

STAPLEHURST SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

## SCHOOL NEWS

### MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers

**“Children always come first. They are our future.”**

It was wonderful to see you at parents' evening this week to share your child's learning and progress in all areas of the curriculum. Thank you for completing our Parent View survey; your feedback has been extremely positive and ensures that we further target the areas that you identify as needing improvement. By partnering together we ensure that our children have exceptional opportunities. Please note that we will also be sending out the survey via ParentMail if you have not already submitted your views and wish to do so online.

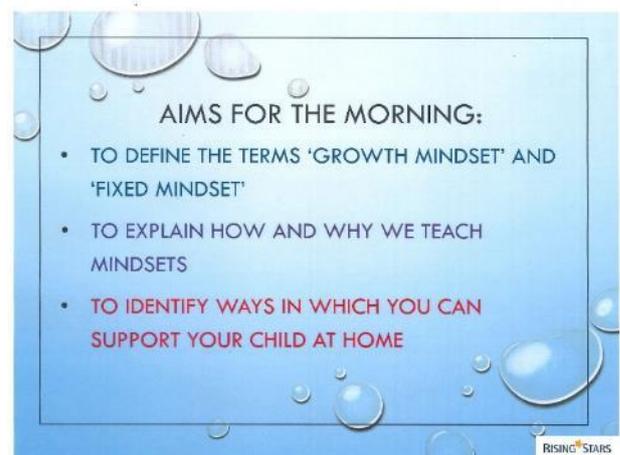
On Thursday we launched Growth Mindset; today's newsletter will provide a flavour of the experiences that our children embraced and enjoyed. If you were unable to attend today's workshop the PowerPoint will be sent to you and is also available on our website.

Please remember if you would like daily updates about the learning at Staplehurst join us on twitter @StaplehurstSch.

Miss Davenport  
Headteacher

### GROWTH MINDSET WORKSHOP

Thank you to those parents who attended our workshop this morning on Growth Mindset. We hope you found it useful and informative. Copies of the presentation slides will be circulated via ParentMail and will also be available from the Latest News section of the website: <https://www.staplehurstschool.co.uk/community/news/item/57-growth-mindset-presentation-for-parents>.



### 2019- 2020 WHOLE SCHOOL PRIORITIES:

- To raise and maintain standards in Reading, Writing and Mathematics to ensure we are in line with national standards
- To implement an ambitious curriculum that reflects the vision and values of the school
- To further improve parental engagement: improving communication and promoting the school

## PARENT WORKSHOPS

Reminder that forthcoming coffee morning workshops have been arranged on the following topics:

Friday 15 November Phonics (Year 1 parents only)  
 Friday 6 December Maths  
 Friday 13 December Reading

Our next Parent Forum will be held on Friday 29 November.

The workshops and forum will be held at 9.15-10.15am in the Infant Hall after the Parents into Read session. We look forward to welcoming you.

## 30 READS

We celebrated this week with some of our children who achieved 30 days of reading and were gifted a new reading book of their choice from Miss Davenport's special selection of novels. Well done!



Please continue to read with your children every day and record their progress in your Contact Books.

## WORLD WEEK: 25 TO 29 NOVEMBER

Calling all geographers! We are planning an exciting week across the school, investigating and exploring the planet we live on - Earth! Pupils will find themselves immersed in learning about the geography of different places, both locally and globally. They will be learning new geographical skills, looking at and using different maps, finding out about different cultures, developing an understanding of how humans are impacting our planet and what we can do to help the planet we call home. Throughout the week, we have arranged for a number of visitors coming into school to help bring geography to life, including music workshops and environmental workshops. Further details will emerge as the week draws closer.

On the Friday of World Week, we will be asking children to come in dressed in the colours of the flag of the country they are studying. Children should not wear football kits, as we are trying to represent the country they are studying:

Years EYFS, 2, 4 and 5: Red, white and blue  
 Year 1: blue and white  
 Year 3: green, white and red  
 Year 6: red and white

We are sure this will be an exciting week, full of experiences and fabulous learning.

## CURRICULUM NEWS

### READING AT STAPLEHURST SCHOOL



The pupils in Cox Class (5C) are currently reading *The Explorer* by Katherine Rundell. This book was chosen as our topic last term was about rainforests, and the story is set in the Amazon rainforest. The story is an adventure story about four children (Max, Lila, Con and Fred) who are stranded in the jungle and need to survive alone. It describes how the children build a den, search for water and food and begin making a fire, to help them survive. We are still waiting to find out what will happen next...

