



# Stamfordham Primary School

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3<sup>rd</sup> October 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

As we step into October, the leaves are turning and it feels like autumn is very much in full swing. Our Early Years pupils have been out in the school grounds this week where they spotted lots of seasonal changes.

October is also *Walk to School Month*, and we're encouraging all families to take part if they can. It's a great way to start the day – not just for the exercise, but for the chance to enjoy the autumn colours, chat along the way, and walk through the fallen leaves. If walking the whole way isn't possible, even parking a bit further and walking the last ten minutes can make a big difference. If your child travels to school by taxi, don't worry – we are providing lots of opportunities to walk in school too.

Looking ahead to next half term, we have finalised the dates for all our festive events. I know this may seem like some time away but these things have a habit of creeping up quickly and we thought this would help any families who need to arrange dates around work. All the dates can be found at the end of this newsletter.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Briddock and the team at Stamfordham Primary

## **The last 2 weeks in school**

### **Early Years**

We were buzzing with excitement when real-life firefighters came to visit us – and they brought their big red fire engine too! The children got to try on helmets, sit inside the engine, and even sound the siren (cover your ears – it was LOUD!). We've been learning all about how firefighters help us, and our role play area has never been busier!

We've been getting stuck into some woodwork fun! The children have been tapping nails with hammers and drilling holes in wood, using real hand drills – getting ready for a very special Christmas project (shhh... it's top secret for now!).

We've also been super arty lately! We made autumn tree prints using corks and some fabulous self-portrait collages.

And let's not forget our adventures in the great outdoors... We went exploring in the woods, collecting leaves and signs of autumn, then came back to make our very own nature crowns fit for autumn royalty!

## Class 2

This week in Class 2, we started our new film unit in English, 'Adventures are the Pits'. The children absolutely loved the short animation for this and so far, they have created party invitations (linked to the film), written some excellent descriptive sentences and they have used some pictures and their senses to help think of some expanded noun phrases which describe a scene from the film. In maths, we have moved onto our addition and subtraction unit and children have been working on building their confidence with their number bonds to 10/20, using parts and wholes as well as adding three 1-digit numbers. Class 2 pupils continue to enjoy creating beautiful art work based on the famous work of the artist 'Yayoi Kusama', they have been including bold colours and repetitive patterns as well as polka dots in their art. Keep up the amazing work everyone, you are all superstars!

## Class 3

We've had a brilliant couple of weeks in Year 3 and 4, packed full of creativity and imagination! Here's a little peek at what we've been up to in English and History. After diving into the deliciously imaginative world of 'Madame Pamplemousse and Her Incredible Edibles', the children were inspired to create some truly magical recipes of their own! From Morning Loch Ness Spread to 10 o'clock Insect Pickles, the creativity was off the charts! The children loved thinking about strange and wonderful ingredients adding their own unique flair. We've been focusing on using imperative verbs, adverbs to add detail and structuring our work correctly. To tie in with our history topic, the children took part in a fast-paced Bronze Age speed facting challenge! In small groups, they moved around stations collecting facts about Bronze Age life – from tools and roundhouses to jewellery and early farming. Some highlights were discovering how bronze was made from copper and tin and learning what people wore and ate during the time. Keep up the hard work Class 3!

## Class 4

It's been a fantastic couple of weeks in Class 4! In English, we finished our work on "**Malamander**" by writing formal magazine articles all about the mysterious town of Eerie-on-Sea, including places to stay and local attractions. We've now started reading "**Clockwork**" by Philip Pullman; it's already gripping, and we've begun creating vocabulary journals to help us understand some of the more unusual words. In Maths, we've been adding and subtracting six-digit numbers using the column method; everyone has been careful with their presentation to keep place value accurate and avoid mistakes.

In History, we've been learning about life during the **Shang Dynasty** in ancient China. We've looked at the roles of farmers and craftspeople and explored early Chinese writing systems; we especially enjoyed matching ancient symbols to their meanings and creating our own, writing top to bottom just like they did. In PE, we've been developing our basketball skills, with a focus on dribbling and taking part in some exciting, friendly games.

## Cauliflower Cards

Pupils enjoyed creating their festive designs which were sent home earlier in the week. If you would like to order any cards, mugs, etc, **please ensure orders are placed and the artwork returned to school no later than Monday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025.**

## Harvest Festival and The People's Kitchen

Pupils (Reception - Year 6) will be attending St. Mary's Church on Monday 20th October to celebrate Harvest. The children have been practising Harvest songs for the occasion and parents/ carers and families are very welcome to attend at 9.30am.

We will also be collecting food donations for the People's Kitchen again this year. We will be accepting food items from now until the afternoon of Monday 20th October.

Many thanks in advance for your continued support.

## Hello Yellow Day

We will be taking part in Hello Yellow on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October to support World Mental Health Day and to raise awareness and funds for YoungMinds (the UK's leading charity for young people's mental health). Pupils can come to school wearing home clothes, this year we are encouraging pupils to wear bright and colourful clothing for a voluntary contribution of £1.

Most importantly, we would like to share the resources YoungMinds offer to support parents and carers. These include:

- Online resources [ww.youngminds.org.uk/parent](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parent)
- A phone line, open 9.30am-4pm (0808 802 5544)
- An online chat for parents and carers to speak to trained professionals if you're concerned about your child's mental health ([www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline](http://www.youngminds.org.uk/parents-helpline))

## School Lunches

Week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Week 3

Week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> October 2025 – Week 1

**The dinner menus are available on the school website.**

**Diary dates for the next 2 weeks:**

Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Deadline for Cauliflower Card orders</b>
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Swimming for Years 3 &amp; 4</b>
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>PE with Mr Thompson</b> Craft Club – Year 5 and 6 <b>(3 of 4)</b> Tag Rugby – Year 1, 2 and 3 <b>(4 of 6)</b>
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> October	Yoga - Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 <b>(3 of 5)</b>
Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Nasal Flu Vaccinations</b> <b>Hello Yellow day</b> <b>Music with Mr Radford</b>

Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Swimming for Years 3 &amp; 4</b>
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>PE with Mr Thompson</b> Craft Club – Year 5 and 6 <b>(4 of 4)</b> Tag Rugby – Year 1, 2 and 3 <b>(5 of 6)</b>
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> October	Yoga - Reception, Year 1, 2 and 3 <b>(4 of 5)</b> <b>Funky Feet Parade (wear your craziest socks)</b>
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	<b>Music with Mr Radford</b>

**Upcoming Dates:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	Harvest Festival – People’s Kitchen donations
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> October 2025	School closes for half term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Teacher Training Day – school closed to all pupils
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> November	School re-opens for all pupils
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime at The Tyne Theatre (Years 1-6)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December (approx. 2pm)	Early Years and Class 2 performance
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime at The Queen’s Hall (Early Years)
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Jumper Day / Santa Dash
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Church Service at St Mary’s Church
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> December ( approx. 2pm)	Class 3 and 4 performance
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December (pm)	Christmas Party
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	<b>School closes for the Christmas break at 1.15pm (there will be no Kidzone after school but breakfast club will run as usual)</b>