



Stamfordham Primary School

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Dear Parents / Carers,

As we enter the final half term of the school year, we have been busy making plans for the coming weeks. Class 3 are looking forward to their residential trip to Robinwood at the end of the month and we have several other trips planned including the Big Sing events at the Glasshouse in Newcastle.

Next week, Class 4 will take part in 'Bee Week' as part of their Ponteland High School transition. The pupils have had their first visit from a member of the high school team who will be returning in the coming weeks for a Q & A session. We have also been planning our internal transition and pupils will have the opportunity to spend time in their new class on Thursday 3rd July; further details to follow.



The milder weather looks set to continue over the next couple of weeks. Please ensure pupils have a water bottle in school every day and suncream is applied before school on any days that are forecast to be particularly warm.

As ever, thank you for your continued support.

Miss Briddock and the team at Stamfordham Primary

The last 2 weeks in school

Preschool and Class 1

We've had a fantastic time in Early Years recently, especially diving into our mini-beasts topic!   The children were fascinated to learn that woodlice have **14 legs** – lots of excitement and wide eyes at that fact! In Art, we've started our new sculpture topic. The children have been busy making worms out of clay by rolling and using tools to create the segments. We've also made some brilliant caterpillars by rolling balls of clay and joining them together. Everyone's been practising different techniques and getting really hands-on.

Preschool are loving their new core book Jack and the Flum Flum Tree – it's been a big hit! They've also been singing their new core rhyme 5 Fat Sausages with lots of enthusiasm and are doing a brilliant job using their fingers to show the numbers. The Reception children have been working so hard on their writing – we've been learning all about snails in Science, so they wrote their own sentences all about them. They did an amazing job segmenting each word into sounds, remembering their capital letters finger spaces and full stops.

In Maths, subtraction has been our focus. The children have been using lots of clever strategies like crossing out to help work things out. We have also been practising writing our numbers from 10 to 20 nice and neatly.

As the sunshine has finally made an appearance, we headed out for a summer walk. We spotted flowers in bloom, our fruit and vegetables growing, bees and wasps buzzing, birds singing – so many signs that summer is well and truly here!

Class 2

We have had a fantastic start to our final half term in Class 2! We have been busy with our new Geography topic 'Australia', which children are very much enjoying so far! Last week, we labelled states of Australia on a map and over the next few weeks, children will be comparing Hobart and Darwin as well as looking at how Christmas looks in Australia compared with the United Kingdom.

In Maths, we have just completed our 'Fractions' unit and we continue to re-visit 'Time' whenever possible since it can be such a tricky concept; we are very proud of how well everyone is doing with this. We are now moving onto our new Maths topic- 'Statistics'. In English, we are enjoying our book focus 'The Magic Finger' and have been busy writing instructions for something that is made in the story. Over the next few weeks, we will be planning and then writing our own adventure stories to show what could happen to the Cooper family next. Keep up the amazing work Class 2!

Class 3

This week, we dived into the wild world of persuasive writing, and what better topic to tackle than the great zoo debate? 🐘 🦁 The children had to decide if they were for or against zoos before planning their persuasive article. We looked at the features of persuasive writing such as rhetorical questions, the use of emotive language and using punctuation for effect. I really enjoyed reading Class 3's final piece of writing; they put in so much effort and were clearly very passionate about this topic. This week in Class 3, we've taken a giant leap into... DECIMALS! 🎉 So far, we've looked at understanding decimals such as 0.1, 0.2 and so on up to 0.9 as well as linking fractions to decimals. We have discussed the need to pronounce them properly by saying zero point five rather than saying zero dot five. Good work Class 3, you're smashing the decimals work so far. In Science we began our new topic on Rocks and Soils this week. The children began by looking at where rocks come from and how they can be used in our lives. It was interesting to find out that some of the rocks we would think are natural such as brick and concrete are really man made. The children enjoyed having a look at the rock samples we have here in school. It was lovely to hear them use scientific vocabulary to describe them. Well done Class 3!