This is an amazing book, which has linked to our learning about rainforests. We are all excited to find out what happens next to the four children who are stranded in the Amazon rainforest, alone and without an adult.

Gladys says:

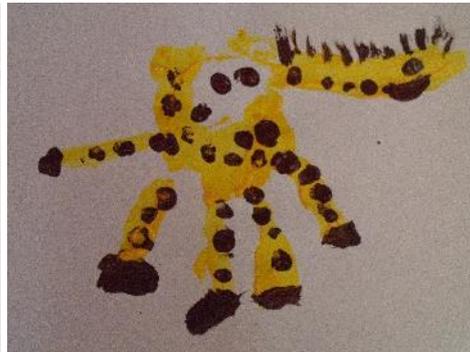
## GROWTH MINDSETS AROUND THE SCHOOL YESTERDAY

Below you can see some of the activities the children did in class yesterday, following on from a whole school assembly in the morning on the benefits of having a growth mindset.

We tweeted some of these as well so if you are not already following us on Twitter, you could be missing out. Follow us @StaplehurstSch to keep up with all our latest news!

### Early Years

Early Years had a fantastic day! They started the day with an activity called 'Help! I'm, stuck!'. The objective of this activity was to identify different ways a person can learn to do something tricky. The children loved teaching their teachers how to put their coats on! During exploring time there were some challenging activities for the children to try, that encourage them to develop new skills. After lunch the children enjoyed the story 'Giraffes can't dance'. They made hand print giraffes and discussed how it is important to encourage and support others.



### Year 1

Tulloch Class explored what a growth mindset is and how they could apply that to their everyday learning and experiences. They looked at how they could be supportive to others and change their mindset. The story 'The Dot' showed Tulloch Class that a little positive encouragement can help them to fulfil their full potential. They enjoyed 'making their mark' today.

Hussain class looked at how they needed to work together to learn new things. The whole class managed to sit down at the same time ... without a chair!



### Year 2

Farah and Cambridge worked together yesterday.

First they used role play to turn fixed mindset statements into growth mindset statements. They read the book 'Our Fantastic, Elastic Brain' which highlights how mistakes help our brain grow. Then the children wrote all the amazing things they could about themselves on balloons. They encouraged each other and highlighted each other's strengths. After lunch the children undertook a team work challenge, using hoops to work together to solve a code. Next they each hung on monkey bars for as long as we could..and then a little bit more. We finished the day with Grogga (Growth Mindset Yoga); each pose was linked to a positive statement.



**Year 3**

In Yarnold Class they talked about what it means to be tenacious, and to 'hold on' when things got difficult! They took part in a 'cosmic Yoga' session, as well as learning to respect themselves and what they could do by creating posters that celebrated what they were good at. It was really purposeful session!

**Year 4**

In Hawking Class the children learned that having a growth mindset will help them try things for a little longer before giving up! They also learned how to look after their minds and clear away any worries.

In Guthrie Class they learned about tenacity - hanging on that little bit longer when the going got hard, working as a team, stepping outside their comfort zones. In the afternoon they did the marshmallow challenge - making the tallest tower they could from spaghetti and tape to support the weight of a marshmallow. The children used all their growth mindset skills - trying hard in the face of a challenge, learning from mistakes, tenacity - they had a brilliant day!

**SCHOOL INFORMATION****PARKING AROUND THE SCHOOL GATES**

I am really pleased to see that when I am at the gate parents are being respectful. However it has come to my attention that this is not happening all the time which is highly disappointing. The safety of pupils/road users/parents that attend our schools is paramount. Please remember that a speed limit is a guide and the area around the school would warrant a speed significantly under the advertised speed limit. When parking or turning, do not mount the pavement as this puts pedestrians at risk of harm. Vehicles should not be parked on foot paths, yellow lines or zig zags for any reason.

Thank you for your cooperation. Miss L Davenport, Headteacher

**AROUND THE WORLD IN A WEEK**

During the week 25 to 29 November our catering company Contract Dining are providing menus from Around the World. The menus are:-

**Monday – Swedish Day**

Swedish Meatballs  
Vegetarian Sausage  
Swedish Mashed Potato  
Apple Strudel

**Tuesday – Mexican Day**

Chicken Enchiladas  
Vegetable Enchiladas  
Potato Wedges  
Chocolate Chilli Cake

