



**Staplehurst School Newsletter No.1 -
Autumn Term 2024**

A message from the Senior Team



Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to a new and exciting school year at Staplehurst.

I hope you all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. As we embark on this new academic year, I am thrilled to see our school community come together once again. Our dedicated staff has been working hard to prepare for the return of our wonderful children, ensuring a safe and stimulating environment for learning and growth.

We have many exciting plans and activities lined up for this year, and we look forward to your continued support and involvement. Together, we can make this year a memorable and successful one for all our children. It has been wonderful to see the children return with such enthusiasm and energy, looking incredibly smart in their winter uniform.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our school. Let's make this year the best one yet!

Warm regards

Miss Davenport and the Senior Leadership Team

Our Vision: Children Come first; they are our future



Our School Values



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.

Attendance



Regular school attendance is crucial for your child's academic and social development. Consistent attendance helps children build a strong foundation in their learning, develop good habits, and form lasting friendships. When children attend school regularly, they are more likely to stay engaged, achieve better grades, and develop a positive attitude towards education. Your support in ensuring your child attends school every day is vital for their success and well-being.

Good attendance begins with school being somewhere pupils want to be and therefore the foundation of securing good attendance is that school is a calm, orderly, safe, and supportive environment where all pupils are keen and ready to learn. We know that some children find it harder than others to attend school we work in partnership with pupils and parents collaboratively to remove any barriers to attendance by building strong and trusting relationships and working together to put the right support in place.

Effective this week, the Department for Education (DfE) has implemented significant updates to school attendance guidance, aimed at enhancing student engagement and reducing absenteeism. The new guidance titled '[Working together to improve school attendance](#)' came into force on 19th August 2024. We are in the process of updating our policy and systems for monitoring and celebrating attendance, which we will share with you shortly.

Pride Certificates

Class	Name	Reason
1JS	Ethan Driver	Ethan has settled in to Year 1 with a great, positive attitude towards his learning. He shows STAR behaviour on the carpet and is keen to answer questions. Ethan has given every task his full effort. We have been particularly impressed with his sorting and counting in Maths. Well done Ethan, keep it up!
1U	Piper Hill	Piper has made a brilliant start to year 1. She has taken to the new class routines really well, being a role model to her class mates. Piper has shown great enthusiasm in Maths this week, challenging herself to find a variety of ways to sort objects. Well done on a positive week Piper!
2W	Teddy Wallond	Teddy has made a fantastic start to Year 2! He has shown an excellent attitude to work and is taking pride in his work. In English, he made a prediction about a story and showed good understanding of when to use capital letters. Well done!
2C	Jemima Jermy	Jemima has made a brilliant start to Year 2! She has shown a positive attitude towards her learning this week. In our phonics lessons she has worked hard to use her sound knowledge to help her spell a variety of different words. Well done, keep up the great work!
2K	Beatrice Copping	Bea has settled well into our school and it has been lovely getting to know her! Bea has already shown such a positive attitude towards school through her learning and eagerness to try her best, something which I know will continue! Well done Bea!
3C	Lincoln Syred	Lincoln has approached Year 3 with a positive attitude. He has shown enthusiasm in geography when looking at maps of Staplehurst. During English, he has been very positive in his contributions to lessons, especially when learning about expanded noun phrases. A good week. Well done!
3NS	Bella Wright	Bella has made a fantastic start to Year 3 and her positive attitude towards her learning has really shone this week. She has worked particularly hard in her English work this week trying to show her best presentation. Keep up the great work Bella!
4A	Kiera Heasman	Kiera has made a superb start to life in Year 4! Her positivity towards all learning tasks has been fantastic to see and she is consistently demonstrates a wonderful example of the STAR behaviours. During English, It was lovely to read her character description of Harmony where she went to great detail to explain her knowledge of the interesting characteristics about Harmony she found fascinating. Well done Kiera, keep it up!
4C	Poppy French	Poppy has had a fabulous start to year 4. She is showing excellent learning behaviours and had a positive attitude to all her works. She worked incredibly hard on her character description of Harmony, using interesting conjunctions and adjectives. Well done, Poppy
5B	Mason Bridger	Mason has had a fantastic start to the year and shown excellence in both his behaviour and contribution to class discussions. Mason has shown particular enthusiasm in English, discussing predictions for a story, and he waited patiently with his hand up to share his ideas. He has also shown perseverance in completing his maths work. Great work Mason!!
5T	Abe Draper	Abe has worked hard this week to ensure he has been at the top of his game. His positivity in class has shone through. Abe has been engaged in lessons, ready to start tasks and had a smile all week. I am so proud of how wonderfully Abe worked in PE showing his excellent skills to the class of balance, co-ordination and strength. Keep it up Abe you have been fabulous!
6S	Gus Weiss	Gus has had an absolutely fantastic start to year 6! He has already demonstrated a real positivity towards his learning; he is consistently following instructions first time, showing STAR during lesson time, presenting his work to a high standard and taking great pride in his work. What a brilliant start, well done Gus!
6JS	Amos Ackleton	Amos has made a tremendous start to life in year 6, demonstrating a positive attitude towards everything this week. Amos has been a shining example of the school STAR behaviours. A brilliant start Amos, keep it up!

