



**Staplehurst School Newsletter No.02-  
Winter Term 2023**

## A message from the Senior Team



Dear Parents and Carers

We have had a fabulous second week; all children have launched into their new units of work and are learning in a highly calm and focused manner. Please review the curriculum overviews that have been sent out this week and if you have any questions or concerns, please discuss them with your child's teacher.

I hope that you enjoyed the welcome back messages from the team last week; at the beginning of an academic year, it is important to revisit our core school vision and values that we aim to deliver every day for your child:

### **Children come first; they are our future**

- **We build strong positive relationships and trust; as a highly inclusive school we celebrate individuality and promote well-being through excellent pastoral provision.**
- **We promote a thirst for knowledge and a love of learning by teaching an ambitious knowledge rich curriculum that inspires curiosity and is relevant for our community.**
- **We empower all children through our high expectations to be tolerant, respectful, determined and independent active members of a diverse local, national and global community. We encourage all children to achieve in all areas so that they can reach their potential.**

As a school that seeks to constantly improve, we systematically evaluate the quality of our educational provision and set priorities for the academic year; a self-evaluation summary is available on our website [Staplehurst School - SEF | School improvement priorities summary](#)

Parental engagement is very important to us; this term I will be holding a parents forum on Friday 13th October . This is an opportunity for parents to share and discuss their views about how we can further improve the experience of your child by working in close partnership.

Have a lovely weekend,

Miss Davenport and the Senior Leadership Team

**Pride Certificates: 15.09.23**

<b>1A</b>	<b>Mia Hellowell</b>	Mia has demonstrated an incredibly positive attitude towards school and all of her learning this week. She has worked hard to overcome any challenge she has faced in year 1 and is keen to contribute to whole class discussions. Well done Mia, keep it up!
<b>1C</b>	<b>William Brady</b>	William has been super positive about the new challenges in year 1 and he has got used to the new routines really quickly. William has worked especially hard this week on mark making and ordering letters to make words. Well done William!
<b>1FS</b>	<b>George Gower</b>	George always shows a great positive attitude towards his work. He is keen to share his ideas with the class and to 'have a go' when faced with a challenge. He is a great role model for Hockney Class. Well done, George. Keep up the fantastic learning attitude!
<b>2C</b>	<b>Joe Wilson</b>	Joe has tackled every challenge this week with a positive attitude. He has shown perseverance and does not give up when things get tricky! This has been seen particularly in his maths work where he has partitioned a range of numbers into tens and ones. Well done Joe!
<b>2K</b>	<b>Athena John</b>	Athena has shown such a positive attitude towards her learning this week. She always comes into school with a beaming smile, ready to learn. She has been a delight to teach this week! Well done Athena!
<b>3SK</b>	<b>Ronnie Gasson</b>	Ronnie demonstrates a positive attitude to all of his learning. He is well prepared for all lesson and consistently shows STAR in the classroom. He can always be relied upon to make the right choices and is an excellent role model to his peers. Well done Ronnie
<b>3G</b>	<b>Vienna Kittle</b>	Vienna consistently demonstrates a positive attitude towards all of her learning. She is always ready to learn and sets a wonderful example to her peers. Vienna actively participates in class discussions. Well done Vienna!
<b>4W</b>	<b>Charlie Elliott</b>	Charlie has had an excellent week, putting in lots of effort in all subjects. Charlie works hard to actively take part in lessons, complete tasks and he shows great pride in his work by presenting it neatly. Keep it up!
<b>4F</b>	<b>Maisie Malcolm</b>	This week we would like to celebrate Maisie's unwavering positivity, exceptional listening skills, and exemplary attitude towards learning. From Day 1 in 4F, she has set an absolutely wonderful example to others. Well done, Maisie!
<b>5R</b>	<b>Charlene Coster</b>	Charlene has had a very positive attitude towards all her work this week and has continuously worked till she grasped the lesson. This week Charlene has been bringing positive contributions to many subjects especially her math's work.
<b>5C</b>	<b>Iris Pritchard</b>	This week Iris has demonstrated a very positive attitude to her learning. She has made positive contributions to lessons and shown determination in her written work. Within English, she has applied her learning with SPAG to write a very good description of Elysium. Well done!
<b>6S</b>	<b>James Glanvill</b>	This week James has demonstrated a real positive attitude towards all areas of his learning. Particularly, James has worked extremely hard in English when writing a setting description based on the book 'Holes'. James has created some wonderful examples of figurative language which he has shared in class discussions and has included some of these in his own writing too. Well done James!
<b>6JS</b>	<b>Eloise Richards</b>	This week Eloise has shown a positive attitude towards her learning. She has been keen to complete tasks to the best of her ability and has been confident enough to share ideas during class discussions. Eloise has been a ray of positivity within the class! Keep it up!

