

## **Staplehurst School Newsletter No.5 - Autumn Term 2024**

## A message from the Senior Team



### **Dear Parents and Carers**

This has been an extremely positive week at Staplehurst; it has been wonderful to see our Year 1 children enjoying their outdoor learning and the buzz of excitement in Key Stage 2 following our author visit (Penny Chrimes), as part of our involvement in the Maidstone Literary Festival . While I was enjoying a superb school roast dinner on Wednesday, I really enjoyed listening to how the children feel about being part of Staplehurst school - they are incredibly proud of our school and enjoy so many aspects of their learning!

### **School Improvement**

Last week I shared with you our school priorities for this year <u>Staplehurst School - SEF | School improvement priorities summary</u>. Yesterday our local authority school improvement advisor, Paul Jackson, visited the school. After our leaning walk, he commented that he was extremely impressed with the calm and focused atmosphere and the level of enthusiasm and engagement from all children. At Staplehurst we always welcome challenge and support from the local authority as this ensures that we continue to improve our provision for your children.

### **PTA**

Our PTA work very hard to give our children enjoyable and memorable events at school so that the funds raised contribute to your child's learning experience. Thank you for your continued support and understanding why the changes to the payment system have been made, and a special thank you to the members for giving up their time to run this event tonight - we appreciate this very much.

Let's hope the autumnal sunshine stays with us this weekend; enjoy your family time!

## **Attendance**



Well done to 2C the KS1 weekly winners with 98% who will share Attendance Ted.

Well done to 6JS the KS2 weekly winners with 96.8% 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 4th October 2024**

Class	Name	Reason	
1JS	Lacey Porter	Lacey is an excellent role model for Samuel Class. She has a positive attitude towards her learning and is also keen to help others with their learning. From starting with us in Year 1, Lacey has been working hard on using her phonics in her writing. She has written some great sentences and is remembering what a sentence needs to be a full sentence. Well done Lacey, keep up the great writing!	
10	Mykola Trynoha	Mykola is always so eager to share his knowledge about the world around us, whether it is about our topic of animals in science or physical and human features in geography. He has a wealth of knowledge that he loves to share, and this makes him a brilliant role model to the rest of the class. Mykola always has such a positive attitude towards his learning. This week, during our outdoor learning, he did a great job finding the different trees on our school grounds and carefully created a leaf print. Well done Mykola!	
2W	Aurora Li	Aurora has shown positivity in her learning this week by actively joining in with lessons and pushing herself to do the best she can in all subjects. She produced a great piece of work in RE showing the key parts of a story with carefully produced illustrations. Well done!	
2C	Orson Gosling	Orson has shown a positive attitude towards school this week. He has been enthusiastic to share his ideas and knowledge with the class. Orson consistently makes great choices and follows STAR making him a fantastic role model to all. Well done Orson, keep it up!	
2K	Savannah Ponton	Savannah is a delight to have in 2K. She is a wonderful role model for her peers and demonstrates all of our school values constantly! I am so proud of her positive attitude towards school and learning. Well done Savannah, keep it up!	
3C	Darcie-Rose Forward	This week Darcie-Rose has shown positivity towards her English learning. She has been very keen to take part in lessons; putting up her hand to answer questions and in completing her written work. A good week. Well done!	
3NS	Oliver Pointer	Oliver has shown amazing positivity this week. He has been working super hard, particularly with his morning handwriting skills, challenging himself to complete more than the amount he needed to do. Keep up the fantastic attitude towards your learning Oliver!	
4A	Isabelle Clark	This week Isabelle has continued to demonstrate her positive attitude towards all parts of school life. In maths, she has had a positive attitude towards overcome her initial difficulties to round twodigit, three-digit and four-digit numbers to the nearest 10, 100 and 1000. She has also worked hard to further improve the presentation of her work which has been fantastic to see. Well done Isabelle, you have had another fantastic week!	
4C	Elvie Matthews	This week Elvie has shown a huge amount of positivity. She has worked really hard on her English work, trying to remember all the features of using direct speech in her writing. She has also put herself forward for Eco Club, and whilst was not successful she has picked herself back up and has been working on her speech for School Council. Her positivity and resilience demonstrates exemplary behaviour that we can all learn from. Well done Elvie.	
5B	Isaac Cardnell	Isaac continuously displays STAR behaviour and has a positive attitude towards learning. He is a great role model to his peers, and is always polite towards others. Isaac has shown excellence in his science this week, learning about phases of the moon, and the Heliocentric Model: planets orbiting the Sun. He also participates well in lessons, sharing knowledge about science by learning outside of school too. Well done Isaac!	
5T	Ryan Throssell	Ryan has really engaged in his work this week ensuring he uses some fantastic devices to improve his learning. Ryan has showed excellent positivity with regard to his written work by showcasing wonderful and exciting language choices as well as writing with precision when using grammar and punctuation. He has shown skill and clarity when using inverted commas and worked hard to utilize inference by using show not tell in his writing. Fabulous effort Ryan!	
6S	Daisy DickinsonGooch	This week Daisy has shown a real positive attitude towards the editing and redrafting process. Daisy has worked well to ensure that her writing includes accurate use of contractions, fronted adverbials and that her writing flows and reads well. It has been wonderful to see Daisy working so hard to redraft her work to be of even higher quality. Well done Daisy!	
618	Faith Villiers	This week Faith has impressed with her positivity towards learning her times tables. Faith has shown determination when questions have been difficult. She is a real role model to the other children. Well done Faith!	