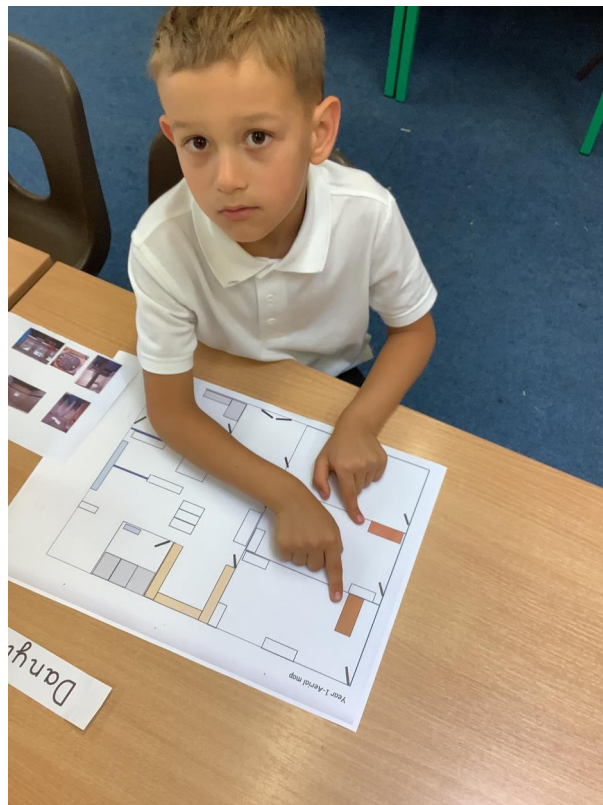
EYFS

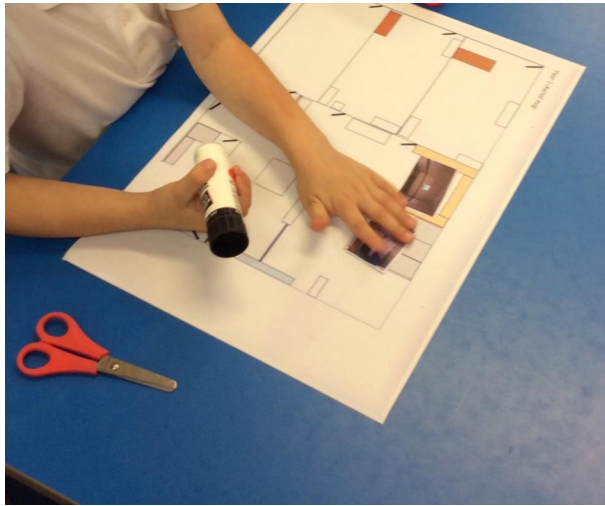


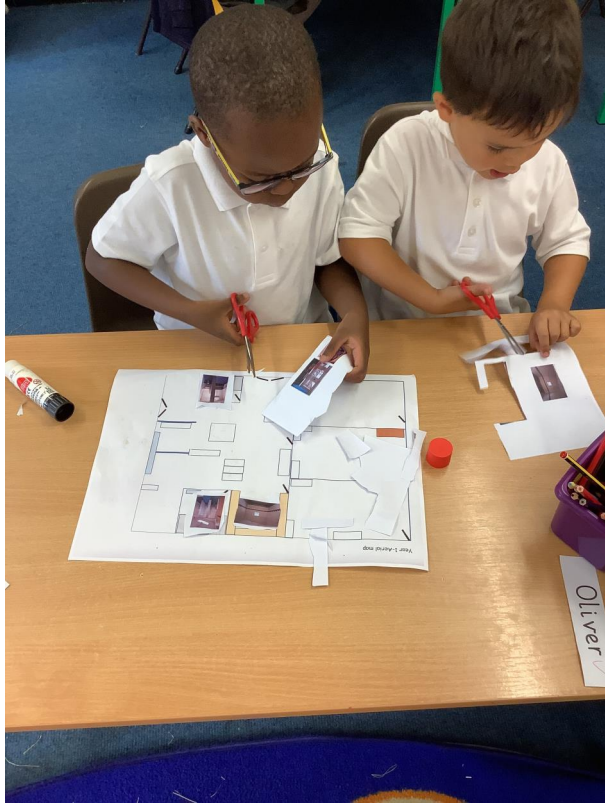
This week we welcomed our new EYFS children to Staplehurst. We began the week with stay and play sessions to get to know our new surroundings with the support of a family member, finding our coat peg and finding out where to put our belongings ready for the first day of term. It was lovely to welcome so many of our families to these sessions.

The children officially started school on Wednesday and we were so impressed with how well the children came into school on their first day, saying their goodbyes and looking very smart in their new school uniforms. Already we have begun to learn the class routines, from answering our names in the registers, to practicing our 'star' sitting on the carpet. The children are all enjoying exploring the different areas within EYFS and getting to know their new classmates and staff. Next week we are looking forward to staying for lunch. A huge well done to all the children (and parents) for the fantastic start they have all made.

Year 1









This week, year 1 have settled really well into their new routines. We have been so impressed with how calm, happy and keen they have been to get going with all of the new learning opportunities. In English, we have begun learning about what makes a sentence and explored our first text of the year 'The Three Little Pigs'. In maths this week, we have been sorting and classifying objects and matching them to the correct numeral. We have been exploring different ways that we can sort; by colour, by shape, or perhaps by another feature like how many sides. During exploration time, children have had an chance to choose resources from our shared area as well a have a try at challenges linked to our maths learning. For our new geography topic, we have explored our year 1 area and completed aerial maps of its layout.

