



**Staplehurst School Newsletter No.2 -
Autumn Term 2024**

A message from the Senior Team



Dear Parents and Carers

There is a wonderful air of 'business as usual' across the school as children have settled well into their classroom routines and are demonstrating very strong learning behaviours. They have made an exceptionally good start to their new units of learning for this term; the termly overviews have now been shared with you - please take time over the term to discuss your child's learning with them. If you have any concerns or queries, please talk to the class teacher or make an appointment to see them after school. Our first parents' evening of the year will be on 23rd October 2024.

Our Vision and Values: Last week we shared the school's vision and values with you which are the foundations of our home school agreement. Please remind yourself of the shared responsibilities and expectations we have of each other at Staplehurst [Home-School Agreement November 2023.pdf \(staplehurstschool.co.uk\)](https://staplehurstschool.co.uk/Home-School-Agreement-November-2023.pdf)

Reading: it was wonderful to see the return of our parents into reading session today for Years 1 & 2. Reading for pleasure with children daily is incredibly beneficial. It not only strengthens the parent-child bond but also fosters a love for reading and learning in children. This shared activity can enhance a child's language skills, imagination, and cognitive development. Plus, it creates a comforting routine that can help children feel secure and valued.

Have a very enjoyable weekend

Miss Davenport and the Senior Leadership Team

Our Home School Agreement: Expectations

School's Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the School:

- To safeguard and promote the welfare of all children who are pupils at the school
- To provide a balanced curriculum and meet the individual needs of its pupils.
- To promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, including promoting fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

Parents/Carers Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the parents/carers:

- To respect and support the School's values.
- To take an active interest in their child's education, to encourage him/her to stretch themselves and provide the support and environment to maximize their academic potential.
- To encourage their child to take as full and active part in school life as possible.
- To support the School and its policies, particularly in respect of safeguarding (including online safety), attendance, behaviour, and homework
- To understand the School's duty to take action if a pupil's behaviour onsite, offsite and/or on-line adversely affects the wellbeing of other pupils and support the School's actions in response to such issues
- To understand the School's responsibilities to safeguard pupils and support the School's actions, in particular driving and parking safely in the vicinity of the School's gates at all times
- To support the School's online safety policy by role modelling safe and positive online behaviour (such as sharing images, text and video responsibly) and by discussing Online Safety with them when they access technology at home; not using social media to upload or share photos that contain any pupil other than their own child(ren).
- To follow the school's Complaints Procedure if they wish to make a complaint at any time and not use social media to complain about the school, any of its staff or its pupils.
- And by sending their children to the school, parents agree to abide by these responsibilities.

Pupil's Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the pupil:

- To respect and support the School's values.
- To work to the best of their abilities at all times including homework.
- To take a full part in school life

- To follow the school rules and treat the school community with respect at all times, including onsite, offsite and on-line

A message from our Family Liaison Officer



I am delighted to join the school and look forward to meeting children and parents in due course.

I have many years of experience working in Education and have a passion for improving children's wellbeing. My other passions are cooking up delicious concoctions in the kitchen, travelling abroad and cuddling my dog Marley.

Please introduce yourself to me and if I can be of any assistance, do not hesitate to contact me.

Attendance



Well done to 1U and 2W the KS1 the weekly winners with 97.8% who will share Attendance Ted.

Well done to 5T the KS2 winners with 98.4% who will receive the Attendance Cup.

Reception 2025 Open Events



Reception 2025 Open Events

Our open events for reception intake 2025, will take place on the following dates:

Wednesday 13th November 9:30am (a creche will be available for young children)

Monday 18th November 6:00pm

To book, and for more information, please click on the QR code.

