

Staplehurst School



NEWSLETTER

PRIDE

P
PositivityR
RespectI
IndependenceD
DeterminationE
Excellence

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

SCHOOL NEWS

ATTENDANCE

Parents have a legal duty to ensure that their children attend school regularly and arrive on time.

We always look at attendance on a case by case basis as the school is accountable for drops in our overall attendance levels. **Currently the school attendance for this academic year is 93% which falls short of the minimum 95% expected by the local authority and Ofsted.** Our figures also show that **45% of children at Staplehurst School do not have acceptable levels of attendance.**

As a result, the Senior Leadership and Inclusion Teams, have agreed upon a new robust system for monitoring and, ultimately, improving our attendance. This system will begin from 26 March 2018 and will, in line with our Attendance Policy, involve the actions detailed below:

FOR ALL	Updates for parents/carers on their child's attendance at the start of each term.
STEP ONE	A letter home if the attendance falls below 95%.
STEP TWO	A further letter home if the attendance drops below 90%, with the parents being invited in to meet with the Acting Head Teacher. <u>All</u> absences therefrom must be evidenced with a doctor's note/prescription/ appointment card. If these are not provided, the absence will be marked as unauthorised .
STEP THREE	If no improvement is seen, a referral to the Local Authority may be made. A Penalty Notice can be issued if a child is absent for 10 or more half day sessions (5 school days) without authorisation . This is a fine which will be enforced by the Local Authority, not the school.

Lateness

10 incidents of late arrival (after the registers have closed) could result in a referral to the Local Authority. A Penalty Notice Warning letter and a fine may be imposed and enforced by the Local Authority.

Please also note that no absence will be authorised for any reason other than illness (or associated hospital appointments) except in extreme circumstances (see our Attendance Policy).

Any child that has low attendance (below 90%) will not be eligible for SEN support or be able to access regular interventions. We do not have the capacity within the school to run extra learning groups for children who do not routinely attend.

We very much hope that parents will work with the school to ensure that their children are consistently here on time and ready to learn. Obviously, if there are extenuating circumstances around your child's attendance, then these will be discussed in the meeting with the Acting Head Teacher.

We very much want to encourage high attendance levels for all our pupils in order that they achieve their full potential. Consequently, we are coming up with some great incentives for them so that they also take some responsibility for getting themselves ready on time – keep an eye out for the new 'Let's Get Better' project being launched at the start of next term. A parent's information evening on all of the above, will be held on **30 April at 6.30pm** in the Junior Hall. We would like to invite you all to attend.

MRS STEVENSON
Acting Headteacher

SPORT RELIEF DAY



Today children and staff wore sports clothes to school for a donation to support Sport Relief 2018. We would like to thank you once again for your generosity as we raised just over £383 for this most worthy cause. There is still more to come so we will update you next week.

YEAR 2 GET ACTIVE

Year 2 went out for a brisk walk before lunch today. The children also did star jumps, lunges and hops and talked about what happens to our heart and bodies when we exercise.



YEAR 3S ENJOY THE SUN

On Wednesday 3S made the most of the spring sunshine by going outside to read and have an impromptu PE lesson. It was so warm that they even decided to take off their jumpers and cardigans. The children all loved being able to get outside now that the weather has improved and it helped everyone forget the recent cold weather we have had.



MENU CHANGE – THURSDAY 29 MARCH

Please note that on the last day of term the menu will be:

Margarita Pizza
Salmon Fish Fingers
Chunky Chips
Baked Beans
Mixed Salad
Mixed Fruit Yoghurts
Fruit Pots/Fruit

YEAR 2 PARENT CONSULTATIONS

Parent Consultation appointment slips have been sent to the classes. If you do not receive yours by Monday please contact the office to check your appointment time.

We do still have a limited number of spaces available so if you have not yet made an appointment please contact the office.

INTERNET ACCESS AND GAMING

We have been made aware that a small number of pupils in our school are accessing inappropriate on line gaming material. Games such as 'Call of Duty' have age restrictions for very good reasons and accessing inappropriate material can have a very profound effect on the emotional wellbeing of primary aged children. We would urge all parents to ensure that the material their children access is age appropriate and suitable for their age and ability. Please note that children may appear calm when playing these games but they are designed to 'busy' the brain and this can be harmful. If you have any queries, please do speak to Mrs Laslett in the Inclusion Team.

SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 26.03.18 Year 5, 6, 3, 4

w/c 16.04.18 Year 6, 3, 4, 5

HOME SCHOOL AGREEMENT

Thank you to those parents who have already sent back the new Agreement between parents and the school. Reminders have been sent out so if you have not yet returned the form for your child/ren we ask that you do so by next week. Thank you.

