



Staplehurst School Newsletter No.23 - Spring Term 2024

[A message from the Senior Team](#)



Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope this message finds you all in good spirits as we reflect on another wonderful week of learning here at Staplehurst!

The week began with a brilliant assembly from our eco committee who explained the significance of food waste, and the importance of making changes to our habits at school in order to make a real difference - more updates will follow.

Governor Morning: on Wednesday our Chair of Governors, members of our governing body and our Local Authority School Improvement Advisor completed a highly successful morning in school. Governors work with the headteacher and senior leadership team to drive the strategic development of the school to continue to raise the quality of education for all pupils. They spent a morning working with leaders and most importantly seeing the school in action: meeting all staff, visiting classrooms, talking to pupils, attending assembly and spending lunchtime with the children. They were impressed with the inclusive nature of our curriculum, the high quality writing across the school and the exceptionally good learning behaviours in every class. Throughout the visit, our children showcased their exceptional abilities and positive attitude to learning. It was truly heartwarming to see our children shine brightly, embodying the values and ethos that make Staplehurst so special.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Governors for taking the time to visit and engage with our school community. Their support and encouragement are invaluable as we continue to strive for excellence in education and nurture the potential within each and every one of our children.

The week has ended with our STEM days - 'Sink or Swim'; it has been fantastic to see the great learning and enthusiasm across the school. Do talk to your children about their learning this weekend!

Have a lovely weekend and enjoy the spring like weather!

Miss Davenport and the Senior Leadership Team

Pride Certificates 08.03.24

Name	Class	Reason
Dakota Lee	EYG	Dakota has consistently demonstrated all our PRIDE values throughout the week. She has shown determination in her writing, listening carefully to identify the sounds and working hard on her letter formation. Dakota has also shown her kind and caring nature, helping other in the class and being particularly helpful in the classroom. Well done Dakota.
Nylah Ahmed	EYF	Nylah has demonstrated tremendous determination this week. She has attempted new activities during child initiated and particularly enjoyed making her boat for STEM week. Nylah thought carefully about what her boat needed in order to successfully float and used a multitude of resources to try and make it waterproof. Nylah has also really impressed me with her writing and has produced some brilliant independent writing including high frequency words and using the set 2 sounds she had learnt. Well done Nylah!
Sophia Ashdown	1A	This week, Sophia has continued to demonstrate her determined attitude to improve the quality of her writing. She has carefully considered different settings that her recount of Naughty Bus could take place in and added adjectives to describe each of these settings. Sophia has also worked hard to use the conjunction because in her writing to add extra information. Well done Sophia, keep it up!
Jemima Jermy	1C	Jemima has demonstrated lots of determination during our STEM project. She has worked well in a team of others to design and build a boat that floats. Jemima could name the materials that floated and used key words to describe the part of her boat.
Aiden Mayhew	1FS	Aiden has shown a good level of determination during our recent Maths sessions. He has worked really hard on using number lines to add and subtract numbers. Aiden has also demonstrated his learning well in our recent addition and subtraction quiz. Well done, Aiden!
Maryann Saunders	2C	Maryann has shown fantastic levels of determination within her phonics and maths work this week. She has tried very hard to use her sound knowledge to spell words. She has been very enthusiastic within our maths topic of fractions where she has been able to find a half of a shape. Well done Maryann, keep up the hard work!
Oliver Pointer	2K	This week Oliver has shown great levels of determination within reading. He has worked well with his partner and has paid attention to the punctuation within the first few chapters of 'The Twits.' This has allowed him to add tone and expression when reading allowed. Well done, keep up the fantastic reading, Oliver!
Oliver Weller	3NS	Oliver has shown our PRIDE values across the week. He has been determined in helping his STEM team achieve a great boat design and creation. He has been working hard put his fantastic knowledge of all the boat parts into practice. Great work Oliver.
Vienna Eastwood	3G	Vienna has worked incredibly well during our STEM project by demonstrating great levels of determination and resilience. Vienna has worked well as a team and listened to her peers. Well done Vienna, keep up the hard work!
Mason Bridger	4W	Mason has had an excellent week and I have been so happy to see him joining in with lessons. In geography and science he has shared his knowledge with the rest of class and in English persevered to write a persuasive formal letter about the rainforest. Well done!
Amelie Dyke	4B	Amelie shows great determination and pride in her work. In English, we have been writing formal persuasive letters, and she has used a many of the features needed for a great piece of writing, including fronted adverbials, rhetorical questions, and paragraphs. Amelie has also used great adjectives, and use of language in her writing. Well done Amelie!
Farron Jones	5C	This week Farron has demonstrated his logical thinking and skills in DT. Through his work in STEM he has been able to investigate joining techniques and worked in a team to design and make a self-propelled boat. He was able to use his artistic skills to draw and label his design. A good week, well done!
Harry Hate	5R	This week Harry has been pushing himself to be more independent and has been encouraging himself to use his walker to get from one place to another. Harry has been pushing himself in his work and involving himself more in the class. Well done Harry!
Rae Barber	6S	This week Rae has made a great start to a first person recount based on our key text 'Letters from the Lighthouse'. Rae has thought carefully about creating imagery through her description and using figurative devices such as simile and personification. Fantastic start Rae!
Leo Sturgeon	6JS	This week, Leo has shown a tremendous attitude towards his writing in English, using outside knowledge to supplement his ideas. He has also shown determination throughout our STEM days. Well done Leo!

