

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

FIRST DAY AT SCHOOL SUPPLEMENT

Our Early Years classes had a practise run this week for the visit by the Kent Messenger next week. Hopefully these photos will be in the First Day at School supplement in the Kent & Sussex Courier newspaper during the weeks commencing 8 and 15 October.



HEADTEACHER RECRUITMENT

The Headteacher interviews took place on Thursday and Friday this week. We will let you know the outcome as soon as possible.

SCHOOL TRIPS

Here at Staplehurst we aim to offer the children a range of school trips to enhance their learning which are predominantly based on the topics they are covering in class. We always aim to keep the costs as low as possible.

By law we have to state that payment for these trips are by way of a "voluntary contribution". However, in reality we do not have the funding to subsidise trips if payment is not received from all parents. We also require payment promptly in order to finalise arrangements.

We recognise that some of our families may have financial difficulties of their own. If this is the case, please do not hesitate to come in and discuss this with either the class teacher or a member of our office staff. Where possible, we will give you as much notice as we can for forthcoming trips to enable you to plan ahead.

We are only going to be offering one trip per year, per year group. It would be extremely disappointing if, for financial reasons, we cannot continue to provide these exciting and enjoyable opportunities for your children.

Mrs Stevenson
Acting Headteacher

EARLY YEARS NEWS

This week EYFS discovered Winston the book wolf behind the special door. Winston the wolf liked to eat books with his mouth but a little girl taught him to eat words with his eyes! Winston asked the children to help him find signs and labels around our school, we have had a fantastic week!



SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 1.10.18	Year 3, 4, 5, 6
w/c 8.10.18	Year 4, 5, 6, 3

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year's Harvest Festival Assembly will take place next week on Tuesday 2 October in our Junior Hall (sorry this is not open to parents). Andrew, Silke and Dhenis will be here to preside over the service. This year, all donations will be given to Maidstone Day Care Centre and a representative from the organisation will also be present. We kindly ask for donations **of tinned goods and packets of dry food including pasta, soups, beans, sauces**, etc, but NO fresh produce please. We also ask that you check that all food is within its best before date. If you would like to donate an item please send it in with your child from the week beginning 1 October. Any donations will be very much appreciated.

ATTENDANCE

The Department for Education's target for attendance is 95%. We always strive for 100%.

Whole school attendance

Attendance for the whole school for the week is **95.33%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **6W16** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic **98.15%**.

CENSUS DAY – MENU CHANGE

Thursday 4 October is Census Day and we have a special Superhero themed menu. A letter of explanation is being sent out to KS1 parents.

Hungry Hulk Burgers / Superman's Kryptonite Pizza (v)
Bionic Wedges
Punchy Peas
Super Speed Sweetcorn
Spider Cakes

MOBILE PHONES

Only those children in Year 5 and 6 who walk to and from school may bring mobile phones into school. Phones must be switched off at all times while on the school premises and in the grounds. Phones must be handed into the Class Teacher on arrival for safekeeping. After school, phones may not be switched on until the child leaves the school gates. Thank you for your co-operation

BREAKFAST

We have noticed a number of children are arriving at school saying they are hungry and have not eaten breakfast. Please ensure your child has a full and satisfying breakfast before they come to school – it really does help them to concentrate with learning. If providing breakfast is difficult or time consuming, we do have an excellent Breakfast Club on site which starts at 7.30, 7.45 or 8am with a price sliding scale.

YR6 – KINGSWOOD TRIP 2019

Please note that the deadline to pay the deposit for Kingswood next year is **20 October**. The method of payment is by credit/debit card through ParentMail. You can also complete the consent form via ParentMail but please ignore the reference to a previous trip above the tick boxes for parental consent. If you are experiencing any payment difficulties please speak to the office in confidence.

SECONDARY SCHOOL OPEN SESSIONS FOR YR 6

Look out for open events being offered at the secondary schools in the area as they are now being promoted on school websites.