**Wednesday – British Day**

Roast Chicken  
Vegetable Wellington  
Fruit Crumble and Custard

**Thursday – Italian Day**

Lasagne  
Vegetarian Lasagne  
Neapolitan Ice Cream

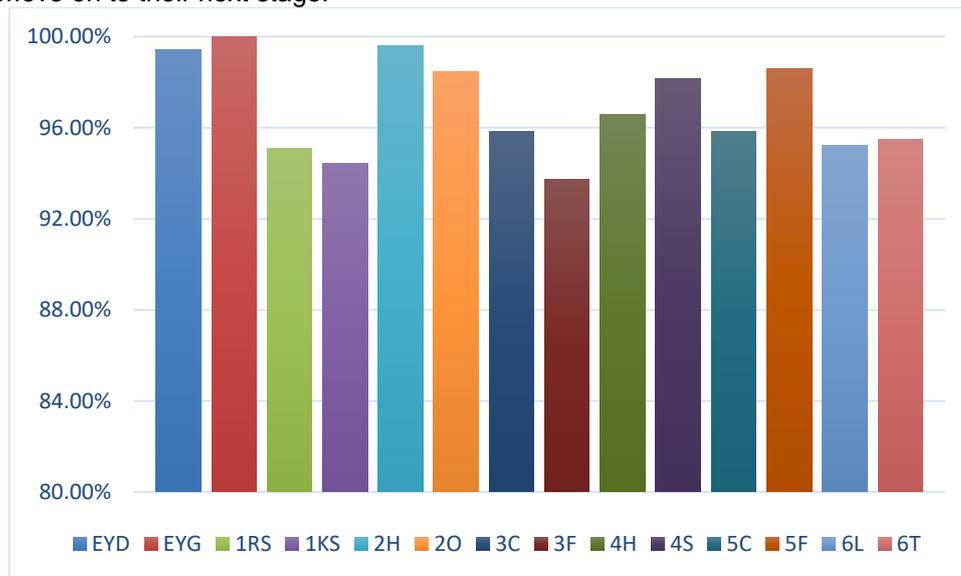
**Friday – American Day**

Beef Burger in a Bun  
Vegetable Burger in a Bun  
American Muffins

Jacket Potatoes, Mixed Salad, Seasonal Vegetables, Fruit Pots and Yoghurts also available daily.

## ATTENDANCE

CONGRATULATIONS - TO THE AMAZING MURPHY (EYG) CLASS – 100% attendance – you are setting the standard and we are very proud of you. Punctuality and good attendance are important to establish as positive habits as children, develop, grow and move on to their next stage.



## YEAR R ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

If you have a child due to start in Year R in September 2020 we would advise that online applications will open on the 5 November 2019 for parents wanting to apply. The closing date is midnight on the 15 January 2020. Applications should, where possible, be made online using [www.kent.gov.uk/ola](http://www.kent.gov.uk/ola). Offer day is 16 April 2020 where you will be offered a school for your child. Please see [www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions](http://www.kent.gov.uk/primaryadmissions) for full details or contact Mrs Clark in the school office should you have any enquiries. We are doing tours round the school on Wednesday mornings at 9.30am on 13 and 20 November. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a place on these tours.

## DIARY DATES

Forthcoming events:

### Monday 11 – Friday 15 November

Anti-Bullying Week

### Tuesday 12 November

Odd Socks Day for Anti Bullying Week

### Wednesday 13 November

Year 4 Trip to Maidstone Museum

### Friday 15 November

Children in Need (wear something spotty)

PTA School Discos

### Monday 25 – Friday 29 November

World Week

### Wednesday 27 November

Year 6 trip to Kent Life WW2 Day

## SCHOOL DINNER ROTA

w/c 11.11.19 Year 5, 4, 6

w/c 18.11.19 Year 4, 6, 5

## PTA NEWS

### CHRISTMAS PANTO

All tickets are now sold out. We're looking forward to a great event. Make sure you like the [StaplehurstSchoolPTA](https://www.facebook.com/StaplehurstSchoolPTA) Facebook page to vote on your choice of snacks and refreshments.

We're also delighted to announce that we have been very busy sourcing a number of fantastic prizes for an online auction! Bidding is now live, so please visit [Auction of Promises](https://www.auctionofpromises.com) and search for Staplehurst School PTA. Prizes include a Golf Day, Santa's Grotto visit and even a Climbing Experience.

If you're feeling generous, you can also add your own promise, could even be something as simple as offering to do some ironing or being a handyman for an hour! The auction will close at the end of November.

### EASY FUNDRAISING

Don't forget to register to support the PTA and your child's education by signing up to [Easyfundraising.org.uk](https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk) - where you can earn free donations while you shop online. Only 33 people are signed up out of a school of 400 pupils, so it would be great to increase this.