Pride Certificates 13.09.2024

1JS	Leonardo Homewood	Leo has amazed us with how quickly he gets on with a task and the positivity he shows towards challenges. He has worked hard this week on finding 1 more than a given number. Leo has also been a great role model for Samuel Class through his exemplary STAR sitting. Well done, keep it up Leo!
1U	Lukas Jones	Lukas has completed some amazing English work this week. Although Lukas had been worried about writing in year 1, he has shown great positivity towards his retelling of the 'Three Little Pigs'. Lukas has worked really hard, using his phonics to spell new words and including full stops and capital letters in his sentences. Well done on such a fantastic week of writing Lukas!
2W	Nora Brazaityte	Nora has had a fantastic week, she always listens in class showing respect and a great attitude to learning. She has demonstrated pride in the presentation of her geography work on physical and human features. Well done!
2C	Florence Weiss	This week Florence has shown a fantastic positive attitude towards her learning. Within maths, Florence has used her knowledge of tens and ones to help her partition numbers in different ways. I am very proud of her resilience and willingness to tackle challenges with a smile on her face. Well done, Florence. You are a superstar!
2K	Natalia Love	Natalia has shown positivity in all of her learning this week. She is an amazing role model to her peers and enjoys always trying her best. I am so pleased with how quickly she has settled and shown she understands the expectations of Year 2! Well done Natalia!
3C	Ivy Grace Hollamby	This week Ivy Grace has demonstrated a very positive attitude to her learning across the curriculum. Her work is always beautifully presented and to a high standard. During lessons, Ivy Grace has positive learning behaviours and is always ready to begin every lesson and every task. A good week. Well done!
3NS	Alice Harvey	This week Alice has really impressed me with her positive attitude in class. She can always be counted on to be setting a really positive example for the others to follow. She always comes in ready to learn and this has resulted in her producing some tremendous maths work. She completed all her worksheets and her presentation was superb! Well done Alice!
4A	Alfie-Paul Thirkell	Alfie has made an excellent start to life in Year 4. He has demonstrated a positive attitude towards all learning tasks and has been keen to contribute to whole class discussions. Alfie has worked particularly hard in maths lessons where he been determined to demonstrate his mathematical knowledge across a range of different types of question. He has also been working hard to ensure his presentation is the best it can possibly be which has been wonderful to see. Well done Alfie, keep it up!
4C	Esme Gosling	Esme has had a fabulous start to her learning journey at Staplehurst School. At the end of her second week at our school Esme is confident with our routines and has made many friends within the class. Esme has come to us with a great work ethic. She produced a well thought out summery of chapter 2, writing in the first person. Well done Esme.
5B	Rosanna Brazil	Rosanna has demonstrated excellence all week and she has had a great attitude towards learning and continuously shown STAR behaviour. Rosanna has written fantastic expanded noun phrases in our English lessons and has consistently contributed towards class discussions, especially in History. Great work Rosanna!
5T	Jessica Britz	Jessica works hard continually to produce the best work she can. Her positivity shines through in everything she does. It is clear from her work that she thinks carefully about what she does and tried to improve and uplevel her work as she goes. Jessica has impeccable behaviour and strives to be the best she can be at all times. Well done Jessica, you are a role model to us all!
6S	Freya Edwards	This week Freya demonstrated such a positive attitude towards her learning in P.E. Freya listened carefully to the key teaching points and watched the demonstration well to ensure she was successful when performing the skill. In the game, Freya worked well with her team, making sure everyone was included and had the opportunity to be successful. Fantastic work, Freya!
6JS	Gethin Rowland	This week, Gethin has shown positivity during Computing. He worked hard to create code which developed a game. Despite the challenge, he remained positive and debugged broken code. Well done Gethin!

Gardening Club Success



Led by the wonderful Mrs Relph and her generous volunteers, our gardening club have achieved wonderfully at the recent horticultural show in the village. The children tended to the fruit and vegetables all through last summer term and the fruits of their success were impressive. Ranging from sweetcorn, to chili peppers to enormous beetroot, we won a host of 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes and were even recognised by the Worshipful Company of Gardeners. Mrs Relph kindly came in and we showed off the winning fruit and vegetable in assembly with our gardening club. A big well done to everyone and a special thank you to all the volunteers who work so hard, giving their time for free, to allow our children these opportunities.





