

Staplehurst School

# NEWSLETTER



## PRIDE

Positivity

Respect

Independence

Determination

Excellence

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

## SCHOOL NEWS

### ATTENDANCE MONITORING

We would like to thank the whole school community for making such an improved effort to attend school this week following the introduction of our new robust system for monitoring attendance.

We have had such a fantastic turnaround in our figures these past two weeks, that as a reward the children may wear their own clothes to school on **Friday, 4 May**.

**Please do keep it up!**

### 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 **97.16%**.

#### Class attendance

Special congratulations to **2KS and 2O9** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic **100%**.

### LETTER TO KENSINGTON PALACE

This week, following the exciting news that a new prince was born, 2KS wrote a letter to congratulate The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge on the safe arrival of their beautiful baby son. Oscar and Daisy went to the post box with Mrs Monk and Mrs Lindsay to post the letter on behalf of their class.



### EARLY YEARS SPACE ASSEMBLY

On Wednesday, Early Years had their Space Day and were delighted to see so many parents and family members at the assembly. It was wonderful to celebrate all the brilliant learning the children have done this term. Thank you to all the parents who created such amazing costumes. This really helped to make the day special.

### ATTENDANCE ASSEMBLY

On Monday, our Education Welfare Officer, from Kent County Council, came in to school to launch the 'Let's Get Better' campaign to the children. KS1 and Years 3 & 4 had a great time with Attendance Ted answering questions about what they would be allowed time off school for and what would be classed as unauthorised absence.



Years 5 and 6 then had a separate assembly to discuss the expectations on attendance at secondary school. All the children were very engaged and extremely excited to hear about the end of term incentives for children who achieve 100% during Term 5. We look forward to seeing as many parents and carers as possible at the Attendance Information Evening on Monday at 6.30pm, in the Infant Hall.

## SCIENCE IN THE SUN

This week Year 3 have spent lots of time outside, making the most of the good weather. In Science they been learning about the bones in our skeleton. They drew around themselves on the playground in chalk, and then filled in and labelled the bones. They then had an inter-class competition to see who could get the most bones correct. It's been lovely to get the children outside of the classroom and enjoying the sun.



## BOOK DONATION

Tenterden Museum has very kindly donated the book "The Lost Words" written by Robert McFarlane. This book features acrostic poems and stunning illustrations of "nature" related words that have been removed from the Oxford children's dictionary, as they are deemed no longer relevant to our children!

The museum is putting together an archive book about the wildlife in its surrounding areas, and has donated the book to us as a resource. We will be doing a whole school project based on the book next term and donating pages to the museum to go into the archive. Watch this space for more information next term.

## 2018 GREEN TRAVEL MARK – PLATINUM LEVEL



We are thrilled to report that our School has been awarded Platinum Level for the 2018 Green Travel Mark. This prestigious award has been earned as a result of our participation in the KM Walk to School scheme.

We have helped to reduce school-run journeys, pollution and road congestion and are encouraging healthy lifestyles for our pupils.

We thank our parents for their strong commitment to green travel and hope you will continue these great efforts in the future.

## CLASS PHOTOGRAPHS

The class photo proofs were sent home with children last week. As before, the Year 6 classes have been combined into one photograph as a final year souvenir. There is a copy of this in Reception if you would like to come in and take a look. Orders must be returned to the office by **Friday 4 May**.

## DELICIOUS CAKES FOR THAT FRIDAY FEELING!

There will be a cake stall after school next Friday 4 May, to raise funds for Year 6 Leavers Party.

## SCHOOL MEALS

The Contract Dining Company (CDC) used a different supplier this week for some of their food produce. We had some feedback that the meals were not of the usual high quality and we want to assure parents that CDC will be switching back to their usual supplier from next week.

## PLAY EQUIPMENT AFTER SCHOOL

Please may we ask that younger siblings do not play on the equipment when you are collecting your children from the classrooms at the end of the day. The equipment is not suitable for younger children and the school cannot be held liable for any injuries.

## TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

We are pleased to welcome the Travelling Book Fair into school on Thursday 3 May. The fair will be in the infant hall, and open each evening after school until 8 May. Your children will be bringing home a booklet to show you the types of books available. Please support the fair if you can, as the more you buy for your children, the more books we can earn for the school.