Attendance: pupil voice



From the first day of term to the last, the small moments in a school day make a real difference to your child. School days are packed full of moments that matter to your child.

'When I met my two friend in year 1 – George and Oliver.' Archie Year 6

'I enjoyed the moment when I realised my English work was on display because I worked hard.' Maci Year 6

'The moment that mattered to me was when I received my headteacher sticker – I felt very proud!' Noah Year 6

'I enjoyed when I played my drums in front of the school for the first time; I was very proud of myself.' Oscar

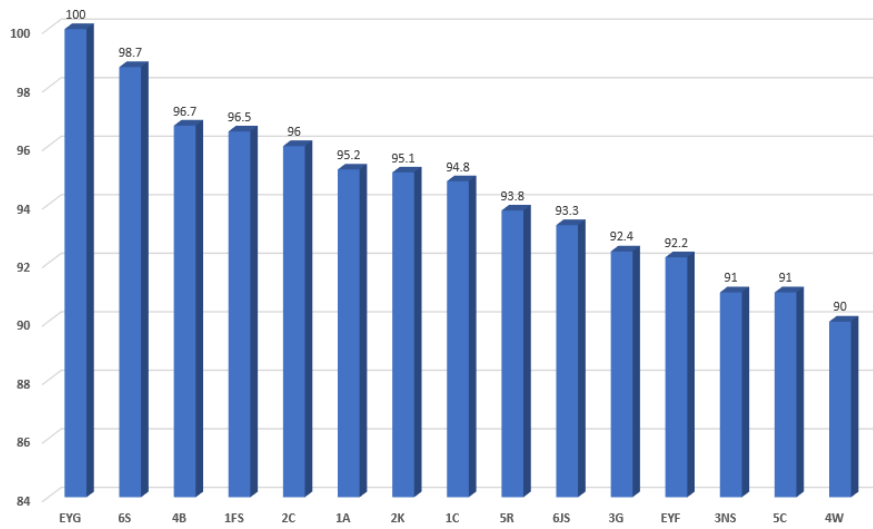
'When I first joined the school in year 6 – I was welcomed as I walked in, and I love this school.' Isla Year 6

'I am really pleased that I have been asked to be a reporter.' Lilly Year 6



1 - Well done to EYG, the weekly winners with 100% who will receive Attendance Ted.

Well done to 6S, the KS2 winners with 98.7% who will receive the Attendance Cup.



