

The Half-term's Round-Up



Stanway Primary School Newsletter

Here we are again with the round-up to a busy and productive half-term.

I have been super impressed by the Class Assemblies I have seen in the last few weeks. The knowledge of Year 6 on World War II is second to none, and I was fascinated to see all the different aspects of World War II they have studied.

Meanwhile, Year 5 produced possibly the most entertaining version of Shakespeare's 'The Tempest' that I have had the good fortune to watch. What was most impressive was that they had written and put together this all themselves.

We seem to have a lot of budding theatrical talent and, hopefully, this has given them a very positive first impression of our most famous playwright. Later on this year, we will have Shakespeare workshops taking place for Year 5 and 6 as usual; this will have been excellent preparation for this visit.

A few weeks ago, we were also lucky enough to secure a visit from a local team of history enthusiasts who brought a WWII flight simulator in to show the Year 6 children, complete with the opportunity to take part in some virtual reality flying games. This was very popular and really brought home the realities of what a fighter pilot would have experienced.

Three weeks ago, we were represented brilliantly by our Year 3 and 4 footballers who spent a morning playing 7-a-side matches with other schools from the Consortium. They came fourth overall, winning several matches, but what we were most pleased about was their sporting behaviour, supporting each other as a team and impeccable behaviour.

We welcomed some parents

Save the Date!

Please note the change of dates for the Year 4 End of Term Production to Wednesday, 2nd April at 3.45pm and Thursday, 3rd April at 6pm. We look forward to entertaining you then!



Mental Health Champions

We are very excited to have a team of pupils training to become Mental Health Champions. Their training takes place over the spring term, so by the summer term, they will be able to offer strategies and support to help all pupils develop their mental health and well-being. We look forward to seeing what a positive impact they have upon the school!

Looking forward to STEM WEEK

Parents, we need YOU!

Next half term, we will be celebrating all things STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) during the week beginning 10th March. We have several things planned for the children to enjoy and discover during the week, but we need your help! If you have a career that is directly connected to STEM, we would love for you to come in and speak to the children about your job. It may be that you speak to your child's class, several classes or even do an assembly - whatever you feel comfortable with!

If your job isn't connected to STEM, fear not! At various points during the rest of the half term (from 24th February - 4th April) the children will be looking at a range of careers, so if you would like to share what you do, then we would happily welcome you into school too.

If you think you can help us, please speak to your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Many thanks in advance.

into school for one of our SEND Coffee Mornings at the end of January led by our School Inclusion Partner, Debbie Tatlow. This was well-attended and we will continue to hold events such as this, as we know that SEND is one of the areas where parents most request support and advice.

Warm wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable half-term break with your families!

Rebecca Loader
Headteacher

Do the best you can until you know better. Then when you know better, do better.

Maya Angelou

Club Update

This term's clubs are going with a swim. We have three coaches working with Year 5 and 6 footballers: Mr. Godwin, Mr. Elzubeir and Mr. Oliver are the coaches and the Year 6 team is shaping up nicely. We also have an enthusiastic group of netballers with whom Mrs. Brierly is very pleased. Homework Club continues to be busy and four groups of Year 6 pupils are working extremely hard after school to hone their Reading, Writing and Maths skills—the three 'R's, in fact! Homework club continues to be very busy on Monday's as does Construction Club.

Thursday, 13th February



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School Council

The Stanway School Joke Book

As part of our World Book Day events, the School Council are organising a Joke book to be made with contributions from every member of the school, children and staff.

Children have been asked to bring in their own joke by Friday, March 6th and there is also a competition for the cover design. The School Councillors will then compile and produce the final version of the book ready to be sold on World Book Day to raise money for the Make a Wish Charity. The School Council have also expressed the wish to buy some wall art with positive affirmations on with some of the money raised.

Tolerance Assemblies

On Monday, members of the School Council held assemblies on Tolerance where they spoke to classes about writing poems on the theme of tolerance which they plan to display outside classrooms. They led the assemblies in a very mature manner and gave some excellent examples of model poems.

Stanway Pupil Voice

EYFS

EYFS learning about the Chinese New Year



Year 1



Year 1 On a Dinosaur Hunt around the school to prepare for writing their own stories.



Year 2



Year 2 Making bread in preparation for writing instructions in English, making Tudor houses when learning about the Great Fire of London and exploring capacity in a Maths Lesson.



Year 3



Year 3 Mummifying a Tomato to enhance their learning about the Egyptians



and working hard in Maths.



Year 4



Year 4 competing in the year 3/4 7-a-side Football competition.



Year 5



Year 5 Enjoying Science and DT Lessons



Year 6



Year 6 having a fun day when the WW1 Aviation Heritage Trust visited the school.





