

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

YEAR 1 PLANT BEANS

Yesterday, Year 1 planted some beans as part of their science topic linked with Jack and the Beanstalk.

Each week the children will be taking photographs and making drawings in order to track the growth.



YEAR 6 – WASTED

In preparation for their transition to secondary school, on Wednesday, Year 6 received a visit from 'Theatre ADAD' who provided an interactive show and drama workshop on the theme of drugs education. They learnt about the differences between legal and illegal drugs, and about what the benefits of some drugs (e.g. medicines) are, as well as the dangers. They showed a very mature attitude to asking and answering questions.



HOUSE POINT CHALLENGE WINNERS

Attenborough – Red House were the winners of last term's House Point Challenge and enjoyed wearing their own clothes to school today. Well done Red House.

SPRING CLUBS LIST

Enclosed with the Newsletter today is the new Spring Term Clubs List.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 15.01.18 Year 4, 5, 6, 3

w/c 22.01.18 Year 5, 6, 3, 4

MENU CHANGES

Pizza Party Day – 18 January 2018

Thursday 18 January is School Census Day when the Government counts the number of school meals taken and determines how much funding to send to schools for the year. **With school budgets being continually squeezed, it would really help us if your child could try a school meal on this day please.** Our catering company will be providing a different menu from that advertised:

Margherita Pizza
Meat Feast Pizza
Veggie Pizza
Wedges
Sweetcorn
Salad Cart
Vanilla Ice Cream
Fruit Pots/Yoghurts

Friday 19 January 2018

Due to the menu change on Thursday, the following menu will be served:

Fish Fingers
Jacket Potato
Chips
Baked Beans
Mixed Salad
Fruit Pots/Yoghurts

CORRECT SCHOOL UNIFORM

Visitors to the school are always complimentary about our children, their behaviour and how smart they look. However, it has been noticed that some of our pupils are not coming to school in the correct uniform. In particular:

- The branded School Book Bag or Ruck Sack must be used for children in KS1;
- Hair bows should be no larger than the palm of a hand and must be either blue, gold or white with no sparkles;
- Only stud earrings are permitted;
- Black shoes must be worn, not trainers;
- False nails/nail varnish are not permitted.

Please ensure that your children are correctly dressed in full uniform every day in line with the school policy which can be found on our website.

EARLY YEARS NEWS

The Early Years News telling you all about their new topic will be issued on Monday.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
19 January	Year 2	Year 4
26 January	Early Years	Year 3
2 February	Year 1	Year 6
9 February	Year 2	Year 5
23 February	Early Years	Year 4
2 March	Year 1	Year 3
9 March	Year 2	Year 6
16 March	Early Years	Year 5
23 March	Year 1	Year 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 **94.95%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **3S** who achieved the highest attendance this week with **98.77%**.

MIDDAY SUPERVISORS

Is your child now at school? Are you looking for a little part time job, during term time? We have a vacancy for a Midday Supervisor, 3 hours a week. If you would like to find out more information about joining our friendly dedicated team then please contact Mrs Zimmer in the office. Thank you.

Y6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP MAY 2018

Your child will have brought home a Trip Payment Card showing the outstanding balance owed for the residential trip in May. These have been sent home for information only, but we would like to remind you that you can pay instalments towards the cost as and when you wish to. These can be of any amount and can be paid direct to school by cash, cheque (made payable to Staplehurst School), or online at www.scopay.com. The balance must be paid in full on or before the **23 March 2018**.

SCHOOLS CLUB SPORTS KIT

If you have any Staplehurst School Sports kit at home please return it to Mr Littleton as soon as possible as the kit will be needed for forthcoming fixtures in football and netball. If you know of any pupil who has left the school who may still have old school kit, please ask them to return it to school.

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.

TA STAFFING

The school continually strives to ensure that the Teaching Assistants at the school are deployed to best meet the needs of the children they work with. We have therefore decided to move a small number of TAs to new areas of the school to ensure that the needs of the pupils are met effectively.

GOVERNOR NEWS

No nominations were received for the Parent Governor election which took place last term. If you think you might be interested in becoming a Governor but are unsure of what the role involves, then please contact one of our Clerks to Governors via:

clerktogovernors@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk who will be happy to have an informal chat with you.

COMMUNITY NEWS

DEVELOPMENT NAMING COMPETITION

David Wilson Homes who are building the new housing development on the Hen & Duckhurst Farm site north of Marden Road is offering our children the opportunity to name the development.

Our Year 5 pupils have already been involved in this and the developers liked their idea of a name inspired by the theme of Ducks or Flowers.

However, they need more suggestions to consider so we are opening up the competition to the rest of the school.

There's not much time, but if your child can put forward a suggested development name and the reason for their choice and send it into the office by **Monday 15 January** there's a chance of winning a £20 voucher and a photo in the local press.

Please get your thinking caps on over the weekend and send your entries into the office either in person or via office@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk.

Watch out for further competitions coming soon as the development progresses!

BOWER GROVE PARENT SUPPORT

Bower Grove Support is a support group for families for children with special needs. The group hold meetings at Bower Grove School, Fant Lane Maidstone and also hold various information events that cover a wide range of subjects. If you have any questions or would like to know more about the support they provide then call Josephine Cousins during school hours on 01622 726773.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 6 February

Young Voices at the O2 (Choir only)

Wednesday 7 February

Parent Consultations 3.30-5.30pm

Thursday 8 February

Parent Consultations 5.00-7.30pm

Monday 12 – Friday 16 February

Half Term

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Clubs List Spring Term 2017-18

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.