



# Stanway Primary School Newsletter

## Being the Best We Can Be!

**The half-term has whizzed by. Time really does fly when you are having fun!** I have particularly enjoyed some really informative class assemblies and it has been very rewarding to see how much our younger children have grown and developed since Reception. 1 Donaldson kept us entertained with stories of dinosaur discoveries and pictures of their junk modelling whilst 1 Blake showed off some fantastic rhyming words and poetry. The Year 2 classes also showed us how busy they have been this term with an awesome display of learning and artwork.

### Football Tournament

Something a bit different which has taken place this term has been the Colour Teams football tournament that Mr. Godwin has organised in Key Stage Two, so far the Year 3 teams have played at least two matches, and at the time of writing, the Yellow team are at the top of the league. We have been impressed by the children's sporting behaviour.

### Reading Ambassadors

Our Word Millionaires have been brilliant advocates for reading throughout the school by listening to younger children reading each week and passing on their love of reading. It has been lovely to see them on a Monday morning and really important for our younger pupils to have some brilliant role models to look up to.

### Lopsy, the Therapy Dog

Lopsy continues to visit us weekly and has spent time in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two this term seeing lots of different pupils. She has had a very calming effect on pupils, and giving her a cuddle has certainly brought my stress levels down when I have seen her!

## Teddy Tombola

Watch this space for the School Council Teddy Tombola which will be taking place towards the end of term. As you will know, each term the School Council organise a charity event to raise money for the school and their charity of choice, in this case, The Dogs' Trust. More details will follow! We also look forward to World Book Day and Red Nose Day in March. It's going to be a busy month!

## Our Sensory Garden

Over the Easter Holidays we are going to be running a competition to design the new sensory garden we hope to install in our grounds. We hope to start developing our new Sensory Garden during the Summer Term in the old pond area.

Are there any parents or friends of Stanway Primary who have any expertise in any of these areas: landscaping, gardening, planting, building, and would like to lend a hand? Please contact Mrs. Frizzell, our Business Manager, via the School Office.

### WORLD WEEK

Is in the diary for the end of this term. It is a shared Mantle of the Expert which, you will remember, is a drama-based approach which puts the children at the centre of their learning and really brings it to life. Each class will have a country and an associated challenge. Parents will be invited in to see the learning that has taken place and children will be adding to their passport stamps as they too share in what each class has been researching. We look forward to seeing you all there.

Warm wishes,

**Rebecca Loader**  
Headteacher

## Newbies

We are pleased to welcome some new members of staff to Stanway. Mrs. McMullan is our new KS2 Nurture Room Lead and the room is looking great with new furniture and resources. Miss Wilson has rejoined us after her maternity leave, working in 2 Dahl with Mrs Christy; and Miss Gisby is covering Mrs. Mattock's maternity leave in 3 Wilson. We also welcome some new Teaching Assistants throughout the school: Miss Sana in 1 Blake, Mrs. Bach in 2 Bond and Miss Wood in 4 Zephaniah.

Thursday, 15th February 2024



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# Stanway Pupil Voice

## Interviews

### Mrs Gratze

1. What inspired you to teach?

*I really like working with children.*

2. What do you like about this school?

*I like the community and that everyone is really friendly.*

3. What's your favourite year group to teach?

*My favourite year group is EYFS!*

4. How long do you desire to teach here?

*Probably the rest of my career!*

### Miss Pilgrim

1. What made you want to work at Stanway Primary?

*When I first visited, I felt the wonderful atmosphere and decided to choose here.*

2. What's your hidden talent?

*I can do 'The Worm'!*

3. What's best about teaching?

*When I can help someone learn something new.*

4. What is your favourite animal?

*My favourite animal is a giraffe.*

**Thank you Mrs Gratze and Miss Pilgrim!**

### Prefect Update

The prefects are Year 6 students who assist your children, also known as our Stanway Primary students, and are using their break and lunchtimes to ensure that the students are doing the right things in the downstairs hallways at all times for everyone's safety.

We also have systems that are known as the proud points system and the polite points system to ensure that we are rewarding our students in the right way to encourage children to do the right thing. These points cannot be taken away by anyone.

### Playground Arrangements

The PTA has received a £300 donation. It is wonderful news and very generous. The donor's purpose is to provide us with more engaging sports equipment. While we already have hula hoops, bean bags, footballs and much more, we are going to use this money to purchase much more to elevate our sports to the next level.

The School Council will give a survey to pupils so we can gain an insight into preferences and opinions.



# Stanway Roundup

We have some fun events coming up:

World Book Day is 7th March

World Week is 11th March

Red Nose Day is 15th March

Next half term, the Year 5s will do Bikeability

## History

In Year 6, we have been learning about Victorians. We will wait to see what lessons the future will bring to us...



# Reading Ambassadors

Our school has a book club held by all of our reading ambassadors. Reading ambassadors are children who have read over 1 million words! The book club is held in 6Rowling, on Thursdays at 1pm. Any child in KS2 is allowed to join book club.

Over the last term, there has been many book associated clubs that have been held. This includes Book Week. For Book Week, we had all of the Year 6 reading ambassadors reading to and listening to children in Year 1 and Year 2.

## Science Day

On the 1st December, our school held a Science Day (it was also a no pen day too). Parents could look at what we did. Here are some displays from the day that are in our school now.







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## World Book Day!

*On Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2024, we will be celebrating World Book Day. The children are very welcome to come into school dressed as their favourite book character. We are attaching a link which offers ideas and Top-Tips for putting together an outfit, should your child wish to dress up.*

*As part of the day, we will also be running a Reading Rocks competition. We would love the children to paint a picture of a favourite book character onto a small rock, stone or pebble. Please see below for inspiration. We cannot wait to see the results!*



Please follow the link for dressing up ideas!

<https://www.worldbookday.com/celebrate-world-book-day/dressing-up/>



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## Dates for your Diary

### **FEBRUARY**

Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup>	1 Blake Class Assembly (9:00am)
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening (4:00pm – 7:00pm)
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Parents Evening (3:40pm – 6:30pm)
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	SEND Coffee Morning (9:00am-10:30am)
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup>	2 Dahl Class Assembly (9:00am)
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Break for Half Term
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Children return to School
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Year 6 Heights and Weights Check
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup>	R Rosen Class Assembly (9:00am)
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	R Hendra Class Assembly (9:00am)
Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability Course 1

### **MARCH**

Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability Course 1
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup>	5 Rauf Class Assembly (9:00am)
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability Course 2
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup>	World Book Day - Dress Up Day
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	5 Shakespeare Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup>	Mother's Day/Someone Special Day - PTA Event
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup>	World Week
Wednesday 13 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability Course 3
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Comic Relief Day
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Performance (2:00pm)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Year 4 Performance (6:00pm)
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> & Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	Year 5 Bikeability Course 4
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Rocksteady Concert (9:00am)
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	PTA Bingo (6:00pm-9:00pm)
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup>	Year 2 Trip to Colchester Zoo
Tuesday 26 <sup>th</sup>	Rocksteady Concert (9:00am)
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Break for Spring Holiday