## **Learning Ambassadors - Pupil Voice**



Hello my name is Iris and I am a proud member of Staplehurst School. These are the reasons why I love being a member of Staplehurst School.

**S**upport The pupils at Staplehurst school receive amazing support.

**T**rips: I've been on some fantastic trips including the Zoo and Science Museum.

Activities: Staplehurst has brilliant clubs including Gardening, Cheerleading, Tennis and

so many more

**P**upils: I have wonderful friends at Staplehurst School

**L**earning: We learn at greater depth at Staplehurst School

**E**ncouragement: I am encouraged to be the best I can be

**H**ouses: We win house points for our houses (Red house is the best)!

**U**nbelievably: Good head teacher!

Resources: Staplehurst School has really helpful resources including the Library and

Computer Suite (I love being the Librarian)

**S**uccess: Staplehurst School boosts my confidence to make a success of my life.

**T**eachers: We have incredible teachers at our amazing school!

## **Harvest Assembly**



Thank you for your wonderful donations for our Harvest Assembly. Silke, from All Saints Church, gave us an assembly that made us think about where the food we eat comes from.

Your donations have been taken to Staplehurst Free Church's Community Fridge which is our local food bank. They were extremely grateful for your generosity.

## **EYFS**



The children in Early Years had a very exciting end to last week. We were able to go and explore the new outdoor learning area. Whilst there the children had four activities to complete.

Or first activity was using chopsticks to make a nest for the bird. The children used chopsticks as we discussed that birds do not have hands to use when they are build nests so we were pretending to have a beak. We even had some wiggly worms to collect!

Our next activity was to find different animals in the woodland area. We worked together to mark off all the animals on the sheet as we found them. We did notice one animal didn't belong in the woods, it was a crocodile!

Our penultimate activity was probably most of the children's favourite. We went on a bug hunt. We had paintbrushes to tickle any animals we found to help us put them into the pots. Each of our pots had a magnifying glass on the top so we could closely examine the different bugs we found. We had to move logs, wood and mats to look underneath to try and find all the bugs. We even found a frog and a wood mouse!

To finish the session our final activity was using mirrors to see different colours from the trees and the sky whilst looking at the reflection. We grouped our mirrors together on the floor to create one giant reflection and we could see all the way to the top of the trees!







## Year 1



This week in year 1, we have been learning to retell the story of Beegu, using a story map. We have started to learn each part of the story and to write a sentence for each part, remembering to use finger spaces, capital letters and full stops. We have been trying to use our 'Fred fingers' when sounding out words for out writing.

In Maths, we have begun using a part, part whole model to help us to know the composition of a number. The children have had lots of opportunities for practice Maths using the cubes and counters. We are beginning to use this to helps solve simple addition problems.

In Geography, we have been looking at the difference of an aerial photo and a map. We have looked at what we can identify in a photo, such as cars in a carpark which we cannot see on a map.





This week Year 1 have also enjoyed an exciting outdoor learning experience. They learnt about different types of trees, how squirrels hide their food and how to print leaves using fabric and hammers.

