Year 2

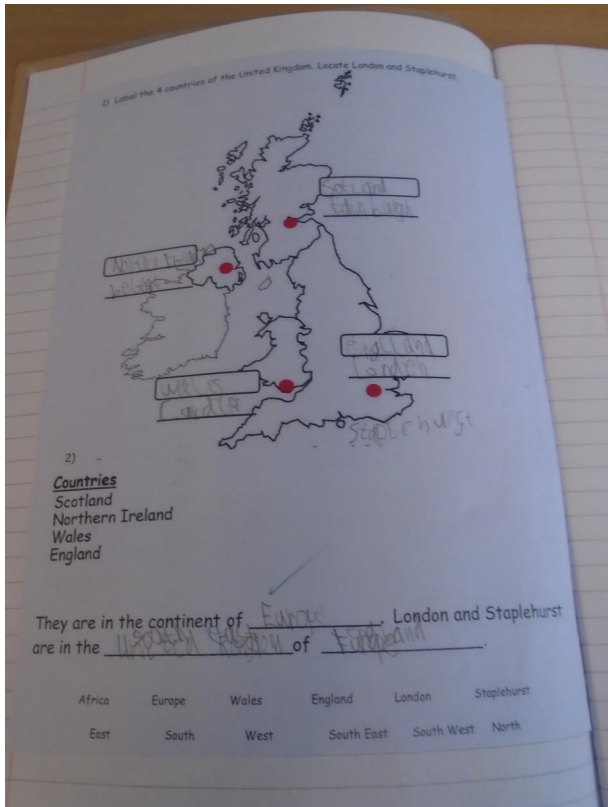
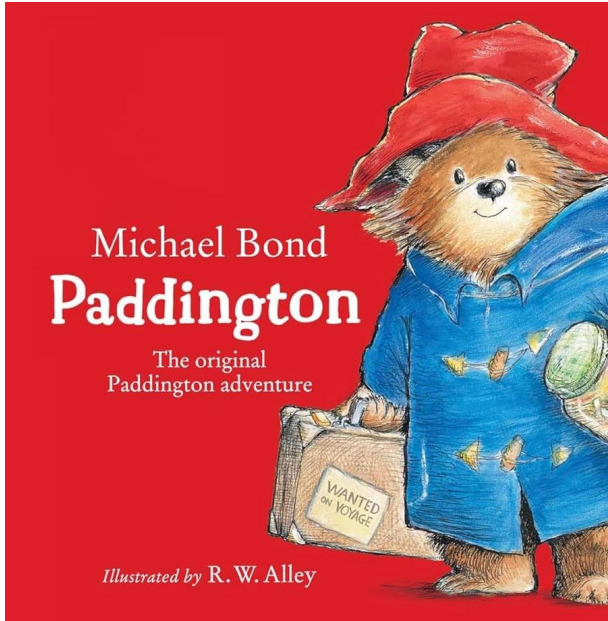


Year 2 have had an amazing first week back at school! They have settled well into the new routines and are beginning to follow our STAR behaviour expectations with confidence.

This week in English we have started our new text 'Paddington'. The children wrote predictions for the plot, before we then read the story. The children then used adjectives to describe Paddington's appearance and behaviour. We're really enjoying this text already and can't wait to do more writing based on it.

In maths we have started the term by looking at counting up to 100 in tens and using dienes to show 10s and 1s.

In Geography we have begun looking at the countries which make up the United Kingdom as well as the capital cities.



Year 3



The year started with our Year 3 pupils revising their learning of word classes in English, but identifying and using nouns and adjectives in sentences. Within maths, they have been looking at numbers up to 100, and partitioned 2-digit numbers into tens and ones. Within humanities, children have begun their unit comparing Staplehurst and Tonbridge by looking at maps of the village to locate their homes. They then considered what they see on their journey to school and identified human and physical features, before drawing their own maps.





Year 4

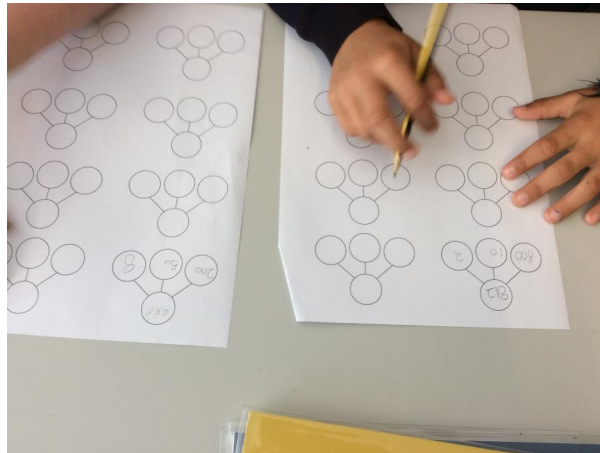


YEAR 3

We have all had a fabulous start to year 4. We are spending time in class setting expectations and reminding children of the learning behaviours they need to be successful. We kicked off our new History topic on Tuesday with an Introduction to Ancient Civilisations. The children enjoyed looking at coins, buildings and masks of different ancient civilisations. They used their knowledge of BC and AD to help label ancient civilisations on a timeline.

In English we have been introduced to our new book 'The Queen's Nose' and have learnt about the main character Harmony and written descriptions about her appearance and her personality.