Eco Council



As a school, we are keen to do as much as possible to raise awareness of environmental issues and share this knowledge with the children. We are working towards becoming an Eco-School and as part of this have a dedicated group of children who meet regularly to discuss how we can be an eco-friendly school. This week, we held an assembly to discuss food waste in the world and more locally in our school. We talked about why it's important not to waste food and what steps we can take in school to reduce the food we waste. Please do talk to your children about the assembly and see what they can share with you. As well as food waste, we are focusing on saving energy by switching lights off when not in use and the children have been very keen to make sure teachers are remembering to do this! Why not have a look at the link below to see how you can avoid food waste at home- [Love Food Hate Waste / Preventing food waste](#)

Do you think we waste food at Staplehurst Primary School?



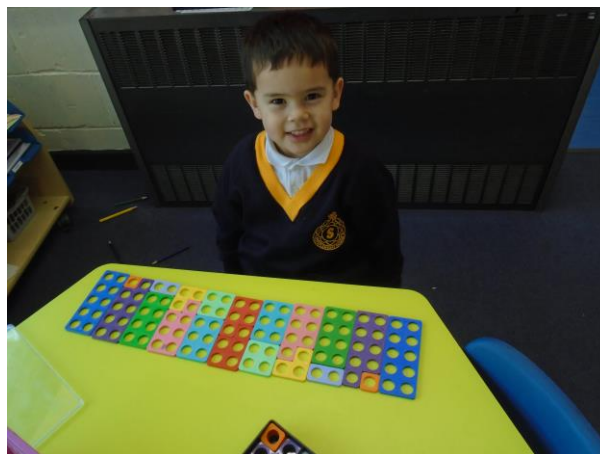
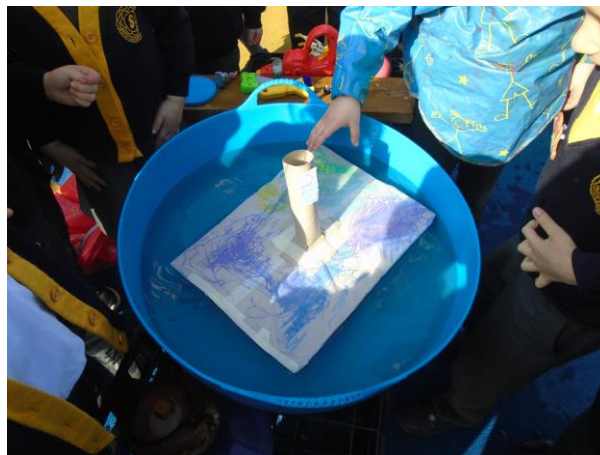
EYFS



This week the children in Early Years have particularly enjoyed STEM week. We have been learning about the different properties of materials and then predicting whether they will float or sink. We then sorted them into two piles.

The children then had a go at making their own boats using recycled materials. Children used their new knowledge to help them build boats that would float. 'I am using a bag to make my boat waterproof'.

Following our White Rose math's the children have started to learn about number bonds to 10 (2 parts). We used Numicon as our manipulative to try and find all the different ways of making 10.











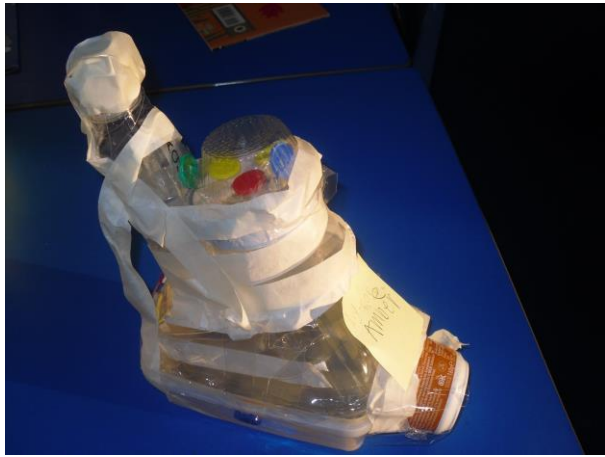
Year 1



Year 1 have really enjoyed their STEM project. Their design brief was to design and build a vessel that will float on water. To achieve this, they firstly had to consider which materials would be suitable to use. They made predictions and observed some different everyday objects float or sink. Then Year 1 learned about different vessels and labelled parts of a sailboat. They then worked collaboratively as a 'crew' to design and build a vessel. Lots of fun was had testing them on water!