EYFS



The children in EYFS have continued to impress us with how they are settling in to class. This week they have all stayed for lunch, again impressing us with how well they coped with this.

This week we introduced our first key text, *My Map Book* by Sara Fanelli. We focused on the map of our face discussing the different features. We identified how many of each feature we have, for example two eyes and one mouth. We then started to paint the base of our self-portraits, looking in a mirror to identify our skin, hair and eye colour.

In class we have started to share the childrens shoeboxes which they decorated as part of their first home learning task. It has been wonderful to hear the children sharing their boxes and we have been so impressed with how they have stood up in front of the class and spoken.



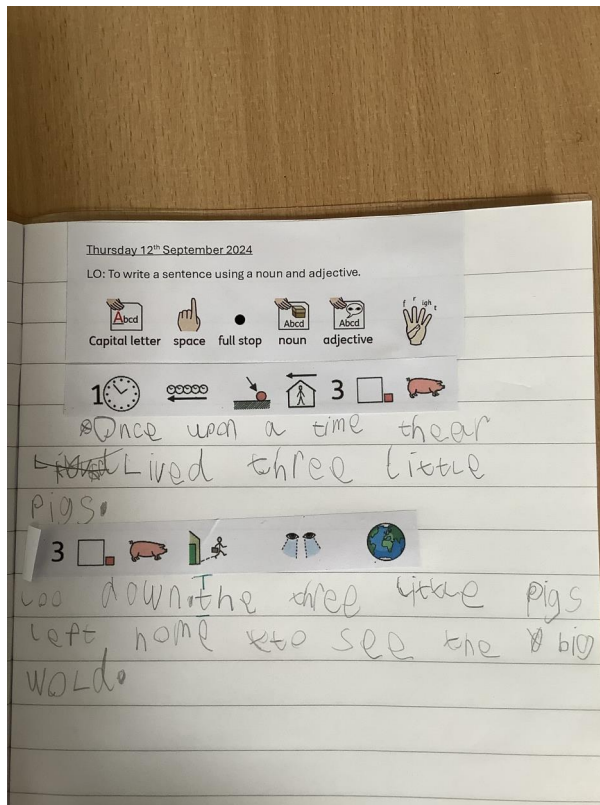
Year 1

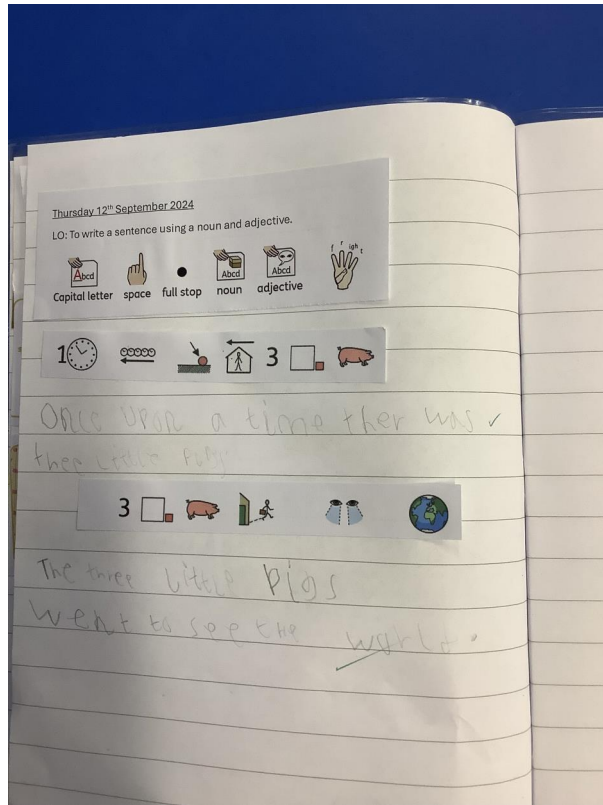


In English this week we have continued learning the story of 'The Three Little Pigs' We have been learning about nouns and how a noun is a naming word. We have also learned about adjectives and how we can use adjectives to describe. We have worked on writing a full sentence, remembering to

use phonics to sound out words. In Maths, we have been working on reading word for each number up to ten. We have also worked on matching numerals to the correct amount and showing this on a tens frame. In Music, we have been exploring improvisation with Mrs Seal. We had great fun improvising our own music on the chime bars.

