



Ho! Ho! Ho!



Stanway Primary School Newsletter

I can't believe we are finally reaching the end of another action-packed term! There have been some amazing events which have taken place, some awesome learning and we are all now ready for a well-earned break.

Science Fair

What a pleasure it was to welcome so many parents into school to share in their children's science learning and look round the rest of the school at the same time. With experiments happening in every classroom, it certainly was an interactive experience. Thank you so much for supporting this event!

Trips

To enhance all the classroom-based learning that has been going on, we have been very pleased to take two year groups on day trips this term- Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed the WWII exhibits at Duxford Imperial War Museum, and Year 5 had a exciting trip to the Greenwich Observatory last week fulfilling our expectation that all children go on a trip to our capital at some time in their primary school career. On a more local scale, our Reception classes enjoyed a trip to post a letter whilst Year 1 spent an interesting afternoon at a local church with one of our governors, Pastor Eric Blowes. Every class has planned at least one trip at some point in the school year so look out for yours!

Huckleberry Lodge

Each week for the last half-term, year 5 have been visiting a local residential home for the elderly. They have chatted to the residents, sung for them and shared their learning. Some of the residents have been so affected by the children's visits that they have been moved to tears. It is so valuable for the children to have this involvement in their local community.

Choir Competition

It was an absolute pleasure to take our Junior School Choir to their first competitive event at the Rotary Club Schools Competition in November.. We didn't get into the final, but I couldn't be more proud of their efforts and behaviour. They preformed brilliantly, for many, their first time on a full-size stage, and we had many compliments.

Choosing Day

On Thursday, 7th December, the School Council held a second annual Choosing Day to raise money for their chosen charity of the year, the Dogs' Trust and to raise money for new playground equipment. Along with a Christmas Jumper, children chose what to wear on their bottom half, chose the lessons for the day in their classes and had their voted meal choice of chicken nuggets, chips, beans, cookie and milkshake. Everyone had a great day with a range of Art, Christmas Crafts, PE and ICT taking place in the classes. £230 was raised altogether!

Assemblies

As usual, we had some really memorable class assemblies this term with the themes of Space, the Rain Forest and World War II interpreted eloquently and in so many different ways.

Cross-Country Event

Way back at the beginning of November, our super speedy Cross Country club runners took part in an event involving several other schools in Colchester, held at the Barracks. Miss Vanner praised both group and individual performance. Again, it was the first time the school has taken part in this kind of event, and hopefully not the last!

PTA Events

The PTA held a successful and lively Quiz in October, raising over £400 for school funds, discos in December and a raffle. Thanks to them, Santa also has paid the children a visit. There are more details.

I know you will join me in thanking the staff for their hard work and dedication in supporting your children this half-term, so many times going the extra mile to ensure your children's experience at school is the best that it can be. Thanks also to our Governors who give up their time to fulfil these voluntary and invaluable positions, ensuring that we are held to account as a school and are offering a high quality education and experience for all.

I wish you a very merry Christmas and a happy new 2024!

Rebecca Loader
Headteacher



Please keep checking out and liking what we get up to on the Stanway Primary facebook page!!



Please take a look at the termly Governor Newsletter which is sent out with this edition.

Therapy Dog

Thanks to the School Council, we have started being visited by Lopsy,. The first visit took place on Tuesday with Lopsy saying 'Hello' to twenty different children from Key Stage Two arranged in three groups. She was as pleased to see them as they were to see her, and the children were very interested to hear about her and pet her.

Lopsy will be coming in again next week where she will be meeting some children from Key Stage One.





Stanway Primary School Newsletter

Mantle of the Expert

This term you may have heard your child come out of school saying that they have been taking part in something called 'Mantle of the Expert'. This is an approach which we have introduced this term as part of our aim to establish a creative and aspirational curriculum which engages the children fully in their learning and encourages to build the skills of independent study and leadership.

Mantle of the Expert is a teaching idea which fuses the areas of drama and enquiry. Children take part in projects or themed events which are introduced to them usually by way of a letter in role. Children then take on the role they have been designated. For example, Year 5 were contacted by NASA before half-term where they were asked to train to be astronauts! Year 4 children were contacted by the BBC and asked to prepare a documentary about three new islands that had been discovered.

Classes will be planning for a Mantle of the Expert style project each term. Other events in this vein that have happened already this term are the Year 2 Victorian Day, the Year 6 War project and the Year 4 island project where children designed and made their own islands.