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 **96%**.

Class attendance

Special congratulations to **4R13 and 6C15** who achieved the highest attendance this week with a fantastic **100%**.

CLOCKS GO FORWARD

Please do not forget to alter your clocks this weekend to British Summer Time. Thank you.

DELICIOUS CAKES AND COOKIES FOR THE END OF TERM

There will be a cake/cookie stall after school on **Thursday 29 March** to raise funds for Year 6 Leavers Party.

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLIES

Date	KS1 Assembly 9am	KS2 Assembly 2.45pm
20 April	Year 2	Year 3
27 April	Early Years	Year 6
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

PUPIL PREMIUM

Do you receive any of the following benefits?

- Income Support
- Income-based Job Seekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (providing you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit) and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit

If you so, you qualify for Pupil Premium which means your child/ren is/are entitled to:

- Free school trips**
- Free breakfast at Breakfast Club**
- Free school milk**
- Assistance towards the purchase of uniform and equipment**
- Paid swimming sessions**
- Free school meals if your child is in Years 3-6**
- Funding for one fee paying club**

If you would like more information please speak to the office or Inclusion Team in complete confidence.

GARDENING CLUB

Now that spring is on its way, Gardening Club has started again. The club is open to anyone in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. There are still spaces available so if your child would like to apply for a place, copies of the joining letter are available from the office.

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@thekmgroup.co.uk

JEWELLERY REMINDER

If pupils wish to wear earrings to school they should be plain studs only. It is against school uniform policy to wear more than one earring in each ear.

CHARITY WALK

On 14 and 15 April, one of our parents and Midday Supervisor staff, Mrs Leppard, will be walking 50 miles in the Isle of Wight to raise money for Braintrust. Mrs Leppard's son was treated for a brain tumour in 2012 and 2014 and now that he has been in remission for three years she would like to help others who find themselves in a similar position. Braintrust help people diagnosed with a brain tumour and aim to give everyone diagnosed access to the resources that will put them back in control.

If you would like to sponsor Mrs Leppard the link is: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/julieleppard2017> or you can drop a donation into the office.

Thanks very much!

PTA NEWS

PTA DISCOS

On Friday 27 April the PTA are pleased to announce that they have booked the Spring Discos. There has been a slight change to the usual arrangements and they are as follows:-

Early Years 3.30pm – 4.15pm and entry is £3 (this includes a drink, snack and novelty light)
Year 1, 2, & 3 – 4.30pm – 5.45pm – Entry is £4
Year 4, 5, & 6 – 6pm – 7.30pm – Entry £4

For Years 1-6 there will be a tuck shop available where children can purchase drinks, crisps, sweets and disco novelty lights.

COMMUNITY NEWS

STAPLEHURST HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Tomorrow, Saturday 24 March the Staplehurst Horticultural Society is holding its **Spring Flower Show** from 2-4pm in the North Hall at the Village Centre.

ALL SAINTS CHURCH EASTER ACTIVITIES

All Saints Church is holding Easter Activities on Good Friday from 9.30am to 12 noon. There will be crafts, woodwork, biscuit decorating and Easter eggs. Refreshments are available, so pop along and join in the fun.

FOOTBALL FIVE STAR

Football Five Star will be running another of their popular holiday footie sessions at Jubilee Sports Field on the 10 and 11 April. You can book your child's place at <http://footballfivestar.co.uk/holenrol.html> Please don't leave it to the last minute, the previous two courses in October and February sold out!

STAPLEHURST UNDER 5S PLAYGROUP JUMBLE

Staplehurst Under 5s Playgroup is holding a jumble sale on Saturday 28 April 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.

COMMUNITY DIARY DATES



5 May – Plant Sale at the Village Centre
9 and 10 June – Staplehurst Open Gardens
15 July – Staplehurst Manor Summer Fayre

Look out for more information in future newsletters!

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 27 March

Parent Consultations – Year 2 (3.30-5.30pm)
SATs and Kingswood Meeting (6pm – Year 6 only)

Wednesday 28 March

Parent Consultations – Year 2 (3.30-5.30pm)

Thursday 29 March

End of Term 4

Monday 16 April

Start of Term 5

Friday 27 April

Year R – PTA Disco 3.30pm – 4.15pm
Year 1, 2 & 3 – PTA Disco 4.30pm – 5.45 pm
Year 4, 5 & 6 – PTA Disco 6pm – 7.30pm

Monday 30 April

Attendance Information Meeting 6.30pm

Wednesday 23 May

Year 3 Trip to Dover Museum

WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Easter Tennis Camp Flyer
PTA Newsletter Easter/Summer 2018

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.