To match an object to the material.
To predict whether the object will float or sink.

Object	Material	Sink	Float
	 wood		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	 metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	 plastic		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	 metal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	





2 - We then had to compare our characteristics with other children and we learnt that we are all different but we can always find something we have in common for example we might have the same eye colour, pets or number of siblings.

Year 2



On Monday Year 2 had a special workshop from 'Anna Outdoors'! During the day the children searched for bugs in the woods, had to sort different insects depending on their habitat and key features. We played team building games and they especially enjoyed playing 'Animal Olympics'

The children got to investigate the pond and made an exciting discovery of frogspawn! Our other favourite moment was when we encountered lots of butterflies (some even landed on us)!

The children learnt lots of facts from Anna and we really enjoyed our workshop!













Year 3



In science, the children worked in pairs to sort the rocks by type; Igneous, Metamorphic or Sedimentary. They discussed how each rock type is formed and what characteristics each rock would have.

This week, the children have written some wonderful persuasive letters inspired by our current text 'The Firework Maker's Daughter'. They have included expanded noun phrases and rhetorical questions. It has been great to see the children use persuasive techniques to persuade a character to let them be a firework maker.





Year 4



YEAR 3

What a fantastic week year 4 have had! We started the week by learning about deforestation and why it is important to save the rainforests. In English, we have written an informal letter to persuade loggers not to cut down a tree in the Amazon based on our text, The Great Kapok Tree. The children are using persuasive and emotive language to get their arguments across.

We have also created boats as part of our STEM project- the main aim was to create a boat that could be propelled across water and the children used different methods including balloons,

magnets and elastic bands to achieve this. They worked in groups to make decisions and problem solve. We are looking forward to testing their boats!

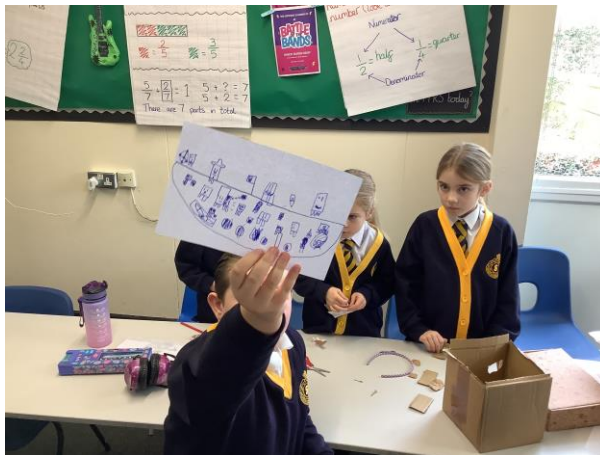




3 - Here, they are designing their vessel.



4 - Here, the 'design engineer' is drawing their final design, and the others are making attachments for their vessel.