## S.T.A.R - An Update for parents and carers



### STAR

- **Sit** up straight and properly in chairs 
- **Track** the teacher/speaker when they are talking to you 
- **Ask** questions when given the opportunity to do so 
- **Respond** the best you can – even if that is explaining politely that you don't understand 

Children may have been coming home in the past fortnight mentioning 'STAR' behaviours. This is part of our new approach this year to support children with their learning. STAR is an acronym which represents the following expectations:

**S** - sit up straight and properly in chairs at all times.

**T** - track the teacher/speaker when they are talking

**A** - ask questions at the appropriate time.

**R** - Respond the best you can - even if that is explaining politely that you don't understand.

Our children have really taken this on board and it is already having a positive impact on learning for all. Let's keep up the good work!

## Parental Engagement: support for parents and carers



Based on the feedback received through both our parent forum and last year's drop-ins, we have shaped our support for parents and carers to support the needs raised. We value parental input as it helps us shape and tailor our sessions and opportunities to support your children to achieve. We will be focusing on the following areas and offering the following opportunities over the next two terms:

### **Term 1**

Phonics Year 1 Drop-in Session - **22.9.23**

Phonics follow-up support video - **Week beginning 2.10.23**

Reading Drop-in Session - **6.10.23**

Reading follow-up support video - **Week beginning 16.10.23**

Parent Forum - **13.9.23**

EYFS parent phonics drop in sessions & parent support session **WB 9.10.23**

Parents Evening - **18.10.23**

Parents into read - **Weekly**

### **Term 2**

Art subject support video - **Week beginning 6.11.23**

Maths subject support video **Week beginning 20.11.23**

Parent forum - **1.12.23**

Open discussion afternoon - Relationships and Sex and Health Education **27.11.23**

Parents into read - **(Weekly)**

We welcome feedback from these opportunities and look forward to supporting you at home this year.

Many Thanks

Mr Williams-Jones

## **Communication: reminders**

**Parents and carers can help more if they know what the school is trying to achieve. We believe that it is important to have clear and effective communication with all parents/carers. Keeping parents well informed about school life is important to us we know the important role that you play in supporting the school and your child's education.**

**Messages:** parents can share messages and key information (non-urgent) via the school office or at the end of the day with the class teacher.

The day-to-day care, welfare and safety of your child is managed by the person who is placed closest to them.

In the first instance, you should contact the members of staff who are responsible for your child in the following order:

1. Class teacher/s
2. Phase Leader
3. Deputy Headteacher
4. Headteacher

### **Meetings:**

Parents can visit the school to ask questions; gain support or to have the opportunity to talk about issues affecting your child with either his/her class teacher or a member of the school Leadership Team.

Meetings should always be pre-arranged with members of staff. We would advise you not to arrive at the school with the expectation that you can be seen without an appointment as this is unlikely to be possible.

If you urgently need to see someone, for instance if there is a serious family emergency or a child protection issue, please phone ahead and the office staff will do their best to find a senior member of staff to see you



## EYFS 2024 Open Mornings for September 2024

If your child is due to start **Reception in September 2024** Join us on one of our open mornings to see why Staplehurst School is the perfect place for your child to grow and flourish.

**EYFS OPEN MORNINGS: for September start 2024**

**Wednesday 18th October**

**Wednesday 1st November**

**Wednesday 8th November**

**Wednesday 15th November**

**Please contact the office for further information**

## Year 6: Secondary Transfer

If your child is due to start Year 7 in September 2024 you will need to apply for a place by 31st October.

