

## STAPLEHURST SCHOOL

**NEWSLETTER****SCHOOL NEWS****MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER**

Dear Parents and Carers

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

As we head into the final few days of the academic year I would like to thank you for your on-going support and the significant role you have fulfilled recently as co educators. I know you will join me in thanking staff for their excellent support, guidance and determination to ensure your children have the very best learning opportunities whether at school or through our remote home learning.

I am really proud of how our learning community has continued to grow and thrive over the past few months – finding new and inventive ways to live and learn together. Whatever life is like in September there are many strengths that we will continue to harness and build on.

This week we have completed our highly successful transition sessions/days and our Year 6 end of year picnic. Let's hope the weather remains kind for our sports day activities next week.

Thank you to those who joined me for our final Parent Forum – it was wonderful to see so many of you; we have included the questions raised and our responses. We have also included an overview of key information for our safe return in September.

I think we are all looking forward to the summer holidays to rest, refresh and be ready for any challenges that we face together on our return!

Continue to stay safe everyone and we can't wait to see you all in September.

Best wishes,

Miss Davenport  
Headteacher

**KEY INFORMATION FOR SEPTEMBER ARISING FROM PARENTS' FORUM**

<b>Attendance and coming into school</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All children must attend school (unless they are ill or someone in their family shows Covid-19 symptoms).</li> <li>▪ Use main gate for drop off and collection following our one way system.</li> <li>▪ If children present with possible Covid symptoms during the school day they will be sent home – they will need to self-isolate immediately for 7 days and be tested; if anyone tests positive the school will inform the local health protection team immediately.</li> <li>▪ Lateness: please ensure you child is here for the start time; if late they will be expected to walk independently to their classrooms.</li> </ul>															
<b>Staggered start and finish times</b>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Year Group(s)</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Start</th> <th style="text-align: left;">Finish</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>3 &amp; 6</td> <td>8.30am</td> <td>2.55pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 &amp; 5</td> <td>8.40 am</td> <td>3.05 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>1 &amp; 4</td> <td>8.50 am</td> <td>3.15 pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reception</td> <td>9.00 am</td> <td>3.25 pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year Group(s)	Start	Finish	3 & 6	8.30am	2.55pm	2 & 5	8.40 am	3.05 pm	1 & 4	8.50 am	3.15 pm	Reception	9.00 am	3.25 pm
Year Group(s)	Start	Finish														
3 & 6	8.30am	2.55pm														
2 & 5	8.40 am	3.05 pm														
1 & 4	8.50 am	3.15 pm														
Reception	9.00 am	3.25 pm														

<b>Uniform</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Children must return in winter uniform.</li> <li>▪ Only essential additional items are permitted: coats, book bags, packed lunch, water bottles and P.E kits ( children will change in school as normal).</li> <li>▪ <i>All</i> items must be clearly labelled.</li> </ul>
<b>Classroom bubbles and Curriculum</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bubbles will be in year groups; to enable the delivery of a broad curriculum there will be minimal crossing of bubbles.</li> <li>▪ Frequent washing of hands/using sanitiser and 'catch it, bin it, kill it' remains.</li> <li>▪ Staff will aim for a 2 metre distance from other adults and children; they will avoid face to face contact and minimise time spent within 1 metre of anyone.</li> <li>▪ Classes will return to normal with use the of resources, books and equipment – pens and pencils will be allocated to each child; desks will be front facing and children will sit with a partner in the same seat throughout the day, ( except for EYFS -they will stay in small groups and areas will be thoroughly cleaned).</li> <li>▪ Shared resources across a bubble/year group will be cleaned after each use.</li> <li>▪ Additional cleaning will take place during the school day.</li> <li>▪ Each bubble will have designated cloakrooms and toilets</li> <li>▪ Reading books will be changed on Mondays and Fridays.</li> <li>▪ Movement around school is minimised and external routes will be used.</li> <li>▪ Staff can operate between classes /groups</li> <li>▪ Marking feedback and assessment is reinstated as normal.</li> <li>▪ A full curriculum will be delivered.</li> <li>▪ Day trips can be resumed however as a school we will be limiting this to visits to the park or open spaces.</li> <li>▪ No assemblies or large group singing – no choir</li> <li>▪ Music will be taught within government guidelines</li> <li>▪ Purple Mash will be used for homework and term 1 topic home learning will be set for completion during weeks 1 – 3.</li> </ul>
<b>Break and lunchtimes times</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Children will be in bubbles for break and lunchtimes (separated across playgrounds: Reception; years 1 &amp; 2; years 3 &amp; 4; years 5 &amp; 6).</li> <li>▪ Children will have packed lunches until further notice.</li> <li>▪ Outside equipment will not be used.</li> </ul>
<b>Visitors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Visitors can attend by appointment only</li> <li>▪ You will not be permitted to 'pop in'.</li> <li>▪ If your child has forgotten an essential item please phone us and it will be collected from the main gate.</li> </ul>
<b>End of day</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This will be staggered; parents will need to enter the main gate and follow our one way system.</li> <li>▪ Children in upper Key stage 2 will be permitted to walk home alone ( please inform the class teacher).</li> </ul>
<b>Clubs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Breakfast club will be available from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September ( arrival between 7.30 – 8.00am – no later).</li> <li>▪ After School Clubs will be in year group bubbles and will be available from the week beginning 21<sup>st</sup> September.</li> <li>▪ Harlequins after school care is available from Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September; please contact them directly.</li> </ul>
<b>Communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ At the start of next term year group emails will be provided; these will be answered weekly.</li> <li>▪ As normal parents can complete the contact form on our website or phone the school from <b>Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.</b></li> </ul>

