

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

OFSTED VISIT

On Wednesday and Thursday this week Ofsted were in school carrying out an inspection. The official report will be released in due course but in the meantime we would like to thank parents for the many messages of support we received.

YEAR 1 DISCOVER KENYA

Year 1 have been learning about Kenya as part of their Explorers topic and discovering how different it is there, including the landscape and animals. Mrs Ralph has been to Kenya and she brought in some of her souvenirs last Friday to show the children, including a large wooden Maasai man and rhinoceros, a little pot made from porcupine quills and some photos from her trip. The children really enjoyed listening to Mrs Ralph sharing her experience.



YEAR 1 MAKE AND FLOAT BOATS FOR SCIENCE

On Wednesday this week, Year 1 enjoyed a thoroughly successful Science Day! As part of their topic on World Explorers, the children were introduced to Christopher Columbus and his many travels across the oceans to discover new parts of the world. Their project for the day was to design, build, test and evaluate a vehicle to carry Columbus across the water. The children worked in teams, using their knowledge of properties of different materials to make sure their vehicle could float, was water proof and was strong enough to carry Columbus. Great fun was had by all as they tested their vessels out in the sunshine, most of them being very successful, but even those whose vehicles sank were able to remain positive and focus on how they could improve their designs for next time.



YEAR 4 BUILD HEDGEHOG HOUSES

This week year 4 have enjoyed making hedgehog houses as part of their ongoing science work on animals and their habitats. The children used biodegradable materials and thought about what a hedgehog would need to survive. The children made some super houses and we look forward to looking for resident hedgehogs'.



TRAVELLING BOOK FAIR

We would like to thank our children and parents that supported the school and bought books at the book fair. We raised a huge amount that will be spent on books for our new library.

DONATIONS PLEASE

Year 2 need used kitchen roll cardboard tubes for their spy project as part of their Secret Agents Training.

YEAR 6 – SATS WEEK

Next week our Year 6 pupils will be sitting the SATs tests. Don't forget if your child is coming in for breakfast they are meeting at 8.20am in the Junior Hall. We wish our Year 6s all the best for next week. You have worked really hard – good luck!

COFFEE AFTERNOON

It was disappointing that only one parent came to our Coffee Afternoon on Wednesday when our Education Welfare Officer, from Kent County Council, came in. It was an opportunity for parents to chat about any worries or concerns they have about attendance and other school issues. Hopefully we will be able to offer a similar event again in the future when more parents may be able to attend.

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 **95.77%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **4R** who achieved the highest attendance this week with **98.4%**.

PHOTOS OF SCHOOL EVENTS

We would like to remind parents that if you take any photos of your children on school site, either within the building or outside, you **must NOT include any other children in the picture**. Some of our children are not legally allowed to have their photo shared and could be put at risk if any photo of them is uploaded electronically. **The safety of all our school children is paramount**. The school has a duty of care to protect vulnerable children and it is essential that these media rules are adhered to by the whole school community. Thank you for your co-operation.

POWER UP TO RECYCLING

As you know the school collects used batteries for recycling and we are delighted to announce that we have won a £10 KCS Voucher as a reward for collecting between 16 – 50 Kgs of batteries for recycling. This would not have been possible without your support. We are continuing to collect the batteries and the box will once again be in reception.

YEAR 5 BIKEABILITY

The Year 5 Bikeability is now full. Information for parents has been sent home; please send your permission form and £10 payment to the office as soon as possible.

DELICIOUS TREATS ON FRIDAYS

Year 6 have organised two more dates for cake/lolly sales to raise funds for the Year 6 Leavers Party: Friday 18 and Friday 25 May.

We'll announce nearer the time which treats will be on sale. Hopefully the warmer weather will stay with us and we can offer ice lollies!

YEAR 5 – PESE 2019 (11+ KENT TEST)

Registration for the 11+ opens on the 1 June and closes on the 2 July. Parents will be able to register online by visiting www.kent.gov.uk/ola, or fill in a paper registration form, which will be available at the office after 1 June.

Children should have brought home a letter today detailing their CAT scores and an invitation to an information meeting on Wednesday 22 May 2018 at 6pm.

YEAR 6 – HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT

Parents of our current Year 6 children will need to apply to Kent County Council for transport to secondary schools using Form T1. You can apply online www.kent.gov.uk/schooltransport or paper copies are available from the office. Applications must be made by the end of July to ensure the travel pass is ready for the start of term in September.

YEAR 6 – SAVE YOUR 5PS AND 10PS!

Hopefully the Year 6s are saving up as many 5p and 10p coins as they can, to donate to the Leavers' party fund. Don't forget 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.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 14.05.18 Year 6, 3, 4, 5
w/c 21.05.18 Year 3, 4, 5, 6

MENU CHANGES

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.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
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

CRANBROOK SCHOOL OPEN EVENTS

On Wednesday 16 May Cranbrook School are holding an Open Morning from 8.45 until 11am.

Please register your attendance by visiting:
www.cranbrookschool.co.uk/admissions/open-days/.

GOVERNING BODY NEWS

After almost four years in the role, Caroline Downey stepped down as Chair of Governors earlier this year. It was always Caroline's intention to step aside at the end of the summer, but circumstances meant that she chose to bring forward her decision, although she will continue as a Governor to aid with succession planning. Our Vice-Chair, Chris Roome, stepped up as Acting Chair and has since been appointed as the Chair by the rest of the Governing Body. Caroline Bennett has been appointed as the new Vice-Chair.

PTA NEWS

SUMMER FAIR 23 JUNE 2018

The PTA is starting to prepare the stalls for the Summer Fair and need any unwanted crockery for the Crockery Smash.

There will be a non-uniform day on Friday 25 May in exchange for bottles or chocolate for the Tombola at the fair.

Also Kim Pullen estate agents will be sponsoring us by putting up For Sale boards advertising the summer fair. If you are able to have a board up at your property for approximately two weeks advertising the fair then please leave your address and contact details with the office, and we will make the arrangements.

COMMUNITY NEWS

STAPLEHURST UNDER 5S PLAYGROUP

On Monday 21 May Staplehurst Under 5s Playgroup are having an open morning between 9:30 and 11:00am for prospective parents and children to come meet the children, staff and committee members and all the activities they have to offer. Refreshment will be available.

OPEN GARDENS WEEKEND

Staplehurst Open Gardens weekend is coming up soon: Saturday 9 and Sunday 10 June. Programmes cost £5 and give free entry to 19 gardens in and around Staplehurst, with refreshments offered at some venues. Staplehurst School Gardening Club is proud to be opening on both days, so do come along to support their work. Buy your programme now from: 'Made by Kent' or ring 891258 or 891225 or email maryhenley@zulogic.co.uk

SAVE THE DATE



15 July – Staplehurst Manor Summer Fayre
 Look out for more information in future newsletters!

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 22 May

Year 3 Roman Dress Up Day
 Parent Drop In (Years R, 1, 3, 4 and 5) (2.45pm)
 Year 5 Secondary School Transfer Meeting (6pm)
 Welcome Meeting Reception Classes 2018 (7pm)

Wednesday 23 May

Year 3 Trip to Dover Museum
 Year 4 Transition Meeting (6pm)

Friday 25 May

Last day of Term 5
 Year 2 Dress Up as Secret Agents
 Non Uniform Day to support PTA

Monday 4 June

Start of Term 6

Wednesday 6 June

Early Years Trip to Rare Breeds Centre

Wednesday 13 June

Sports Day

Friday 15 June

Year 2 Trip to Port Lympne

Saturday 23 June

PTA Summer Fair (12-4pm)

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.