We had a great first visit to the library! The children we really keen to explore and have borrowed up to 2 books. Please ensure that these are returned on our library visits every other week, or after school on a Tuesday or Thursday.





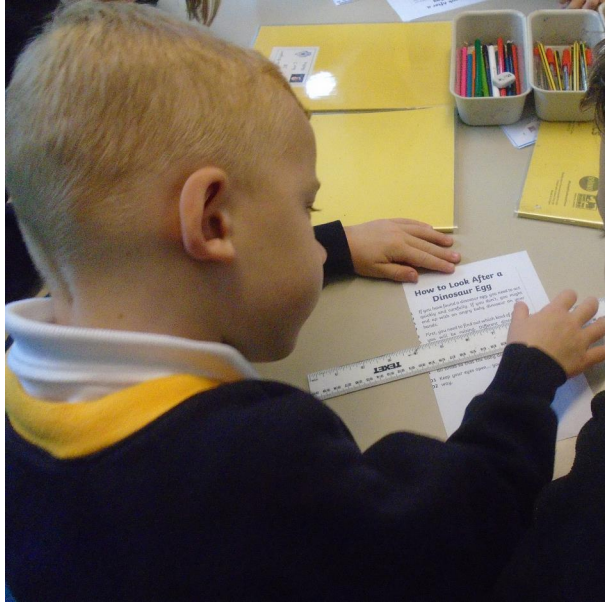
Year 2

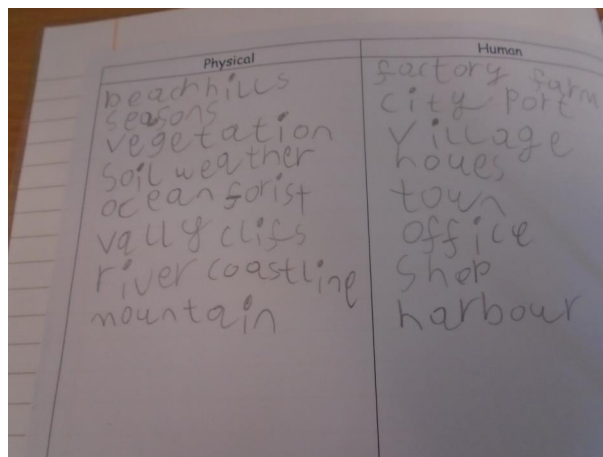
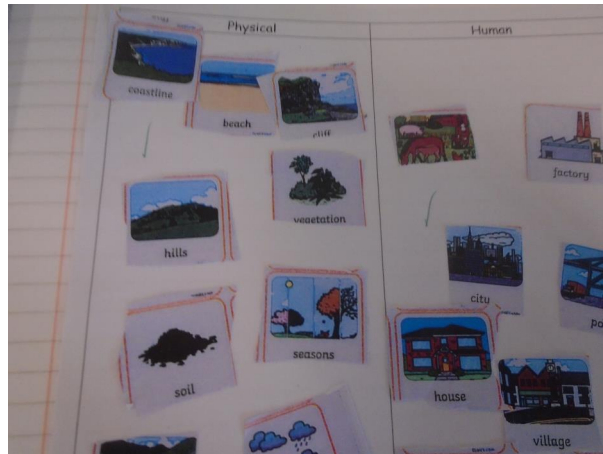


Another exciting week for the children in Year 2! In English, we have continued to look at Paddington and used adjectives to describe his appearance and personality, Mylo wrote, " He is a clumsy bear." All the children have taken part in reading and phonics lessons and are making great progress. In maths, we have been partitioning in different ways and writing numerals as words.