## SAVE YOUR 5PS AND 10PS!

During the month of May the Year 6s will be invited to save up as many 5p and 10p coins as they can, to donate to the Leavers' party fund. They would be delighted if any pupils from other year groups would also like to collect for them. There will be a tasty prize for whoever comes up with the most imaginative way of holding/displaying their donated coins. Please bring your collection to the Office the week after the May half-term. Thank you.

## CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
4 May	Year 1	Year 5
11 May	Year 2	Year 4
18 May	Early Years	Year 3
25 May	Year 1	Year 6
8 June	Year 2	Year 5
15 June	Early Years	Year 4
22 June	Year 1	Year 3
29 June	Year 2	Year 6
6 July	Early Years	Year 5
13 July	Year 1	Year 4

## MENU CHANGES

**Tuesday 8 May:** the menu will be Monday's menu of Beef or Veggie Burgers with Wedges, Jacket Potato with Beans, Cheese or Tuna Mayo. Lime and Coconut Drizzle.

**Thursday 17 May:** In celebration of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle's wedding there will be a special menu:

Harry's British Fish & Chips  
 Meghan's Californian Quorn Hot Dogs  
 Chunky Chips  
 Boston Baked Beans  
 Garden Peas  
 Iced Lemon Wedding Cake  
 Strawberries & Cream  
 Assorted Yoghurts

**Friday 18 May:** the menu will be Sausages, Quorn Sausages, Herby Diced Potatoes, Peas and Jelly for dessert.

### SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 30.04.18 Year 4, 5, 6, 3

w/c 07.05.18 Year 5, 6, 3, 4

### BUSTER'S BIG BASH

Buster's Big Bash is now open for booking! This free family event takes place on the morning of Saturday 12 May in Dane John Gardens, Canterbury. It is a celebration of the achievements of pupils in schools using Green travel and Literacy schemes. As well as taking part in a record-attempt walking bus crocodile through Canterbury, children will complete a series of physical and sporting challenges, learn circus skills, race space hoppers and enjoy the go-karts. You can take your teddy bears and have a picnic in front of the circus show. Some special guests are rumoured to be attending this year....keep your eyes peeled for Buster and his friends! Check out this link for more details and to book your free place: <http://www.kmcharityteam.co.uk/walktoschool/bigbash/>

Places are first-come first-served and goody bags will be allocated to the first 300 children checking in at 9.45am on the day. All children who complete the challenge activities will receive attraction vouchers. Please address any queries to: [chayes@thekmgroupp.co.uk](mailto:chayes@thekmgroupp.co.uk)

### MEASLES

Public Health England (PHE) South East is urging people in Kent and Medway to check they are up-to-date with two doses of MMR vaccine. The call comes following 5 confirmed cases of measles since mid-March 2018 in the Medway and Swale areas.

Measles is a highly infectious viral illness that can be very unpleasant and lead to serious complications, especially in people with immune problems, pregnant women, and in babies younger than one year.

Symptoms of measles typically include:

- high fever (temperature of 39°C or higher)
- sore, red, watery eyes
- coughing
- aching and feeling generally unwell
- a blotchy red brown rash, which usually appears 2-4 days after the initial symptoms.

For more information about measles, see [NHS Choices](#)

### CRANBROOK SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS

On Wednesday 16 May Cranbrook School are holding an Open Morning 08.45 – 11am.

Please register your attendance by visiting: [www.cranbrookschool.co.uk/admissions/open-days/](http://www.cranbrookschool.co.uk/admissions/open-days/).

### GOVERNING BODY NEWS

We have recently said goodbye to two members of our Governing Body. Mr Paul Turpin has been a Governor for nearly seven years, during which time he was Chair of the Finance & Resources Committee and then the Community, Growth & Engagement Committee. Mrs Denize Jackson has been a member of the Governing Body for over two years and was the Link Governor for

Health & Safety. We would like to thank them both for the great contribution they have made to the School during that time and wish them well for the future. We are currently in the process of recruiting new Governors. If you are interested please email [clerktogovernors@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:clerktogovernors@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk).