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New Zebra Crossing

Please read the following from the Active Travel Engagement Officer from Essex Highways


Dear Stanway Primary School

How a child travels to school can vastly improve their mental health, energy and positive mood as well as reducing stress and anxiety. Some children will always need to be driven but to support those who choose to walk, cycle or wheel, safety is paramount. With this in mind, **I'm now pleased to be able to let you know that the zebra crossing outside Stanway Primary School will have been completed by the time you return to school after the half term break.** We hope that this, along with the Park and Stride using the Stanway Community Centre car park, will give families the choice and confidence to walk, wheel or cycle to school.

You may also remember that when we engaged with the local school community in 2023, families and residents expressed concern about inconsiderate and illegal parking during school drop-off and pick-up times and we were asked whether we could introduce enforcement to help. I wanted to let you know that after half term, there will be safety enforcement officers in the area who we've recruited especially to address these safety concerns. Over a period of six weeks, these specialist officers will be in the Winstree Road area primarily to help and improve safety. They will encourage any driver who parks illegally or inconsiderately to be cautious and considerate and will be offering information on alternative ways for parents to get to and from school, where practicable. These officers will have the powers to enforce if necessary.



BOOK ONTO A HALF TERM ACTIVITY CLUB WITH ESSEX ACTIVATE!



Children and young people are invited to book onto fun-filled half term holiday clubs and enjoy free activities run by locally trusted club organisations across Essex, brought to you by Active Essex on behalf of Essex County Council!

IS MY CHILD ELIGIBLE?

Essex ActivAte offer free, club spaces to primary and secondary school aged children who are eligible or receive pupil premium, benefit based free school meals or income-related benefits, also children who may be vulnerable to inactivity or social isolation. Clubs may offer discretionary paid places and paid for places, so there is something for everyone at an Essex ActivAte club!


WHERE WILL THE CLUBS BE RUN?

Clubs will run in Braintree, Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point, Chelmsford, Colchester, Epping, Harlow, Maldon, Rochford, Tendring and Uttlesford! Due to half term programmes being solely funded by Essex County Council, unfortunately there will not be any clubs running in Thurrock.

WHAT DO THE CLUBS PROVIDE?

Clubs offer different engaging activities such as sports and games, crafts, colouring, dance, baking and more! They also provide nutritious meals and snacks, as well as food education, helping to engage young people and support parents during the half term holidays. Specialist SEND, mental wellbeing and youth clubs will also be available to book onto, offering further support for children.

HOW DO I BOOK ONTO A CLUB?



You will not receive or book on with your HolidayActivities voucher code for half term holiday clubs. To book onto a local club, head over to the Essex ActivAte website, find the area that you live in and book on with the link, email or contact number provided by the club organisation directly.



Find out more about Essex ActivAte half term holiday clubs and book here. 



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Dates for your Diary

FEBRUARY

Tuesday 4 th	5 Rauf Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Thursday 6 th	5 Shakespeare Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Friday 7 th	PTA Doughnut Sale (3:15pm)
Tuesday 11 th	Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 11 th	Parents Evening (4:00pm-7:00pm)
Thursday 13 th	Parents Evening (3:30pm-6:30pm)
Friday 14 th	Break up for Half Term
Monday 24 th	Children return to school
Thursday 27 th	Bikeability Course 1 (9:45am-2:30pm)
Friday 28 th	Bikeability Course 1 (10:00am-2:30pm)

MARCH

Thursday 6 th	World Book Day
Thursday 6 th	Bikeability Course 2 (9:45am-2:30pm)
Friday 7 th	Bikeability Course 2 (10:00am-2:30pm)
Monday 10 th	Science Week
Friday 14 th	Maths Mantle
Tuesday 18 th	3 Morpurgo Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Wednesday 19 th	Bikeability Course 3 (9:45am-2:30pm)
Thursday 20 th	Bikeability Course 3 (10:00am-2:30pm)
Thursday 20 th	Year 4 Trip to Colchester Castle
Thursday 20 th	3 Wilson Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Monday 24 th	Yr 6 Respect Assembly – Essex Fire Service (11:00am-11:30am)
Monday 24 th	6 Rowling Cyber Safety – Essex Fire Service (1:30pm-2:30pm)
Wednesday 26 th	Year 2 Trip to Colchester Zoo
Wednesday 26 th	Bikeability Course 4 (9:45am-2:30pm)
Thursday 27 th	Bikeability Course 4 (10:00am-2:30pm)
Thursday 27 th	Year 3 Parents Dinner (tbc)
Friday 28 th	PTA Event – Mother's Day
Monday 31 st	6 Tolkien Cyber Safety – Essex Fire Service (1:30pm-2:30pm)

APRIL

Tuesday 1 st	2 Bond Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Wednesday 2 nd	Year 4 Production (3:45pm-4:45pm)
Thursday 3 rd	Year 4 Production (6:00pm- 7:00pm)
Thursday 3 rd	2 Dahl Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Friday 4 th	Break up for Easter Holidays