Please follow the link for further information [Secondary school places - Kent County Council](#)

## Attendance

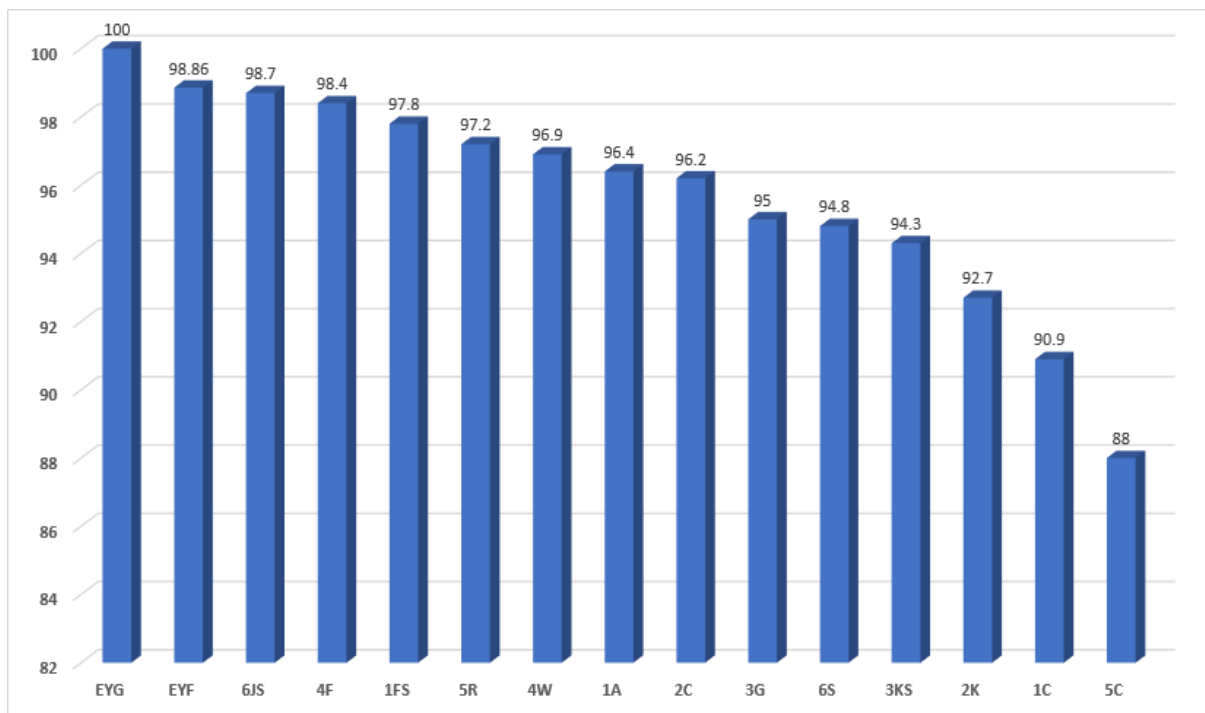
**Whole school attendance for this week was 95.5%**

**Whole School Attendance *from September* is: 95.5%**

**National School Attendance is currently: 95%**

**Punctuality Reminder: Did you know that 5 minutes late each day is equivalent to 3 days lost, 10 minutes late each day is equal to 6.5 days lost, and 15 minutes late each day, 10 days lost. Please ensure your child arrives on time to prevent them being marked as late and missing their phonics/reading lesson.**

