

Staplehurst School



# NEWSLETTER

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

## SCHOOL NEWS

### ONLINE SAFETY

It is hugely important that parents closely monitor what their child(ren) is/are watching on-line. The school include messages regarding on-line safety whenever possible in the teaching but it is important this message is reiterated at home. If you have any concerns regarding the content of what your child views on-line please contact the Inclusion Team.

### KS1 PERFORMANCE TICKETS

Tickets for the Early Years and KS1 Christmas Production were sent home today. There are still some tickets available, which can be obtained from the school office, up to a maximum of two per family.

### CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCES

Some parents will be aware that we looked into filming our KS1 Christmas Performance this year. Unfortunately this is not going to be possible due to safeguarding reasons as we have children taking part that cannot be filmed. We know that parents will be disappointed but hope you understand the difficulties that are faced with these issues and that the safety and security of our children is of paramount importance.

Parents/Carers will be able to take photographs during the performance but may we remind you that images must not be posted on social media.

### STUDENT COUNCIL UPDATE

The topic this week was School Dinners and most of the children who have them are really pleased. We did however receive the following suggestions which we will discuss with The Contract Dining Company:

- Larger portions please for KS2
- Burgers more often
- Please can we have:
  - A full fry up
  - Honey Roast Ham.

### PUPIL PHOTOGRAPHS

- The photograph proofs have now been collected but you may still place your order online.

### PTA CHRISTMAS FAIR

**HO, HO, HO, the Christmas Fair will be at school tomorrow!!**

Come along and join us from 12 noon until 3.00pm. There will be lots of stalls and entertainment for the whole family and you will also be able to support Year 6 with fundraising for their leavers' party.

Come and enjoy some wonderful festive nibbles, cakes, a mince pie or may be two, wash it down with some mulled wine or a cuppa, and listen to some of the children sing some festive carols.

Visit Father Christmas and his Elf friends in our grotto which this year will be run and supported by Chapel Lane Preschool.

We hope to see you all there.

### HELEN GRANT CHRISTMAS CARD COMPETITION WINNER

Yesterday, MP Helen Grant came and met the children from 2O, 2KS and 3T who had entered her Christmas Card Competition. Mrs Grant praised the children for the high standard of entries and announced the winner for Staplehurst School: Amelia C 2KS. All children have received a certificate and Amelia was presented with a certificate and prize goodie bag.



### SECRET SANTA

Once again the children were excited to take part in Secret Santa and had the chance to do some Christmas shopping of their own. The PTA would like to say a huge thank you for all the donations and to all the parents who kindly came and wrapped the presents. Without your help and generosity events like this could not take place and the PTA has raised just over £1,000 for the school which is fantastic!



### CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
15 Dec	Year 2	Year 4

### SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 11.12.17	Year 4, 5, 6, 3
w/c 18.12.17	Year 3, 6, 5, 4

### 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 **93.65%**.

#### Class attendance

Special congratulations to **6L** who achieved the highest attendance this week with **98.96%**.

### ADOPTIONS – RECORD MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOLS

Did you know that if you are the parent of an adopted child it is necessary for the school records to be updated to reflect this. Please let us know in confidence if this affects 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.**

### SCHOOL JACKETS

Now that the weather is changing may we remind you that we do keep in stock reversible waterproof fleeces at school. The jackets have the school logo on the front and light reactive triangles on them so they can be seen in the dark. The jackets are excellent value at £15.

### CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Next Wednesday 13 December is Christmas Lunch Day. The children are waited on by staff and there is a festive atmosphere. Due to high demand parents are unable to have lunch with their children that day.

The menu will be:

- Roast Turkey & Sausage wrapped in Bacon served with Sage & Onion Stuffing
- Honey Roasted Quorn Fillet
- Roast Potatoes, Brussel Sprouts, Carrots, Peas
- Festive Ice Cream, Satsumas or Homemade Christmas Pudding, served with cream

### PTA NEWS

What a fantastic start to fundraising for the school:

Last Friday was the School Christmas Discos, which were a great success. The children all had fun and the PTA raised just over £700 for the school.

Yesterday was the Early Years Disco Party. The PTA would like to say a massive thank you to Rebecca Piggott, Storm Pereira and Sarah Cession who joined the Early Years Teaching Team and helped all the children have a lovely time. Ticket sales amounted to £95.00.

Raffle tickets for this year’s Christmas Raffle have been sent home this week. There has been tremendous support from lots of local businesses and the PTA has been able to offer some fantastic prizes: 1st prize is £100 cash. Raffle tickets are a £1 each or a book is £5. Please return your filled in ticket stubs and money back into school in a named and sealed envelope by **Thursday 14 December** at the latest. The draw will take place on Friday 15 December.

### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### STAPLEHURST FREE CHURCH

Meet Santa in his winter wonderland grotto at Staplehurst Free Church on **Saturday 16 December 10.00am to 2.00pm.**

Admission is only £2 and includes a small gift. There will also be an opportunity to do a little Christmas shopping and find that extra special Christmas gift on the craft stall.

Why not stay for lunch in the café and try out the festive additions to the cafe menu at what will be the last café session before 2018!

Also, the church welcomes you to go and be reminded of the events surrounding the very first Christmas as on **Sunday 17 December at 10:30am** when their Kid's Church will lead our Nativity Service.

### **ANGEL FESTIVAL – ALL SAINTS' CHURCH**

All Saints' Church would like to welcome you to take part in Staplehurst Community Angel Festival at All Saints' Church on 16 and 17 December.

To participate, all you need to do is make an Angel, which will be displayed in the Church for everyone to enjoy. Entry is free to all.

Angels can be made from any material and be any size. They can be made from papier mache, wood, feathers, clay, abstract art, paintings, photography, cards and much more in any size or form but please attach to (or place beside) your Angel, a card with a short note explaining what your angel means to you.

Angels can be placed in the Church during the week leading up to and including Friday 15 December using the boards provided (which will be laid over some of the pews), tables, window sills and floor. Please do not use any "blu tack", nails, staples, drawings pins or other sharp objects on walls, pews or general church furnishings. Angels should be free standing.

Anybody who would like to enter an Angel, please contact:

All Saints Church Parish Office on 01580 891258 or e-mail [allsaintsstaplehurst@enterprise.net](mailto:allsaintsstaplehurst@enterprise.net).

If you wish to illuminate your Angel, please use battery operated lights as there are NO electricity points that can be used in church.

The winning Angel will be announced at the Nine Lesson & Carol Service on Sunday 17 December at 6.30pm.

## **DIARY DATES**

### **Saturday 9 December**

PTA Christmas Fair 12-3.00pm

### **Tuesday 12 December**

KS1 Christmas Performance 1.45pm

### **Wednesday 13 December**

KS1 Christmas Performance 9.30am

### **Tuesday 19 December**

KS2 Christmas Performance 9.30am

End of Term

### **Wednesday 20 December**

INSET Day

### **Thursday 4 January 2018**

Start of Spring Term (Term 3)

## **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.