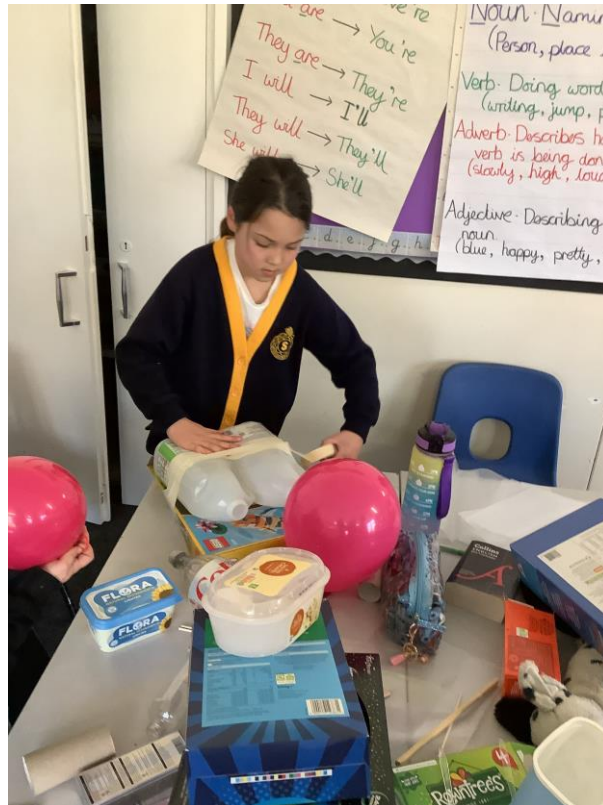
5 - A proud design.



6 - An attachment made, which is going to be used as a window which opens and closes.



7 - A vessel being assembled.



8 - A vessel being assembled.

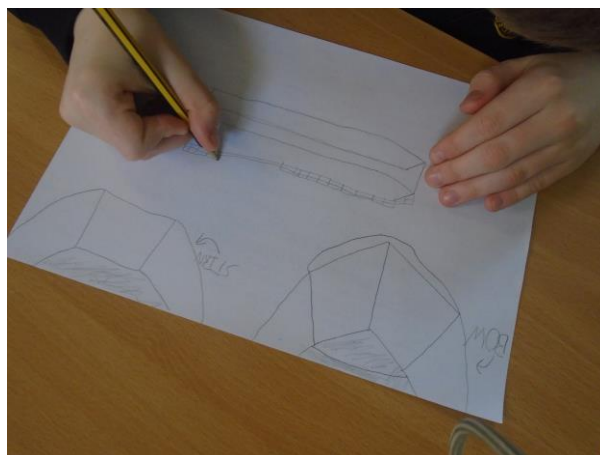
Year 5



YEAR 5

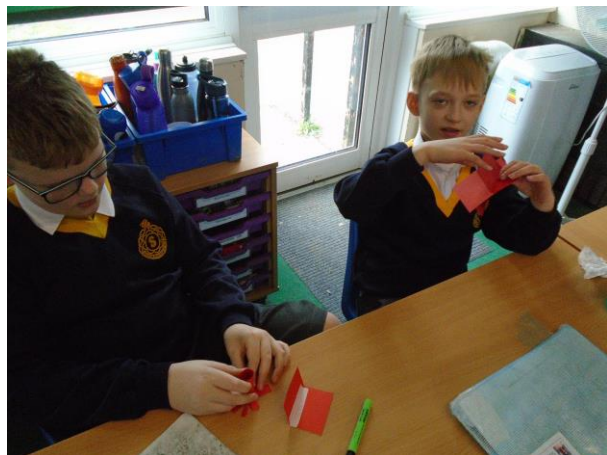
Year 5 have continued their work on Yusra Swims this week to write a formal persuasive letter to the IOC to request being part of the Olympic Refugee Team in the role of Yusra Mardini. Children have been tasked with including persuasive phrases and the subjunctive mood.

This week has also been STEM week across the school. Year 5 are challenged with designing and building a boat which can propel itself. They have investigated joining techniques and begun building their designs whilst working in groups.