## Year 2



This week in year 2 the children have begun to write a story setting for our book, Katie in London, they have used adjectives to describe landmarks in London such as the London Eye and The Tower of London. We have also looked at maps of London as part of our geography unit comparing the city of

London with the village of London. The children loved finding landmarks they knew on our aerial maps.

In maths as well as counting in 2s, 5s and 10s we have also continued to learn our number bonds to ten, sometimes we watch videos and sing songs to help us learn!

In RE we have learnt about what followers of Islam believe about how the Qur'an was first written and created a storyboard to show the different parts of the story. In science we have continued to monitor our bean plants and have shown different ways of presenting the data around how the beans grew.













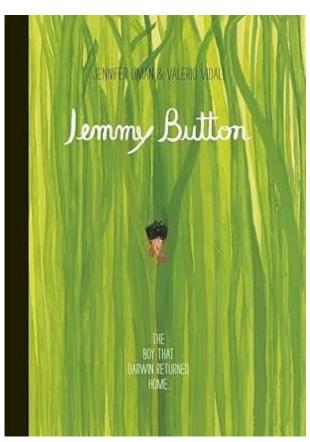
## Year 3

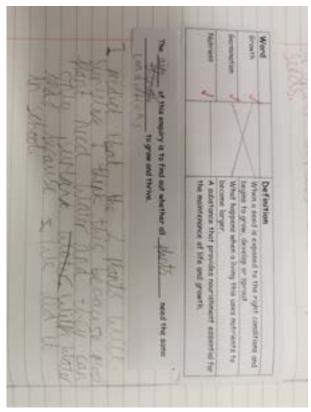


This week Year 3 have begun a scientific enquiry to investigate whether all plants need the same things to grow. Each class has a 2 plants: parsley and a cactus. 100 ml of water was added to each plant and left in sunlight, for the children to observe what happened to each plant over the next couple of weeks.

In geography, children have this week learnt about 4 figure grid references when looking at an OS map of Tonbridge, in preparation for their fieldwork visit to the town.

Within English lessons, children have started a new text called Jemmy Button by Valerio Vidali. This book is inspired by the life of Jemmy Button - a native of Tierra del Fuego who was brought to England in the mid-1800s to be 'educated' and 'civilised' by Captain Robert FitzRoy. The book illustrates Jemmy's bizarre encounters and his return back home.







Enquiry: Do all plants grow the same amount every	day?
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How did we make sure this was a fair feat? What	did we keep the some?
Describe how Bean I grew during the experiment	
Describe how Seon 2 grew during the experiment	
Was your prediction correct?	
Do all plants grow the same amount every day?	

### Year 4



## YEAR 3

Year 4 have had an exciting week this week. We are all thorough enjoying our 3 minute movement breaks that happen at regular intervals in the day. They give us a chance to get up, move around and get a drink if we need, and then we are refreshed and ready for the next lesson. We have a lot of fun but also know that when it's over we sit down quietly ready to listen.

In English this week we have been role playing as Harmony and a reporter who has come to interview her about her latest incident - a bike accident. We took turns being Harmony and the reporter and asked thoughtful questions using question words. We were able to empathise with Harmony and answer the reporter's questions really putting ourselves in Harmony's shoes. Mrs Chem was particularly impressed with how the children worked well in pairs.

Our science lesson involved a teacher demonstration on what happens to food in the stomach, small and large intestine. We put biscuits, banana, orange juice and water into the 'stomach' (a plastic bag) churned it all up. Then we poured the mixture into the small intestine (some tights) and squeezed all the nutrients out!













## YEAR 5

We learned all about where democracy came from in our history this week. We also learned that life was pretty different to now if you lived in Athens. If you were a man you were a citizen but everyone else didn't count!!Women were not even allowed to speak to men they were not related to. It sounded like a strange way to live! But it was really interesting!

In computing we have learnt what decomposition and abstraction are and how to take a real-life situation, decompose it and think about the level of abstraction.

We also voted for our school council, so not only did our learning include democracy we also took part in democracy! Luckily we didn't have to be men or over 18!