Class 4

Class 4 have had a busy and exciting couple of weeks! In English, we finished our work based on the book "*Rooftoppers*", where the children wrote some fabulous diary entries from Sophie's point of view, describing her adventurous journey to Paris with Charles. To finish the unit, we created imaginative poems titled "*I Am a Rooftopper*", which were full of creativity, powerful imagery, and even a touch of rhyme. We've now moved on to our new class novel, "*Holes*", and have already written vivid descriptions of a tense encounter with a yellow-spotted lizard! In Maths, we've been learning about statistics, interpreting and drawing bar charts and line graphs, and discovering how important careful presentation is when working with data. In Geography, we've been exploring both the physical and human features of the UK, identifying and locating counties using map clues and creating fact sheets about cities of interest. Some of our Year 6 children also had the fantastic opportunity to attend the local QuadKids competition, where they took part with great enthusiasm and proudly represented our school – a brilliant time was had by all!

Class 4 Bee Transition Week

Next week, pupils in Class 4 will be taking part in a range of bee-themed activities. This forms part of the transition work from Year 5/6 into Year 7 at Ponteland High School. The activities cover all curriculum areas including Science, Art and English. The work they produce is then presented on hexagons and forms part of a display with contributions from all the feeder primary schools.

Computing Day with Martin Bailey

All our pupils thoroughly enjoyed their computing workshops with Martin Bailey last Friday. The sessions included coding, programming and green screen work. Martin will be returning next month to support with further development of our school computing curriculum and will deliver a further green screen session to our class 4 pupils. Thank you again to Friends of Stamfordham and Stamfordham Young Farmers who have funded these projects.

Quad Kids

Some of our Year 6 pupils represented Stamfordham at the Quad Kids Athletics event last week. Miss McPherson was exceptionally proud of all of those who attended stating that pupils worked hard in all the events and displayed excellent behaviour throughout the morning. Other pupils from Year 6 will represent school next week at the 'Making Active Memories' event at Alnwick Gardens.

Well Done Year 5

The pupils in Year 5 are keen to support the local community. They wrote to Councillor Glen Sanderson at Northumberland County Council asking for some litter pickers so they can take part in a village litter pick. They were delighted to receive a reply this week advising them that the litter pickers are on the way and thanking them for their work. Next year, as our oldest pupils in school, they are considering other projects that they can get involved in, which will further support Stamfordham and the wider community.

Uniform Swap Shop

If you have any uniform in good condition that pupils have outgrown / no longer need, please send it into school as we are currently sorting the uniform swap shop. Alternately, if there is anything your child needs for September, please pop in and have a look. Some items have barely been worn and would love to find a new home.

School Lunches

Week commencing 16th June – Week 2

Week commencing 23rd June – Week 3

The new dinner menus are available on the school website.

Diary dates for the next 2 weeks:

Monday 16 th June	Bee Week in Class 4
Tuesday 17 th June	Swimming for Years 3 & 4 Preschool Animal Experience
Wednesday 18 th June	PE with Mr Thompson Athletics Club – Year 4.5 and 6 (week 3 of 4) Craft Club – Year 1 and 2 (week 2 of 4) Class 4 beach trip
Thursday 19 th June	Gymnastics (Year 3-6) Yoga Club – age 8 upwards (week 3 of 5)
Friday 20 th June	Music with Mr Radford

Monday 23 rd June	
Tuesday 24 th June	Swimming for Years 3 & 4
Wednesday 25 th June	Class 3 residential trip to Robinwood PE with Mr Thompson Craft Club – Year 1 and 2 (week 3 of 4) Athletics Club – Year 4, 5 and 6 (week 4 of 4)
Thursday 26 th June	Class 3 residential trip to Robinwood Gymnastics (Reception – Year 2) Yoga Club – age 8 upwards (week 4 of 5)
Friday 27 th June	Class 3 residential trip to Robinwood Music with Mr Radford

Upcoming Dates:

Date	Event
Tuesday 1 st July	Big Sing for Mini Singers (Reception, Year 1 and 2)
Wednesday 2 nd July	Sports Day (Early Years am and Year 1-6 pm)
Thursday 3 rd and Friday 4 th July	Year 6 pupils transfer days to Ponteland High School
Thursday 3 rd July	Transfer morning in school
Wednesday 9 th July	Big Sing (Year 3, 4, 5 and 6)
Monday 14 th July at 9.30am	Year 6 Leaver's Service at St Mary's Church
Tuesday 15 th July	Year 6 Leaver's assembly (pm)
Wednesday 16 th July	Early Years Graduation (pm)
Friday 18 th July	School closes for the summer break at 1.15pm