Our unit in science is on plants and we have planted cress seeds and broad beans to begin to to answer the question, Do plants grow the same amount every day? The children were excited to start this experiment and will be monitoring how they grow in different conditions.

We have also been busy with geography, learning the difference between human and physical features- we looked at lots of examples and sorted them into the correct group. What a fantastic week!





Year 3



Year 3 have started their work in art on 'Block Printing inspired by natural objects'. They have been looking at objects found in nature and using images, children have practiced their sketching techniques through observational drawing. In geography we reminded ourselves of the world's continents and oceans, as well as locating Tonbridge and Staplehurst on a map of Kent. In PE we have started to develop our ball skills, by rolling the ball to each other, using the chest pass to throw and then passing it with our feet. In English we have started to consider our text for this term which is 'Leon and the Place Between' by Grahame Baker-Smith, by looking at what a circus is and using adjectives to describe them. We also made predictions about what our story is and what might happen.





Year 4

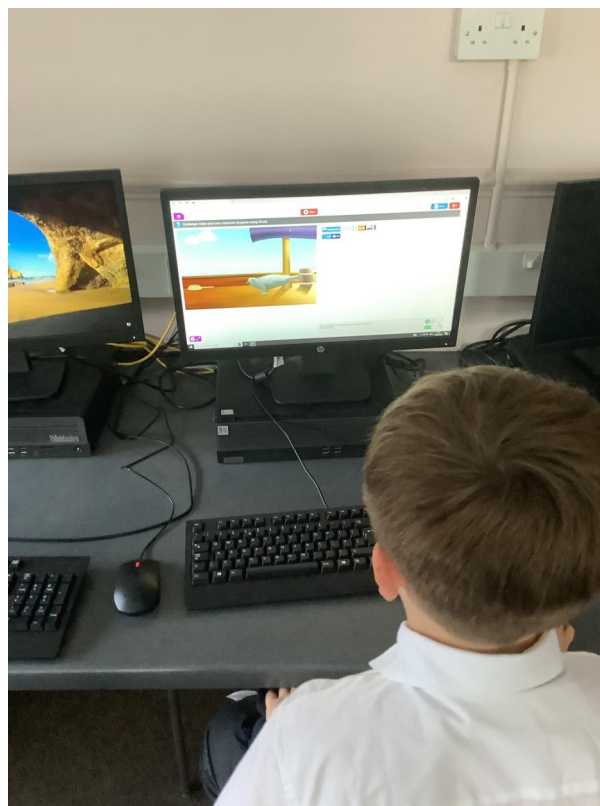


YEAR 3

In Year 4 we are well on the way to establishing excellent learning behaviours. The children are learning the routines of year 4 and the high expectations ensure the classrooms are calm and conducive to children achieving their best.

We have been continuing to read our class story 'The Queen's Nose' in our reading sessions and using what we have read in our English lessons to practice skills such as writing compound sentences and using speech marks correctly.

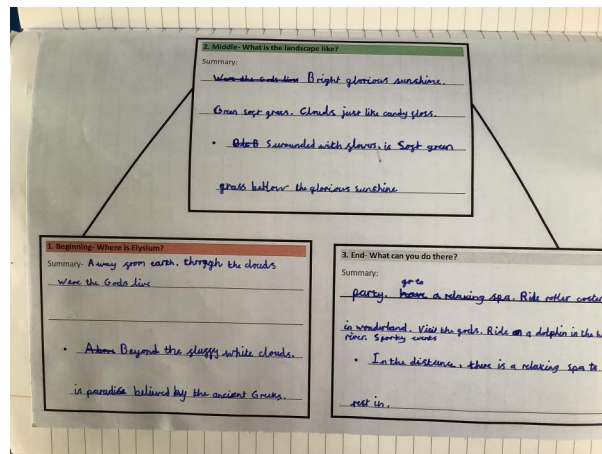
In computing we are learning how to code. Children were keen to share people they know who create code for their job! We used Free Code Gibbon on Purple Mash to choose a variety of objects, and learn how they move in different ways.