So far, teachers have been impressed by the children's enthusiasm and the effort they have put into their learning during these weeks. The children are shaping their own learning— they have suggestions and scaffolding and many want to build in their own ideas and research. We hope you will notice this enthusiasm in the comments they are making at home.



Points Winners!

We are reaching the exciting end of term figures for our Proud and Polite Point winners. The winning class for the whole of the term will be announced in the final celebration assembly on the last day of term, Wednesday, 20th December. The winners will enjoy a morning of Forest School and crafting in the new year as their reward.

I am also excited to be hosting our second round of tea parties for children who have consistently done the right thing and tried their best throughout the last half-term, next Tuesday, with the help of Mrs. Watson. These were very well received last time and it was a real pleasure to have a proper chat with children who are sometimes the more quieter members of the school.

Attendance

This term we send out your child's attendance record so you can see what percentage of attendance they have achieved so far this year. Over 95% attendance is considered to be good. Below 90% is classed as persistently absent and below 80% is severely persistently absent. It is your legal responsibility to ensure that your child attends school every day. There are government guidelines for schools and nurseries about [managing specific infectious diseases at GOV.UK](http://www.gov.uk/government/guidelines/managing-specific-infectious-diseases). These say when children should be kept off school and when they shouldn't.

We are still having some children who are being kept at home for relatively minor issues such as headaches or coughs.

An interrupted week means that children miss key explanations or events and stops the flow of their learning. Often children pick up throughout the morning and forget any aches or pains once they are with their friends and following their normal routine.

Please look at the table opposite to see the effects of periods of absence on overall attendance.

If you do keep your child at home, it's important to phone us on the first day of absence and then on each subsequent day they are off. Let us know that your child won't be in and give us the reason.

If your child is well enough to go to school but has an infection that could be passed on, such as a cold sore or head lice, let the school office know.

A Rough Guide to Education Missed

TERM 1

September — October 1/2 term				September — Christmas Break			
Percentage Attendance	Hours of education lost	Weeks missed at school	School days missed	Percentage Attendance	Hours of education lost	Weeks missed at school	School days missed
100%	0	0	0	100%	0	0	0
97%	5	0	1	97%	10	0	2
95%	10	0	2	95%	17.5	0	3.5
90%	17.5	0	3.5	90%	35	1wk 2dys	7
86%	25	1	5	86%	50	2wks	10
80%	35	1wk 2dys	7	80%	70	2wks 4dys	14
75%	45	1wk 4dys	9	75%	87.5	3wks 2.5dys	17.5
70%	52.5	2wks 1/2dy	10.5	70%	105	4wks 1dy	21
60%	70	2wks 4dys	14	60%	140	5wks 3dys	28
50%	87.5	3wks 2.5dys	17.5	50%	175	7wks	35

TERM 2

September — February 1/2 term				September — Easter Break			
Percentage Attendance	Hours of education lost	Weeks missed at school	School days missed	Percentage Attendance	Hours of education lost	Weeks missed at school	School days missed
100%	0	0	0	100%	0	0	0
97%	15	0	3	97%	20	0	4
95%	25	1wk 1dy	5	95%	30	1wk 1dy	6
90%	50	2wks	10	90%	65	2wks 3dys	13
86%	70	2wks 4dys	14	86%	90	3wks 3dys	18
80%	100	4wks	20	80%	125	5wks	25
75%	125	5wks	25	75%	160	6wks 2dys	32
70%	145	5wks 4dys	29	70%	190	7wks 3dys	38
60%	194.5	7wks 4.5dys	39.5	60%	257 1/2	10wks 1.5 dys	51.5
50%	247.5	9wks 4.5dys	49.5	50%	322 1/2	12wks 4.5 dys	64.5

TERM 3

September — May 1/2 Term				September — Summer Break			
Percentage Attendance	Hours of education lost	Weeks missed at school	School days missed	Percentage Attendance	Hours of education lost	Weeks missed at school	School days missed
100%	0	0	0	100%	0	0	0
97%	25	1wk	5	97%	30	1wk 1dy	6
95%	40	1wk 3dys	8	95%	50	2wks	10
90%	80	3wks 1dy	16	90%	95	3wks 4dys	19
86%	110	4wks 2 s	22	86%	135	5wks 2dys	27
80%	160	6wks 2dys	32	80%	195	7wks 4dys	39
75%	205	8wks 1dy	41	75%	242.5	9wks 3.5dys	48.5
70%	245	9wks 4dys	49	70%	290	11wks 3dys	58
60%	325	13wks	65	60%	390	15wks 3dys	78
50%	407.5	16wks 1.5dys	81.5	50%	485	19wks 3dys	97



Stanway Pupil Voice



Stanway Primary School Newsletter

MY DUXFORD EXPERIENCE

I am Amna and I had the best experience at Duxford last week. I want to tell you all about it!