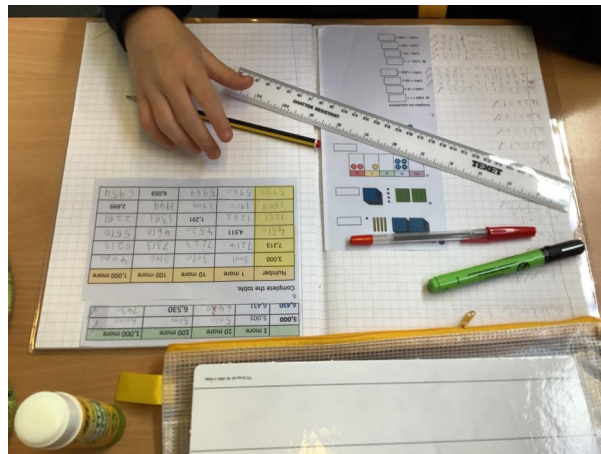
In Maths we have been partitioning numbers up to 1000 in to hundreds, tens and ones.



Year 5



YEAR 5







The week started strong in Year 5 this term. We are all so excited to be back.

We have already learned some new maths, using manipulatives to help with place value to make sure we understand the huge numbers we are using! We are making sure we can count to really high numbers up to 100,000. We also did some work with Roman Numerals and became quite inventive with using them.

In English, we have revised our punctuation from last year making sure we remember those essentials of capital letters and full stops, ensuring our sentences make sense and using adverbs and adverbials. We began our new book 'Who let the gods out?' which is hilarious and we cannot wait to read on!

PE started strong this year with ball skills in 5B and balancing in 5T - we always have fun during PE but this was a real challenge this week.

I has been such a great week!

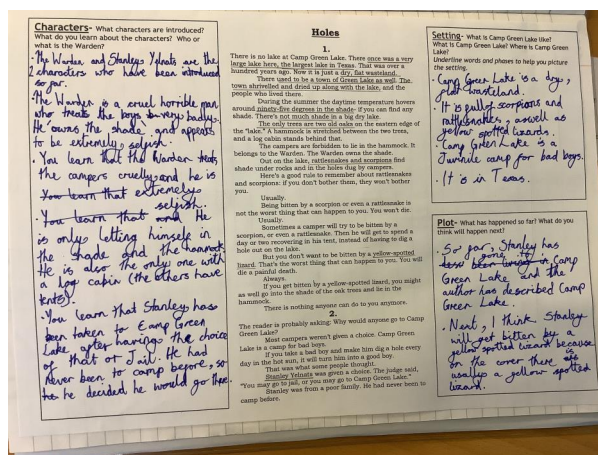
Year 6

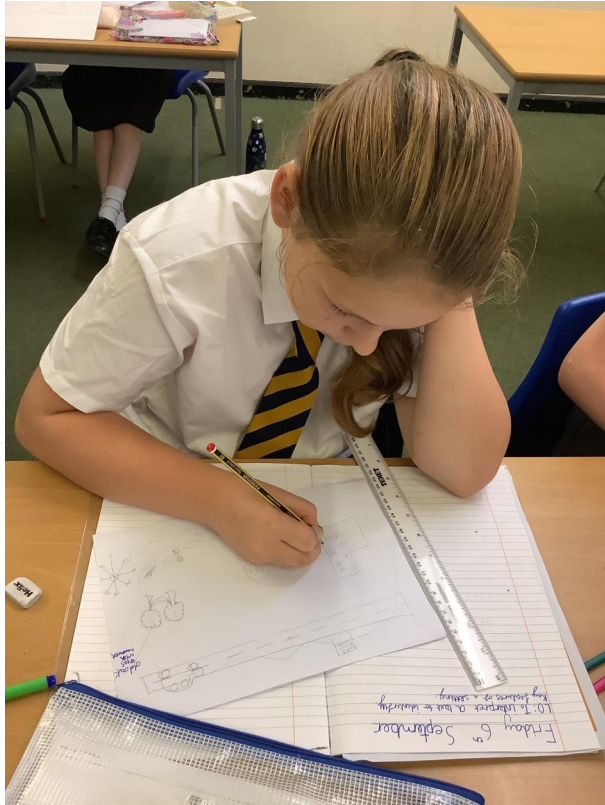
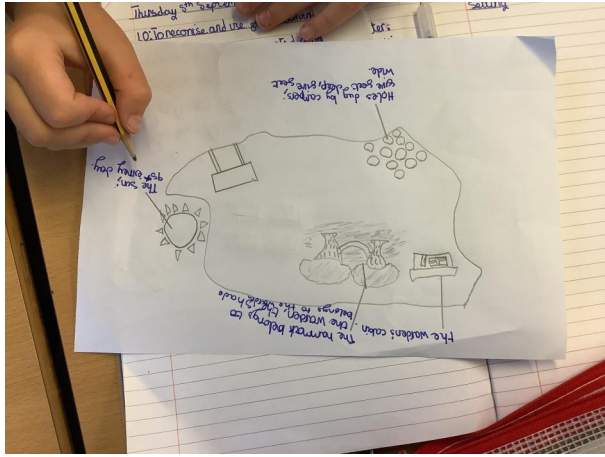