## CURRICULUM NEWS

### CELEBRATION AWARDS

This week we are proud to celebrate the learning and achievements of:

EYD	Daniel for trying hard with his spider writing this week.
EYG	Sophie for settling in so well into our class bubble.
1RS	Riley for starting to tackle some tasks on Purple Mash this week.
1KS	Reggie E for using fantastic story language and vocabulary when retelling his own story.
2H	John for working extremely hard and achieving 'Champion Reader' on Teach your Monster to Read. Chloe (Key Worker Bubble 1) for pushing through right until the very end!
2O	Emily for having an excellent transition day with her new Year 3 teacher!
3C	Kieran for pushing through with the home learning right until the very end!
3F	The whole class for a superb effort throughout the whole of Y3; for being kind to one another, overcoming challenges and striving to be the best they can be.
4H	Oscar for his independence in completing learning tasks. Evelyn for her effort in all learning tasks and for challenging herself each day.
4S	Charlie for great effort and engagement with home learning.
5C	Charlie W for his hard work on his home learning this year, with a good positive attitude and motivation.
5F	Callum C for showing a consistent approach to his home learning this year, and super effort with the work he has produced.
6L	Declan for the smile on his face as he walked into school for his end of year picnic. It was infectious!
6T	Danni for coming in for the in school transition session with a positive and determined attitude. Josh S (Key Worker Bubble 4) for showing good manners and great effort in the activities in school this week.

### NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL SITE

Key Worker Bubble 4 (AKA The Hedgehogs) made some clay models of animals this week. They looked at images online to inspire them and used natural objects from outside to help create the key features.



### PRIME MINISTER BORIS JOHNSON ADDRESS TO ALL SCHOOL LEAVERS

On Friday 10 July at 10am, the Prime Minister gave an address to all school leavers which was broadcast on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

### GOODBYE MRS CLARK

We're very sad to see Sharon Clark leave Staplehurst School, where she's been a key member of staff since 2013. Sharon started at Staplehurst as a midday supervisor in 2013, before taking on the additional role of Clerk to the Governors in 2015. In 2017, she took on the role of Administration and Communications officer in the office, where I'm sure you'll agree with us that she has instrumental in keeping everyone well informed and organised. Please join me in thanking Sharon for all her hard work, and in wishing her well in her new position.

### SCHOOL READING BOOKS

Please return any reading books from the Book Exchange or any school library books that you have at home next week. There will be boxes in the shelter every day from 9.00am until 2.45pm.

## END OF YEAR GIFTS FOR STAFF

We know that many of you like to thank your teachers, and say goodbye to those that are leaving, with gifts.

There is no pressure or expectation that you have to, but should you want to, a table for gifts will be left out by the playground for at drop-off and pick up on Monday 20 July.

Please make sure that items are clearly and securely labelled.

## MRS RALPH'S DREAM FLIGHT



Mrs Ralph's Uncle trained Canadians to fly spitfires in the war and she has always wanted to fly in one herself especially knowing they were flown from the airfield at Chittenden Farm by the 'roaring boys' as they were known. Having saved her pennies Chris finally got her chance although she was said that the original flight was moved to a Saturday due to lockdown as she would have loved the Year 6 to have been able to see it from the playground. She managed to do a barrel roll over the White Cliffs of Dover and a loop the loop over Folkestone. Chris took the controls for a while to Ashford and then did a final roll over Headcorn airfield. The airfield has only recently re-opened and Mrs Ralph recommends a visit as Spitfires often land there. She has just finished reading the book by Nick Oram called 'Spitfire Elizabeth and the roaring boys' about the young Canadians who flew from Staplehurst and other airfields in the South of England. Spitfire Elizabeth did crash in France towards the end of the war and the pilot was saved from the hands of the Nazis by a 15 year old French boy and managed to get back to England. It was retrieved and restored and the second cockpit added so that it could take passengers. Mrs Ralph has kindly donated a Spitfire picture signed by the pilot Parky and Nick Oram the author of the book to the school.