Year 5



YEAR 5





• I can see that the planets are orbiting the Earth.

• I have observed that Earth is in the centre. This is called Geocentric.



• I can see that the Sun is in the middle. This is called Heliocentric.

• I have observed that all planets, including Earth, orbit the Sun.

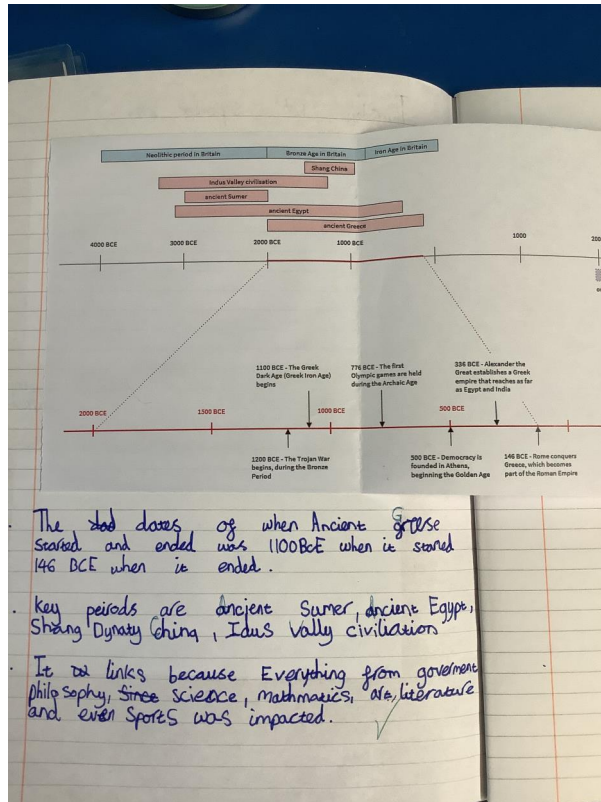
Text Type	Purpose	Audience	Narrative Perspective
	Entertain		

Ptolemy's Planetary Model

Copernicus' Planetary Model

1. I can see that the earth is in the middle and the sun is in ^{the} ~~middle~~ ^{center} place. There are 8 planets. I have observed that the ~~earth~~ ^{sun} is in the ~~center~~ ^{middle}. So it is geocentric.

Difference	Similarity
geocentric believes the earth is at the centre and the sun and planets orbit it.	both include orbiting celestial bodies
Copernicus and Galileo believed in the heliocentric model	both include the planets and earth
heliocentric believes the sun is at the centre of the solar system.	
ptolemy believed in the geocentric model.	



This week has been a whirlwind of activity in Year 5!

We have really got into our book 'Who let the gods out?' in both our reading and our writing lessons, using imagery from the book to describe what Elysium looks like. We have also got to know the main character better, now the story is taking a turn for the exciting!!

Science has been amazing too, we have learnt all about heliocentric and geocentric models of the Earth and Sun. Ask about it and see if we can remember which one is which! We are also tracking the moon cycle and seeing how it looks every night - the moon seems to change a little bit each day but we still don't really know if it is changing shape or it is because of something else!

We began to learn about Ancient Greece; where it was, when it was and how it has helped us in modern times. A lot of our current ideas stem from the Ancient Greeks!

Year 5 started to talk about Islam and what their beliefs are, it is so interesting learning about other faiths and belief systems and comparing them to what we believe.

Finally, we began our art this week, discussing printing techniques by comparing two artists. The colours and pictures they created were so different; some were bold and bright with thick lines while others were delicate with subtle changes in colours to make almost a drawing effect. We liked different pictures for different reasons although we all seemed to like the one called 3 sausages by Patrick Caulfield.

Year 6



This week Year 6 began their coding unit in Computing. Having spent one lesson in the computing suite and an additional lesson on the iPads the children created code to build a game.





Parental Communications: Reminder



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

19th September - 2pm - PTA AGM

27th September - Staff Professional development day

23rd October - Parents` Evening

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