

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

MESSAGES FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD

New Way of Teaching Literacy

Your child may have mentioned to you the new format we have introduced when teaching literacy. This comprises of:

- Day 1 Reading comprehension (one hour)
- Day 2 Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (one hour)
- Days 3-5 Writing (three hours) to include planning, drafting, editing and final write-up.

In addition to this, children will obviously be writing in their topic and maths lessons. Handwriting has become a top priority and children will be practising their skills at least three times a week.

This system has worked exceptionally well at my two previous schools, both in terms of the childrens' progress and their motivation to want to write. I hope that when you next come in for Parent Drop In, you will see the improvements in their work.

Breakfast Please

As we all know breakfast is a very important meal of the day and we would ask that you ensure your child has a 'good' breakfast every day. It makes such a difference to both their well-being in school and their ability to learn.

Recently, we have had children coming into school feeling unwell or falling asleep in class. When questioned, they have claimed that they have not had any breakfast and we have had to provide something for them.

Thank you.

Mrs A Stevenson
Deputy Headteacher

PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent Consultation appointment slips were sent to the classes yesterday. If you do not receive yours by Monday please contact the office to check your appointment time.

We do still have a limited number of spaces available so if you have not yet made an appointment please contact the office.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 05.02.18 Year 3, 4, 5, 6
w/c 19.02.18 Year 4, 5, 6, 3

YEAR 3 COUNT CARS

On Tuesday, Year 3 went out into the car park to collect data about which colour car was most popular with the staff at the school. We worked systematically to ensure that we did not count any cars twice. Having collected our data we created a table to show the popularity of each colour. We discovered that the most popular colour car was blue and that the least popular colours were white and silver.



AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

We are excited to announce that a new Table Tennis Club for Years 3 & 4 will be starting after Half Term; letters have been sent home this week. Spaces are limited so please return the slips as soon as possible if your child would like to take part.

WORLD BOOK DAY

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 1 March, by asking the children to dress as their favourite book character and bring the book in to share with their class. We will be spending the whole day immersed in books and the children will be working towards creating their own books to share. If anyone has any spare comics at home, any donations would be gratefully received by your class teacher, or the office. Thank you.

KENT FIRE & RESCUE

On Monday we are pleased to welcome back Kent Fire & Rescue to talk to the children. The morning will be divided into year group sessions and the children will be spoken to in an age appropriate manner. They will be told about many things, including: what a 999 call means, smoke detectors, the dangers of matches and lighters, and other important and interesting aspects of Fire Safety.

NO SMOKING POLICY

Staplehurst School is a no smoking school and we do not allow smoking anywhere on the premises. Please ensure that you inform any friends or family members who collect your child from school.



Next week Staplehurst School will be supporting Children's Mental Health Week. This year's theme will aim to encourage children, young people and adults to celebrate their uniqueness. It's all about #BeingOurselves!

When we have a positive view of ourselves it can help us to cope with life's challenges, and recognising the different qualities of others can allow us to connect with those around us – which is vital for our own and others' wellbeing.

The children will be discussing this in class and assemblies throughout the week.

MENU CHANGES

Tuesday 6 February

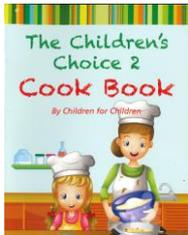
As Shrove Tuesday falls during Half Term this year our catering company will be serving pancakes for dessert on this day instead of banana and chocolate custard. Pancakes will be offered plain or with golden syrup.

Thursday 8 February

To celebrate Chinese New Year our catering company will be providing a different menu from that advertised:

Chinese Sticky Chicken
Sweet Chilli Noodles
Spring Rolls
Oriental Mixed Vegetables
Mixed Salad
Rice
Sticky Pineapple Cake
Fruit Pots/Yoghurts

CHILDREN'S CHOICE 2 COOK BOOK



We are selling the Children's Choice 2 Cook Book published by the Contract Dining Company. The book includes a recipe by Henry P in 3S and the book is on sale for £1 with all proceeds being shared between Demelza House and Five Acre Wood School. If you would like a copy please send £1 to the office or email

office@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk.

ATTENDANCE

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

Whole school attendance

Attendance for the whole school for the week is **90.56%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **4H** who achieved the highest attendance this week with **97.36%**.

MISSING SCOOTER

It was reported on Wednesday morning that a black and orange scooter (a Christmas present) has gone missing. The scooter had a skull on the footplate. Please can you check that this scooter has not been picked up by mistake. Thank you.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
9 February	Year 2	Year 5
23 February	Early Years	Year 4
2 March	Year 1	Year 3
9 March	Year 2	Year 6
16 March	Early Years	Year 5
23 March	Year 1	Year 4

YEAR 6 – KINGSWOOD

The provisional booking made for Kingswood has been oversubscribed this year and we are not able to add any extra pupils onto the booking at this time. The situation may change if there are any cancellations in the next few months and the Centre will be advising us if any places become available. If you know that your child has changed their mind about attending please speak to the office so that we can offer the place to another child. In these circumstances it will be possible for deposits to be refunded if we are able to reallocate the place.

MIDDAY SUPERVISORS

Is your child now at school? Are you looking for a part time job, during term time? We currently have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor, 5 hours a week. If you would like to find out more information about joining our friendly dedicated team then please contact Mrs Zimmer in the office. Thank you.

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 by TEXT and EMAIL.

LOST PROPERTY

We have numerous items of jewellery and clothing in lost property. If you have mislaid any items please come and ask if they have been found.

COMMUNITY NEWS

FEBRUARY MESSY CHURCH

Tomorrow, Saturday 3 February is Messy Church at Staplehurst URC. Doors open at 3.30pm for family board games followed by crafts including gingerbread people, God's family tree board, famous relatives quiz, Mothers' Day cards, anchor family paper chain, weaving, Royal family crowns and tiaras. At 4.45-5pm they have a short service with a few songs until everyone has tea together. Do go along if you can and join in the messy fun.

WORD BUDDY CLUB

On Thursday 15 February at Kent History and Library Centre, Maidstone, the Library service is holding Word Buddy Club from 2.00–3.00pm. There will be Harry Potter themes, crafts and word based activities for children of all ages. There is no fee, no booking required and fancy dress is optional.

FOOTBALL FUN IN HALF TERM

Football Five Star will be running another of their popular half term football sessions at Jubilee Sports Field on Tuesday 13 February. You can book your child's place at <http://footballfivestar.co.uk/holenrol.html>

Please don't leave it to the last minute, they sold out back in October!

HOTSHOTZ HALF TERM TENNIS CAMP

On Tuesday, 13 February Hotshotz Tennis are running a Tennis Camp from 9.00am–1.00pm at Staplehurst Tennis Club. It's £25 for the day and all ages are welcome. To book your place go to www.hotshotztennis.co.uk.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 6 February

Young Voices at the O2 (Choir only)

Wednesday 7 February

Parent Consultations 3.30-5.30pm

Thursday 8 February

Parent Consultations 5.00-7.30pm

Monday 12 – Friday 16 February

Half Term

Thursday 22 February

Raptor Centre visit Early Years

Wednesday 14 March

Class Photographs

Monday 26 March

Parent Drop In (2.45pm)

Tuesday 27 March

Parent Consultations – Years 2 and 6

Thursday 29 March

End of Term 3

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.