My favourite part of Duxford was the planes and all the different variations of the places, tanks and Anderson shelters. It was amazing! We even got to go on some of the planes and sit in the seats and walk down the aisles.



Our tour guide told us that Netflix was once there filming

when the Queen was coming off one of their planes on display there. He also told us that one of the most famous Spitfire drivers once crashed and lost both his legs and had prosthetic ones instead but was still the best.

I also enjoyed the Anderson shelters there. They looked so realistic. I really wanted to go inside but we couldn't for safety reasons. It was such a shame the weather wasn't nice. I had the best school trip of my life!



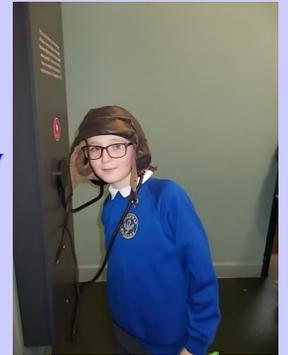
Welcome to two pages full of information that the Year 6 Journalism club have selected and written for you to share...

Young Journalists: Anta, Delphi, Amna, Annie, Reuben B and Kian

Duxford War Museum

By Reuben B

Going to Duxford was a really good experience. Every corner I took, I was always intrigued. Fun fact: they have the Concorde plane there (the #1 fastest plane). My favourite part was going inside the planes. There are four planes that you can go inside and the Concorde is one. I'm so happy that I got to go on the world's fastest plane.



There are four individual shelters. One is 360 degrees. You go round in a circle and then end up back where you started, so you don't have to turn around.



The Duxford war museum was a really good experience and I will never forget it. Before I went



into Year 6, I knew nothing about WW1 or 2 but now that I've been to Duxford, I feel like I've actually experienced it based on my knowledge.



BOOK CLUB

In this school we have Reading Ambassadors for amazing children who have read over one million words. When they get these phenomenal amounts of words, the child gets an accelerated reader certificate, badge and a book of their choice. We have come to realise that so many of our amazing children at Stanway Primary love to read. A lot of the children bring books out at break and lunch so we all came together to try and create a club just for them and others.

Every Thursday at 1pm- during lunch—all of the reading ambassadors come together to run a book club. Book Club is a place where children can come upstairs in Mrs. Riggs' class to pick and read books in a time other than the reading early in the morning from 9-9.30. Book Club is on from 1 till 1.20 (the end of lunch).



Choir

by Amna

A couple of weeks ago Amna interviewed Minnie from the choir. Here are some of the answers she got!

A: How was your experience at the singing competition last week?

M: Nerve-wracking but really fun. It was a great experience that not every child gets to have.

A: Do you sing outside of school?

M: Yes, pretty much everywhere I can.

A: Do you want to be a triple threat when you're older?

M: Yes, it's my life goal.

A: Do you like singing?

M: I love singing. It's so relaxing and when there's so much on my mind I start singing and it goes away.

A: What is the best part of singing?

M: The song and how you can connect with it.



THE INTERVIEW- MRS. KNIGHTS

By Anta and Delphi

What do you like about teaching?

Everyday is different because you teach different lessons.

What will your students be surprised to know about you?

I can roller skate.

What's your hidden talent?

I can roll my tongue up?

What's the best part of teaching?

Seeing the children finally understand something that they find tricky.

When did you decide you wanted to teach?

When I was at primary school I had a really nice teacher and I thought she was really fun. I wanted to be the fun teacher she was and give my students the same experience.

Why did you decide to teach at Stanway Primary?

The school has a supportive attitude and environment compared to other schools because we support SEND.

What is the greatest achievement that you've had as a teacher?

I took some children to a cross country race and one of them qualified for nationals.

What is the greatest achievement you've had as a person?

Running the London Marathon.

In the Library

This term a very kind pupil, Kian from Year 6, volunteered to create a clock for the library because some of the librarians have to keep track of time as they can't miss their important lessons/

The pupil came to Mrs. Loader with, surprisingly, a letter. She was shocked as she read it and it made her smile. It said he would gladly make a clock for the library because the pupil's father owned a wood carving business that uses a CNC machine (Computerised Numerical Control Machine) that carves wood with a spindle. This is how it came out.

The pupil had made it with a variety of materials: oak, a clock mechanism and a wood polisher. While designing the clock they had the brilliant idea of carving an oak leaf in the middle of the clock and an extra carving saying `est. 1911` (established in 1911 when the school was built).

