 35906. The name tags are multipurpose and may be used on any item, not just clothing.

COMMUNITY NEWS

EVENTS AT STAPLEHURST FREE CHURCH

Light Party Tuesday 31 October 4 - 6pm - A fun alternative to Halloween at Staplehurst Free Church

For all children aged 8 and under accompanied by an adult, (although older siblings welcome).

Come in fancy dress: superheroes, princesses or anything bright! (no witches, ghosts, monsters or anything scary thank you!)

There will be party games and craft activities. Please bring a named plate of party food for your child(ren)

There is no charge to attend this event.

Film Night Tuesday 31 October 6:30pm to approximately 8pm at Staplehurst Free Church

Prefer not to be in for Trick or Treaters? Why not come along to a free film evening at the Free Church?

This event is suitable for older children and adults alike. The film will not be specifically Christian but an opportunity to have family time in pleasant surroundings.

CIRCUS COMES TO STAPLEHURST

Millbrook Garden Centre in Staplehurst has lots of tricks and treats in store this October half-term!

Roll up, roll up, roll up, Paulo's circus is coming to Millbrook Garden Centre in Staplehurst from Wednesday 25 to Sunday 29 October. One of the UK's oldest Circus families, Paulo's Circus, will be showcasing a brand new thrilling autumn show, promising to create unforgettable circus memories for the family young and old alike. Each show features; clowns, acrobats, aerial skills, magic, wire walkers, jugglers, unicyclists, and many, many more amazing acts. Tickets cost £7 per person and can be booked instore or online. To find out more visit: <http://www.millbrookgc.co.uk/whats-on/staplehurst/circus-staplehurst>

FOOTBALL FIVE STAR

Football Five Star will be running another of their popular holiday courses at Jubilee Sports Field on Thursday 26 October. The previous courses back in August were very well supported with nearly 60 children attending on both days. You can book your child's place on their website <http://www.footballfivestar.co.uk/>

SENSATIONAL KIDS CLUB

Every Wednesday in term time, between 3.30 and 5pm the Skids Club meets at Staplehurst Free Church.

This is a club for the whole family to attend and is aimed at those families who have a child with special education needs or any family member with a disability or long term illness. Children are able to run around, play or do crafts in the safe, inclusive environment while parents can have a cuppa, chat and give each other moral support. For more information see Facebook or the Free Church website.

STAPLEHURST FAMILY FIREWORKS

Staplehurst Family Fireworks are proud to present the village's 1st annual event on Saturday 4 November at the Jubilee Field. They will be bringing entertainment, food delights, an amazing Haunted House Bonfire and, of course, a great fireworks display! More details available on Facebook (Staplehurst Family Fireworks) and tickets can be bought at the school gates most afternoons until the event (also available from Jumeria, Hair Boutique & King's Head).

STAPLEHURST UNDER 5's OPEN MORNING

On Monday 6 November Staplehurst Under 5's Playgroup will be holding an Open Morning from 9.30 to 11.00am. Why not pop along and meet the children, staff and committee members and experience all the wonderful activities they have to offer. Refreshments will be available.

DIARY DATES

Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October
Autumn Half Term

Wednesday 1 November
Individual Photographs

Monday 6 November

Reception 2018 Tours of the School – 2pm

Wednesday 8 November

Reception 2018 Tours of the School – 2pm

Tuesday 14 November

Reception 2018 Information Evening - 7pm

Friday 24 November

Non Uniform Day for Secret Santa donations

Friday 1 December

School Discos for Years 1-6

Thursday 7 December

Early Years' Christmas Party

Saturday 9 December

PTA Christmas Fair 12-3.00pm

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

-

ADMIN

Online payments - This is the preferred method. Please pay online for School Dinners, Breakfast Club, Trips, Swimming, Uniform and Equipment.

Dinner Money queries and payments - Please contact Maxine on 07501 007835.

School Uniform - Uniform can be ordered and paid for online (orders will be sent home with your child). The Uniform Shop is open anytime, but **please avoid Monday mornings and Friday afternoons**. Thank you.