What a fabulous start to the final year of primary school for our new Year 6 cohort. It has been great to see the children return with such positivity!

All children completed House Captain applications after thinking of reasons why they should be chosen. The house captains will be announced in next weeks newsletter.

In English, this week the children have learnt and used figurative devices to describe settings. These skills will be used to describe a setting based on our new class text 'Holes' by Louis Sachar.





Sarah Perry
School of
Dance
BALLROOM
AND LATIN
DANCE
CLASSES

IDTA

Tuesday 3:15pm to 4:15pm
Staplehurst School main hall

Taught by a fully qualified Ballroom and Latin dance teacher.
Competitions and examination available

£5.50 per child
Ages 4+
Ballroom, Latin and Freestyle

First class Tuesday 10th September



Contact
admin@sarahperryschoolofdance.co.uk or
message us on our Facebook page sarah
perry school of dance

We are proud to announce that 8 children who attend Staplehurst School achieved awards in latin and ballroom just before the Summer holiday. All children attend Sarah Perry's School of Dance club which take place on a Tuesday 3:15 to 4:15 in the main school hall. Please contact directly for details at admin@sarahperryschoolofdance.co.uk

Parental Communications



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we welcome everyone back to the new school year, please see below some important information for parents.

Sending e-mails to the school office

When e-mailing the school office, please include your child's full name and where possible which class they are in. This helps the office staff in ensuring your enquiries are dealt with as quickly as possible.

Late items into school

Please ensure items are only dropped into the school office if urgent. We receive a large number of items each day to be delivered to children in class, after the bell has sounded for the beginning of the day such as, coats and water bottles. Please encourage your child to check they have their belongings before school, if they forget their water bottle we have cups in school they can use as well as water fountains.

Absence

If your child is absent from school, please ensure this is reported to the school office by 8.30am either by e-mail or telephone.

E-mail: attendance@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk

Telephone: 01580 891765 option 1

Scopay

All school dinners and extended day services must be booked via the online booking system, scopay.

Children who receive free school meals must also be booked on scopay.

The deadline for bookings is 12am the night before.

If you have not registered on scopay and need activation details, these can be obtained from the school office.

Staplehurst School website

www.staplehurstschool.co.uk

The school website contains lots of useful links and information. Here you can find term dates and key dates coming up, the lunch menu, how to order school uniform from Price & Buckland, forms as well as lots more.

Year group e-mail addresses

Each year group have direct e-mail addresses, if you have a message or need to share information with your child's year group please send to the year group:

- eyfg@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk
- year1@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk
- year2@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk
- year3@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk
- year4@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk
- year5@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk
- year6@staplehurst.kent.sch.uk

Key Dates

Dates to Remember

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Parents in to read - KS1 - Every Friday - 8:35 - 9:00 (13th September onwards)

19th September - 2pm - PTA AGM

27th September - Staff Professional development day

Please see all key dates: [School Calendar](#)