Interview with 1 Blake

What's your favourite colour? Blue, orange, green/Blue and pink

If there was a dress-up day at school, what would you go as? Nina turtles/Princess Peach

What would you like to be when you're older? Army man/doctor

Why do you like school? Loves learning phonics/loves playing with toys and phonics

Were you nervous starting in Year One? Very nervous as it was a new school/Yes, because it didn't feel like home and she thought she wouldn't make any new friends



Stanway Primary School PTA

PTA Newsletter



In this issue:

- ◆ PTA trustees
- ◆ Schedule of Events
- ◆ Paid Out
- ◆ Nurture Cabin
- ◆ Updates
- ◆ Raffle

PTA trustees

Chairperson	Michelle Moxon
Secretary	Jemma Holliday
Treasurer	Julia Randall
Vice Chair	Megan Govinden

We have been working hard this last term to try and find ways in which to raise funds that is engaging, interactive and enjoyable for all involved. The children made some amazing designs on their Christmas cards and lots of fun was had at the quiz night and Christmas disco. Unfortunately wreath making had to be cancelled but we now look forward to next term and events like doughnut sales and bingo to keep you entertained.

Schedule of events

13th December - Christmas Raffle & Father Christmas visit

Paid out

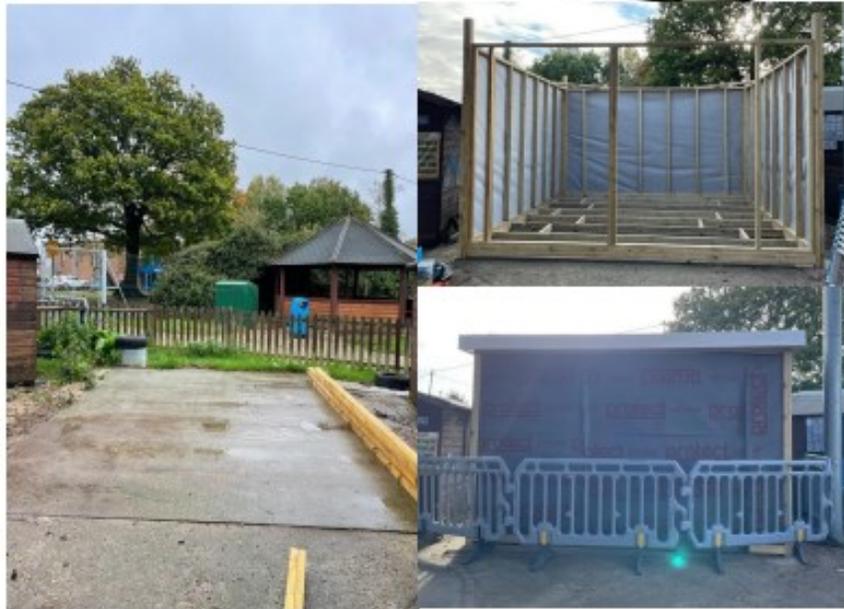
- £3500.00 - £500 towards trips for each year group
- £ 500.00 - Nurture Cabin so far (1k provision)
- £ 144.00 - Christmas Crackers
- £ 440.00 - Christmas Presents

NURTURE CABIN

We are slowly getting there with the build; a few factors have delayed us but we hope to make progress over the Christmas break.

VOLUNTEERS

We are very much in need of volunteers specifically on 2nd, 4th and 5th January (you do not need to be skilled; just be an extra pair of hands) Please contact the PTA Inbox if you can help



Stanway Primary School Newsletter

UPDATES

IQ Christmas Cards
Raised £335

Quiz Night
Raised £500

The winning team were the Quizzzy Rascals who won by 4.5 points with a score of 97



Christmas Disco
Raised £790

The Benefact Group had one or more of their employees nominate Stanway Primary school PTA to receive a donation
£300



Draw 13th December

Reception Red
Year 1 Yellow/Orange
Year 2 Pink
Year 3 Green
Year 4 Blue
Year 5 Purple
Year 6 Silver/Gold

Rainbow Raffle

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!