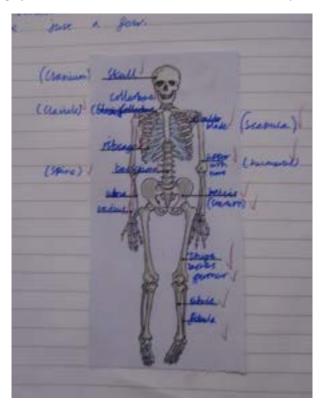




## Year 6



This week in science, Year 6 have been learning about the bones in the body. The children identified the bones and labelled their own diagram of the skeleton with the correct scientific names for the bones, they discussed the importance of the skeleton as well as its functions. They learnt about the 3 types of joints: ball and socket, hinge and glide, and which bones are connected by which type of joint. For example, a hinge joint is found in the knees and elbow and only moves in one direction.



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## Music



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2023 - 2024

## **Community Events**

As part of Maidstone Litfest we had the wonderful author Penny Chrimes in to Years 3-6 to discuss her books and how to come up with ideas for stories. We learned that some of her characters can shapeshift into hares and weasels! We also imagined what it would be like if the teachers turned into cats or elephants while they were teaching us!

We were able to get signed books for those who had purchased but still have some available to order with a signed bookplate for those who don't want to miss out. (details to go out via scopay).



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## Sunday Ob October h & K & N. a 1 ... a h



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A day of family fun and ententainment together with our very sem Local Lockmendow Ententainment Centre, MCNE SEE Easty & Purking

### Monday 07 October

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2-3-Kipm Archives Talk and Tour - Teachers and Triangle Girle Novels of WWI women based on true staries found in the Kern Anchores Zon archives Islam Sistems and author Zarrys Thornton for a tour of the archives and discover law the energiesy accounts recorded in the lains Kent History and Library Cerare, MEIA ILQ FREE Booking Required

7-8pm The Short Straw: Hally Seddon in conversation with Helen Bell

### Tuesday 08 October



7-8pm The Night Shipr Jess Kidd in conversation with Gionna Pollero Join award-working softher Jess Kidd as the table about her main recent took The Night Ships an egic and invegration historical move, based on the true stary of the ships, Bactavia, weekled in the mallar Cosmi, Modistone Museum, MOSH EM ES 5



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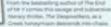
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## Staplehurst NEEDS YOU

## on Saturday 26th October

It's the return of our Clean-Up morning.

Please come along to the Youth Club in the High Street at 10am. Sign in, collect a litter-picker, a sack and a Hi-Viz vest. We recommend you bring your own gloves, although disposable gloves will be available. You will be given a road to clear of rubbish. Then just return your sack and equipment and enjoy some well-earned refreshments.

Let's be proud of our cleaner village!



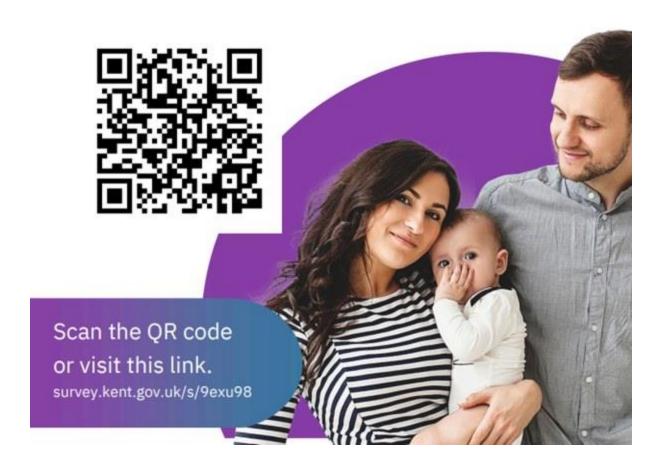
STAPLEHURST PARISH COUNCIL
Parish Office
High Street
TN12 oBJ
Tel: 01580 891761
Email: admin@staplehurst-pc.uk

- Help needed for clean-up morning
- Date 26th October 2024
- Meet 10am at the Youth Club in the High Street
- Refreshments provided



## Kent Family Hubs Visitor Survey

Kent County Council (KCC) would like to find out about families' experiences of the services available at Family Hubs and/or through Start for Life. Your feedback is essential for us to improve our services moving forward. To take part, please complete our Kent Family Hubs Visitor Survey, by following the link below or scanning the QR code.



## Dates to Remember

April	May	June
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Parents in to read - KS1 - Every Friday - 8:35 - 9:00

**4th October** - PTA Disco

**15th October** - Sibling and Individual Photographs

23rd October - Parents' Evening

Please see all key dates: <u>School Calendar</u>