## MUSIC LESSONS

Sam Laming, who has been teaching music lessons at Staplehurst for the last couple of years is leaving to pursue his dream of building musical instruments. He will still be teaching online for everyone who is interested: you can email him at [samlaming@hotmail.com](mailto:samlaming@hotmail.com) or text 07754 996080 to book lessons.

## WATER SAFETY

Looking for a way of educating and entertaining young people during these challenging times, while at the same time teaching fundamental water safety skills? Want to build in time to prepare your young people with beach and water safety skills ahead of the summer? Then why not take advantage of our free water safety teaching activities, that are available to you now and throughout the summer term.

<https://rnli.org/youth-education/water-safety-from-home>

## FREE SCHOOL MEALS DURING CORONAVIRUS CLOSURES

If you have experienced a change in family circumstance, that could now make your family eligible for Free School Meals, fill in the form at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/kent/>. It's quick and easy and, if you qualify, you will be added to our list to receive supermarket vouchers.

## SUMMER HOLIDAY NEWS

### THE SUMMER READING CHALLENGE FOR 4 – 11 YEAR OLDS IS BACK!

The Summer Reading Challenge 2020 has started earlier than usual this year and is now on and runs throughout the summer, finishing on 30 September. As always, the challenge is free and lots of fun for children!

The libraries would normally visit schools to see the children in assembly promoting the challenge and encourage the children to sign up. Unfortunately they can't do that this year so instead have filmed a virtual assembly for you all: click on the link below. For children who visit the library there may be some familiar faces on the video!

<https://youtu.be/11nNSsKGZ7M>

This year's Challenge is different – it's a digital Challenge! As always, it's free to access, featuring games, quizzes and downloadable activities to encourage children and their families to take part in reading related activities at home. Children can choose their own reading goals, create book reviews, play games and collect virtual rewards. Parents and guardians can register their children online at [www.sillysquad.org.uk](http://www.sillysquad.org.uk) via the safe, sign-up process.

This year's title is "Silly Squad", focussing on funny books, happiness & things that make us laugh. Children taking part in the challenge will join the Silly Squad, an adventurous team of animals who love to have a laugh and get stuck into many different kinds of funny books. It features bespoke artwork from award-winning children's author and illustrator Laura Ellen Anderson (Amelia Fang; Evil Emperor Penguin).

Although most library buildings are closed, Kent Libraries will continue to deliver the Challenge by promoting it to families, and eBooks and eAudio books are free to borrow from [www.kent.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.kent.gov.uk/libraries) with titles for children as well as adults – there is a special children's catalogue on our Overdrive platform (click on the 'explore' option to find it). eBooks and eAudio books are automatically returned so you don't need to keep an eye on the due date! If you need help with online catalogue, contact our Ask A Kent Librarian Team <https://www.kent.gov.uk/leisure-and-community/libraries/free-computers-and-wifi/ask-a-kent-librarian>

## HARLEQUIN SUMMER HOLIDAY PROVISION

Harlequin are providing childcare every single week day, except bank holidays, throughout the summer from 20th July – 3rd September. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the day will be spent in Harlequin's private, fenced forests where their qualified forest school leaders will be providing lots of fun games and activities. On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, the sessions will be held in Harlequin's purpose designed building in Coxheath. If there is enough demand from parents in Staplehurst and the surrounding area, Harlequin will consider operating from Staplehurst School. Children do not have to be pupils at Staplehurst School. Parents book as many or as few sessions as they need. Half days can be booked. Harlequin is open from 7.30am – 6.30pm but parents drop off and collect at any time within a booked session. Harlequin accept childcare vouchers and are Ofsted registered, so parents can claim tax credits too. Children who are starting school in September 2020 are welcome to attend. Otherwise, the activities are suitable for children aged 4-11years old. Please drop an email to Harlequin with any enquiries or questions on [enquiries@hosc.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@hosc.co.uk).

## STAPLEHURST MONARCHS FOOTBALL

There are spaces available for boys and girls who want to join the Mini Monarchs football sessions on Saturday mornings from September. You must be in Years 1 & 2 in September 2020.

Additionally the popular FA Wildcats Girls Football Centre is now running socially distanced fun football sessions for girls on Wednesday evenings. The sessions are open to all girls between 5-11 age who want to have a go at football. Spaces are limited due to current guidelines & need to be booked in advance.

For further information on either the Mini Monarchs or the Wildcats please contact the club via their Facebook page or email [smufc1@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:smufc1@yahoo.co.uk).

## SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS

If you are looking for childcare options or fun, outdoor activities for your children in the Summer Holidays, Summer Sports Camps are running a 3-day holiday course in Cranbrook in August. See flyer attached with this week's Newsletter.