FROM THE PTA

Should anyone wish to join the PTA, find out more information about the PTA or is able to volunteer to help with the nurture cabin please email
pta@stanway-pri.essex.sch.uk





Stanway Primary School Newsletter

SPRING TERM 2024

JANUARY

Thursday 4 th	Non-Pupil Day
Friday 5 th	Non-Pupil Day
Monday 8 th	Children Return to School
Tuesday 23 rd	2 Bond Class Assembly (9:00am)
Tuesday 23 rd	Reception Heights, Weights & Distance Vision Checks
Thursday 25 th	2 Dahl Class Assembly (9:00am)
Friday 26 th	PTA Donut Sale
Tuesday 30 th	1 Donaldson Class Assembly (9:00am)

FEBRUARY

Thursday 1 st	1 Blake Class Assembly (9:00am)
Tuesday 6 th	Parents Evening (4:00pm – 7:00pm)
Thursday 9 th	Parents Evening (3:40pm – 6:30pm)
Tuesday 13 th	SEND Coffee Morning (9:00am-10:30am)
Friday 16 th	Break for Half Term
Monday 26 th	Children return to School
Tuesday 27 th	R Rosen Class Assembly (9:00am)
Thursday 29 th	R Hendra Class Assembly (9:00am)
Thursday 29 th	Year 5 Bikeability Course 1

MARCH

Friday 1 st	Year 5 Bikeability Course 1
Tuesday 5 th	5 Rauf Class Assembly (9:00am)
Wednesday 6 th & Thursday 7 th	Year 5 Bikeability Course 2
Thursday 7 th	5 Shakespeare Class Assembly (9:00am)
Thursday 7 th	World Book Day - Dress Up Day
Friday 8 th	Mother's Day/Someone Special Day - PTA Event
Monday 11 th	World Week
Wednesday 13 th & Thursday 14 th	Year 5 Bikeability Course 3
Friday 15 th	Comic Relief Day
Tuesday 19 th	Year 4 Performance (2:00pm)
Wednesday 20 th & Thursday 21 st	Year 5 Bikeability Course 4
Thursday 21 st	Year 4 Performance (6:00pm)
Friday 22 nd	Rocksteady Concert (9:00am)

Friday 22 nd	PTA Bingo (6:00pm-9:00pm)
Tuesday 26 th	Rocksteady Concert (9:00am)
Thursday 28 th	Break for Spring Holiday



We say a sad goodbye and thank you to Mrs. Cauvain in 2 Dahl who will be leaving us at the end of this term. She will be replaced in January by Miss Wilson who we welcome back from her maternity leave.

Tuesday 9 th	Year 6 Performance (4:00pm)
Thursday 11 th	Move-Up Day (am)
Thursday 11 th	Open Evening (3:30pm – 5:00pm)
Monday 15 th - Wednesday 17 th	Year 6 Residential Trip to Bawdsey Manor
Friday 19 th	Rocksteady Concert & Music Group (9:00am)
Tuesday 23 rd	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly (9:00am)
Tuesday 23 rd	Break for Summer Holiday

SUMMER TERM 2024

APRIL

Monday 15 th	Children return to School
Thursday 25 th	Year 5 Swimming starts for 10 weeks
Tuesday 30 th	3 Morpurgo Class Assembly (2:30pm)

MAY

Thursday 2 nd	3 Wilson Class Assembly (2:30pm)
Monday 6 th	School Closed – May Bank Holiday
Monday 13th – Thursday 16th	KS2 SATs
Tuesday 21 st	Class Photos (tbc)
Tuesday 21 st	1 Donaldson Class Assembly (2:30pm)
Thursday 23 rd	1 Blake Class Assembly (2:30pm)
Friday 24 th	PTA Colour Run
Friday 24 th May	Break for Half Term

JUNE

Monday 3 rd	Non Pupil Day
Tuesday 4 th	Children return to School
Friday 7 th	PTA Cool Down Friday (every Friday 3:15pm until end of term)
Tuesday 11 th	R Rosen Class Assembly (2:30pm)
Thursday 13 th	R Hendra Class Assembly (2:30pm)
Friday 14 th	Father's Day/Someone Special Day - PTA Event
W/C Monday 17 th	Sports Week
Tuesday 18 th	EYFS/KS1 Sports Day (1:45pm)
Thursday 20 th	KS2 Sports Day (1:45pm)
Friday 21 st	Non-Uniform Day (PTA Summer Fayre Donations)
Tuesday 25 th	2 Bond Class Assembly (2:30pm)
Thursday 27 th	2 Dahl Class Assembly (2:30pm)
Friday 28 th	Cake Donations for PTA Summer Fayre
Saturday 29 th	PTA Summer Fayre (11:00am-2:30pm)

JULY

W/C Monday 1 st	PTA Year 6 Leavers' Event (date tbc)
Tuesday 9 th	Annual Reports Go Home
Tuesday 9 th	Rocksteady Concert (9:00am)