Bar chart 15.09.23



**Well done to EYG the weekly winners with 100%**

What attendance means to us -

100% - Excellent attendance

97% - Good attendance

95% - Satisfactory attendance

Below 95% - Unsatisfactory attendance

Below 90% - Persistently absent

Below 50% - Severely absent

## EYFS

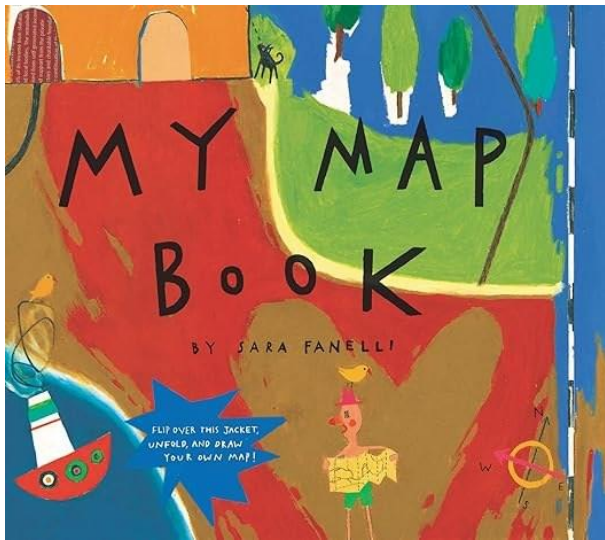


The children in EYFS have continued to impress us with how they are settling into their new classes. They are already learning the class routines and staff around school have commented on how settled they are. This week they have all stayed for lunch, again impressing us with how well they coped with this.

The children have enjoyed sharing the shoeboxes they decorated as part of their first home learning task. We can see the effort that went into making the shoeboxes and the thought that went into the contents. It has been wonderful to hear the children sharing their boxes and answering simple questions.

This week we introduced our first key text, *My Map Book* by Sara Fanelli, focusing on the map of our faces. We looked at the different features before painting our self-portraits, looking in the mirror to identify our skin, hair and eye colour.







Year 1



The children in year 1 have settled in so well and been so grown up with all their new routines.



1 - Here is a feelings monster. We read a story then designed our own monster thinking about the different feelings and colours we wanted to use.



2 - This is a 'blob tree' which we used to discuss our feelings about starting in year 1.



3 - As you can see there were many feelings but most children agreed they were a mixture of nervous and excited!

## Year 2

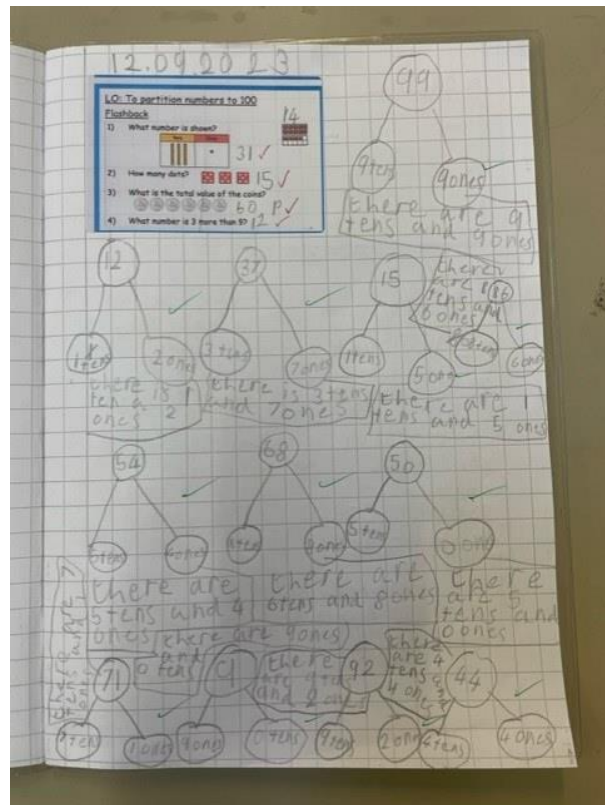


The children have started to settle into the routine of Year 2 and are enjoying the learning we have been doing.

In English this week the children have been using the book 'Paddington' to write expanded noun phrases. We are learning to read a paragraph and summarise the information within it.

During our maths lessons we have been looking at different ways to partition numbers up to 100 using a part whole model. We have also been learning to represent a number using numerals, words and dienes.

in Geography the children have enjoyed using maps and Google Earth to locate London and Staplehurst. In addition we have learnt about human and physical features by sorting images.



4 - Some of our amazing partitioning work!