## PTA NEWS

### PTA DISCOS

**Tonight is Disco Night.** Please do not worry if you have missed the ladies selling tickets as you will be able to purchase them on the door.

Years 1, 2 & 3 Disco 4.30pm to 5.45pm £4 entry ticket only.

Years 4, 5, & 6 Disco 6pm to 7.30pm £4 entry ticket only.

There will be a tuck shop open at both discos where children can purchase drinks, crisps, sweets and disco novelty lights.

**Please note: no parents/carers at all discos.**

Parents/Carers will drop their child at the door of the Junior Hall with their completed entry ticket. Please complete the contact details in advance to avoid delays on the door.

Children will enter the hall where there will be teachers and PTA members on hand to look after and assist them at their age-related disco.

At the end of the discos, Parents/Carers will be able to come into the hall where children will be sitting in their year groups. Children will not be allowed to leave unless accompanied by an adult.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### STAPLEHURST UNDER 5S PLAYGROUP JUMBLE

Tomorrow, Saturday 28 April, Staplehurst Under 5s Playgroup is holding a jumble sale between 10am and 12:30pm at the Free Church on Station Road. Entry is £1 per adult and children are free. Stalls are just £5 and you can book via email at [under5events@gmail.com](mailto:under5events@gmail.com).

### PLANT SALE

Staplehurst Horticultural Society is holding a Plant Sale at the Village Centre on Saturday 5 May between 8.30am and 12 noon.

### STAPLEHURST MESSY CHURCH

Saturday 5 May is Messy Church at Staplehurst URC. The theme this month is 'God is with us all the time' with all things messy and creative as usual. You can make jam jar lights, bead bracelets, globe biscuits, family circles and a mega paper chain. Doors open at 3.30 for a 4pm start for crafts and a short service around 4.45 in time for tea all together around 5pm. Do come and join the messy fun - everyone very welcome.

### HEART OF KENT HOSPICE – BLUEBELL WALK 2018

Heart of Kent Hospice are holding their annual Bluebell Walk on Sunday 6 May 2018. This is a lovely walk for all

the family and helps raise much needed funds for the Hospice. It starts and finishes at Harrietsham Village Hall and the 6 mile walk is through the beautiful Kent countryside on the North Downs. Dogs are welcome.

Register now:

Visit: [www.hokh.org/events](http://www.hokh.org/events)

Tel: 01622 790195

Email: [fundraising@hokh.co.uk](mailto:fundraising@hokh.co.uk)

### TONBRIDGE JUNIORS FC TRIALS

Tonbridge Juniors FC are offering trials for boys in Years R – 10 and girls in Years R – 6 on Saturday 12 May between 10am and 12.30pm. Go along in football kit and shin pads to The Racecourse Sportsground, The Slade, Tonbridge TN9 1HR. It's a great opportunity for boys and girls to try out for a community football club whose ethos is 'football for all'.

For more information contact [tonbridgejuniors@gmail.com](mailto:tonbridgejuniors@gmail.com).

### OPEN GARDENS 2018

All Saints Church is organising Open Gardens 2018 over the weekend of 9 and 10 June; gardens can be open for either or both days. Gardens of all kinds are welcomed: tiny or vast, tidy or natural, flowers or vegetables, expert or novice, exotic or just what likes growing!

If you would like to open your garden (or would like more information) please email the organisers:

Mary Henley ([maryhenley@zulogic.co.uk](mailto:maryhenley@zulogic.co.uk)) or

Anne Brenchley ([annebrenchly@yahoo.com](mailto:annebrenchly@yahoo.com))

### SAVE THE DATE



15 July – Staplehurst Manor Summer Fayre

Look out for more information in future newsletters!

## DIARY DATES

### Monday 30 April

Attendance Information Meeting 6.30pm

### Friday 4 May

Non Uniform Day

### Monday 7 May

Bank Holiday – School Closed

### Tuesday 22 May

Parent Drop In (Years R, 1, 3, 4 and 5)

### Wednesday 23 May

Year 3 Trip to Dover Museum

### Friday 25 May

Last day of Term 5

### Friday 15 June

Year 2 Trip to Port Lympne

## 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.