Please note that attendance at the sessions offered during school hours will only be authorised for pupils in Year 6.

YR 6 SECONDARY SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

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 closing date is **Wednesday 31 October 2018** (parents of children who took the Kent Test (11+) will be notified of the results on **Thursday 11 October**).

FOR SALE

Pianos

If anyone would like to buy two pianos we have for sale please speak to the office. We are willing to take offers and Mrs Seal is happy to show them to anyone interested. Buyer must be able to collect.

Table Tennis Tables

We also have two table tennis tables for sale - brand new in packaging. If anyone would like to buy one we are willing to sell them for £150 each. Buyer must be able to collect.

HARLEQUIN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

All children from Reception up to the Year 6 are welcome to attend. Places must be booked in advance and you can book 1 – 5 afternoons per week.

At After School Club they provide a healthy snack with a drink at about 4:00pm, which is always popular. The children then have the chance to experience the huge variety of resources and planned activities on offer within our quiet area, active area and craft area. Harlequin will also have use of the outside play spaces on the school grounds. After School Club finishes at either 6:00pm or 6:30pm, depending what is booked.

If you would like more information please email alison@hosc.co.uk

PTA NEWS

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT

Our Family Bingo Night is just over a week away; tickets are available NOW online at www.jumblebee.co.uk/familybingonightstaplehurstschool and will be available on the gate after school all next week. We regret that tickets cannot be bought on the night. We have some fabulous adults and children's prizes so bring your own drinks and nibbles for a fun filled evening.

OUR PTA SHED

Our PTA shed which we use to store lots of our resources in, is in a very poor condition. Water gets in through the roof and this can ruin our equipment. We would love a company to donate a shed to us in return for promotion on the shed and on the school's Facebook page. If you are someone who can help (or know someone) please get in touch with us via the school office. Thank you.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

All the Christmas cards have now been collected and sent off to be scanned in. There are some innovative designs and it was lovely to see the care and attention the children put in. As soon as we have word from the company, your child will come home with a leaflet and a sticker with the login for our school, so you can order Christmas cards and other Christmas gifts with your child's design on.

PTA MONEY

You may wonder where the money raised from PTA events goes. The school has recently bought some large blue screens which have been used to section off learning areas in Year 1, 2 and 3. These are a huge asset because they help children stay focused on their learning activity. Money has also been spent on new white boards for some classrooms.

DONATIONS PLEASE

The PTA is preparing a new library and want to make it a welcoming place that's cosy for the children. If anyone has any clean cushions or beanbags they would be willing to donate they would be very gratefully received.

NEXT MEETING

Our next PTA meeting is on Tuesday 9 October at 8pm in the Kings Head. Please come along if you would like to get involved. Or do contact us first via the school office if you would prefer.

COMMUNITY NEWS

STAPLEHURST MESSY CHURCH

Messy Church restarts for the year next Saturday, 6 October at Staplehurst United Reformed Church. Doors open at 3.30pm for board games and welcome for crafts and activities from 4pm, this month all on the theme of how we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (a verse in the Psalms). From 4.45pm there is a very short service with a story, singing and prayer before everyone shares a tea provided by the Messy Team from around 5 until 6pm. The Messy Team look forward to seeing you there and giving you a very warm welcome!

STAPLEHURST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Friday 12 October is Quiz and Chips Night at Staplehurst School from 6.30pm for a 7pm start. Entrance is £6 per person at the door with an optional fish and chips supper for £6 per person. Alternatively call 01580 892665 before 5 October and you can get a 6 person table package including food for £60! Maximum tables of 6 and all proceeds to Staplehurst Horticultural Society.

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 3 October

Year 5 Trip to Drusillas

Thursday 4 October

Year R Class Photos by Kent Messenger

Saturday 6 October

PTA BINGO Night (6pm)

Monday 8 October

Year R Meet the Teacher (2.30pm)

Friday 19 October

INSET Day

ADMIN

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

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

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