## Year 3



In art this week, Year 3 had a go at an observational drawing of a natural object. As a class, we went onto the field and selected some natural object that we wanted to draw. Then we came back into the classroom and had a go. We thought about how best to sketch and ensured we included all the details.

The finished pieces were wonderful!





Year 4



## YEAR 3

Year 4 have been practising their times tables and having a blast with flashcards! Teams have been working together to increase their recall speed. Keep up the great work, Year 4. We have also been working on our place value knowledge and used counters to help us understand thousands, hundreds,





It would be great to see you accessing your Times Table Rock Stars account over the weekend! We have set up a Battle of the Bands between both classes. It closes on the 20th September. Please do access your account to help your class rock to the top!

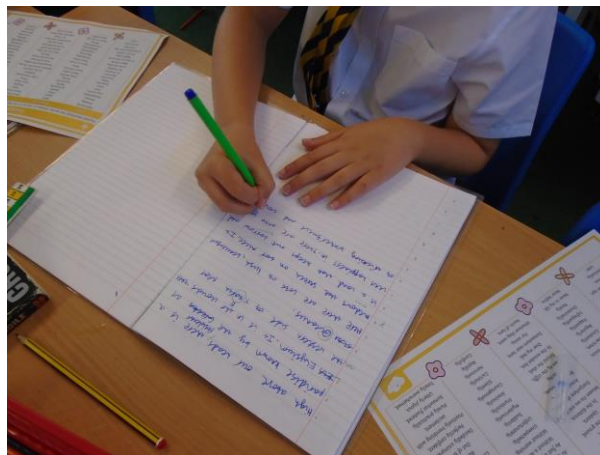


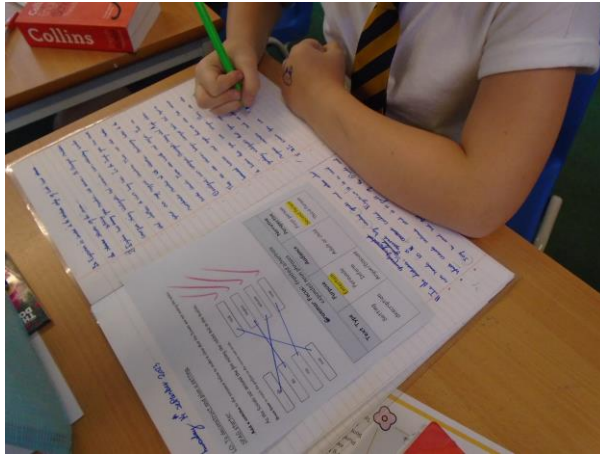
## Year 5



# YEAR 5

In Year 5 children are studying the book 'Who Let the Gods Out?' by Maz Evans in their English lessons. This is based on a 12 year old boy (Elliot) who has an adventure with the constellation Virgo, in an effort to capture Prisoner 42. Our focus this week has been to use expanded noun phrases and fronted adverbials to describe Elysium, which is the paradise, where in the story Virgo lives and begins her tale.

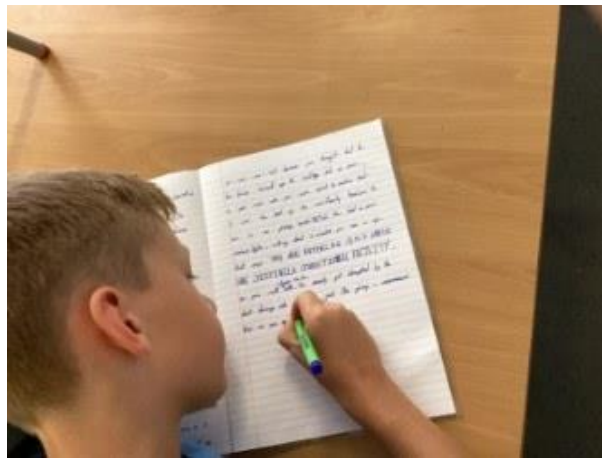




Year 6



This week Year 6 have been reading 'Holes' by Louis Sachar. They have created their own map of Camp Green Lake using the description from the text and have started writing their own setting description. They used some excellent figurative devices to create an image in the readers head.





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