I am being very shy to prove my personal belief
 I know I have had to overcome many challenges and
 I think I believe I have had to believe to win at the
 highest level
 In the summer I have great memorable activities that
 have had to be done by myself, my family and my friends
 I think that has led to some progress, maybe in the
 end we were happy but then I have not had these
 challenges stop so instead I will share in a
 foreign place and situation I hope I have not
 enough to other people around the world.
 I am going to get the description my report like goal
 of the team I am also sure there are other
 old people trying to get it, but I explore you
 to make sure I do help when I have what I
 I believe will not only get better and by
 looking at the best I really want to reach the
 goal, the goal of winning in the Olympics. I don't
 not think I will be the greatest runner?
 please think about my application to be your yellow
 olympic runner for it and I will never represent
 the team all have understood to give it my
 best try.
 Thank you for helping you have to read my
 letter I hope you see a character of
 you, really
 your reader



Year 6



This week Year 6 have enjoyed their STEM project: Sink or Swim, whereby they were tasked to design, build and test a motorized fan boat. The children began by deciding their roles within small groups before beginning their design stage. They children had to consider which materials would float and be stable upon water. Following that, the building process began. The children used various materials and different joining techniques to initially build the hull before circuit building and mounting the propeller. We then tested whether the boats floated and were able to move before making additional changes and evaluating. A great couple of STEM Days.

Comic relief own clothes day Friday 15th March

RED NOSE DAY

On Friday 15th March children are invited to wear their own clothes (ideally with some red!) to raise money for Comic Relief in exchange for a £1 donation. This is a charity chosen by the school council who will deliver a whole school assembly prior to the day so the children are aware of why School Council have chosen this important charity as a fundraiser.

Class Assemblies

We will be starting our class assembly programme for the year in term two this year. We would like to invite parents/carers in to share in the wonderful learning that has been taking place. The assembly schedule is as follows:

Term 4 – KS2 - Year 3 (Stone-Age) - Friday 22nd March at 9.00 am in the junior hall [Year 3 Assembly](#)

KS1 - Year 2 (Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole) Friday 15th March at 9.00 am in the junior hall [Year 2 Assembly](#)

EYFS: Thursday March 28th [EYFS Assembly](#)

We look forward to welcoming you in to school.

Many Thanks

Mr Williams-Jones

Key Dates

Dates to Remember

April

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____
26. _____
27. _____
28. _____
29. _____
30. _____

May

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____
26. _____
27. _____
28. _____
29. _____
30. _____
31. _____

June

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____
11. _____
12. _____
13. _____
14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____
19. _____
20. _____
21. _____
22. _____
23. _____
24. _____
25. _____
26. _____
27. _____
28. _____
29. _____
30. _____

Every Friday: Parents into Read - KS1 and EYFS (Please note only Year 1 and Reception on the 15th March due to Year 2 assembly)

8th March and 11th/12th and 13th March 2024 - Book Fair 3:15-3:45 [Book Fair](#)

12th March 2024 - Class Photos [Class Photographs](#)

14th March 2024 - PTA Pre-Loved Uniform Sale - [PTA Pre-Loved Uniform Sale](#)

15th March 2024 - Red Nose Day fundraiser for Comic Relief - Non uniform day - [Red Nose Day](#)

19th March 2024 - Parent Workshop - Supporting your child with worries and fears - 9-10:30am - All Parents

Parent Workshop - Supporting your child with worries and fears -
19th March - 9am-10:30



Parent Workshop
Aimed at parents of children in primary school
Workshops

Kent Emotional Wellbeing Teams
Medway Emotional Support Teams

**Supporting Your Child with
Worries & Fears**

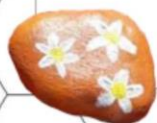
Tuesday 19th March 9am-10:30am

Are your child's worries and fears starting to impact their day to day life? Would you like to come and **meet with other parents and carers** and learn about ways to **support your children so they can manage their concerns and enjoy themselves more?**

You are invited to a workshop which focuses on **understanding what anxiety is, the symptoms** you may notice in your child and some **techniques to help manage this anxiety.**

This workshop will be held at Staplehurst School. If you have any questions or would like to attend, please speak to a member of staff.

We look forward to meeting you.



www.nelft.nhs.uk