



Stamfordham Primary School

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13th February 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

What a wonderful start to the new half term. It certainly feels like spring has arrived, with lots of blue sky and new buds and flowers appearing daily around school.

Last week, all the pupils across school enjoyed their visit from Professor Brainstorm. The squeals of excitement could be heard across school as he performed some amazing science experiments that consolidated the learning that pupils have been doing in their science lessons.

Thank you to everybody who has donated resources for the pupils to use at playtimes. We have also purchased some new sports equipment with the proceeds of the Class 3 bake sale. This has really improved the break time experience for our pupils and they have really enjoyed making use of the new equipment throughout the week.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Miss Briddock and the team at Stamfordham Primary

The last 2 weeks in school

Early Years

Our topic this half term is Space, and the children have loved becoming space explorers. We've learned the names of some of the planets in our solar system and discovered some amazing facts – including that Saturn's rings are made of ice! We also had a fantastic visit from Professor Brainstorm, who took us on an exciting expedition to Mars, the rocky planet. The children learned about gravity and how rockets move, with lots of hands-on fun along the way.

In Preschool, *The Three Billy Goats Gruff* have been causing lots of excitement! Our reading arch has transformed into the troll's bridge, and the children have enjoyed story mapping the tale and acting it out – we've seen some wonderful and some menacing trolls in our classroom!

We thoroughly enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and reading in the sunshine with our Class 4 buddies. We have also loved spending lots of time playing in our outdoor area now that spring has well and truly sprung!

Class 2

We have enjoyed another two busy, fun weeks in Class 2! The children have been fully immersed in the magical world of 'The Bog Baby' by Jeanne Willis, our current core book. This story has sparked lots of creativity, with the children writing amazing character descriptions this week, including some interesting

adjectives. In Maths, we continue to build our confidence with column addition and subtraction, learning how to carefully align digits and "exchange" when needed. In science, children have been identifying producers (plants that make their own food using sunlight) and consumers (animals that must eat plants or other animals to live). Class 2 pupils are doing so well to remember lots of new vocabulary taught in each lesson, well done everyone- you are all stars! :)

Class 3

We're excited to share that Class 3 have started some fantastic new learning this term! In DT, the children will be designing and making moving Easter cards, exploring simple mechanisms to create movement and thinking carefully about how to make their designs both sturdy and eye-catching. In English, we've started reading *The BFG* and the children are already enjoying meeting Sophie and the Big Friendly Giant. There will be lots of opportunities for writing inspired by the story including a formal report on Giant Country which the children will be sending to the government! In Geography, we are developing our map skills, focusing on using compass points to describe location and direction. It's shaping up to be a busy and exciting few weeks ahead!

Class 4

The new half term has started really positively in Class 4. Following our visit to Newcastle Quayside before the half term break, we have started our DT project on 'Bridges'. Last week, we looked at the structure and construction of different types of bridges ready for making these over the coming weeks. In Computing, we have started our unit on 'Lego Spike'. The pupils have been learning about the different components in the kits ready for making and programming their models as the half term progresses. Our Science topic this half term is electricity. We started the unit by looking at electrical safety and over the next few weeks, we will be making electrical circuits and drawing these using the scientific symbols.

Comic Relief

We will be raising money for Comic Relief on Friday 20th March. Pupils can come into school in non-uniform (with an optional red theme, whether it's a red jumper, scarlet socks, or simply wearing their red nose for the day) for a suggested £1 donation.

The Big Bake Sale: We will be holding a bake sale during the day. Children can bring in an additional **£1** to choose a delicious treat to enjoy.

How You Can Help

We would love your support to make our bake sale a huge success! If you are able to **donate cakes** (or any red-themed bakes!) for the day, it would be greatly appreciated. Please ensure donations do not contain nuts, as we are a nut-free school. Many thanks for your support!

Fundraising Update

We would like to update you on our current fundraising projects. We returned from half term to a newly fitted front gate. Thank you to Fran (Florence and Henry's Mum) for organising the film nights at the Village Hall and the Swinburne Arms for making this possible.

Some of our new lunch furniture arrived this week which was funded by donations from Friends of Stamfordham, The Widdrington Trust and The Christopher Rowbotham Charitable Trust. Unfortunately,

one of the tables was damaged on arrival but a replacement is on its way so we will share some photos once it has arrived.

The pupils love the new reading shelter, made possible by a donation from Friends of Stamfordham. This not only provides shelter from the rain / sun during break times but also provides an additional learning space throughout the school day. This is already proving really popular for pupils who want to spend time reading or drawing / colouring at playtime / lunchtime and provides a quieter space within the playground.

Finally, our new football goals are on the field. Thank you to the parents who came and helped dismantle and remove the old, rusty goal posts and thank you to Gary (Ella and Esme's Dad) who braved the wind and rain to put up the new frames and nets. All we need now is for the grass to be cut!



We are so fortunate to receive such amazing support and we thank you all so much for making these things possible. These projects will not just support our current pupils but also pupils for many years to come and wouldn't have been possible without you!

World Book Day

We had a great day on Tuesday celebrating World Book Day. We were amazed by the range of costumes and had so many different characters including The BFG, Mr Bean, Percy Jackson, Aslan the Lion and Janet from the Smeds and the Smoos. We also enjoyed seeing all the photos of pupils reading in unusual or creative places. Thank you to Pam and Janice who had the difficult job of picking a winner from each class who received a book token and a chocolate treat. Our winners were:

Early Years – Robyn (Preschool)

Class 2 – Ava (Year 2)

Class 3 – George G (Year 4)

Class 4 – Evie (Year 6)

Bikeability

Our Year 5 and 6 pupils have been taking part in Bikeability sessions this week. They have undertaken a range of activities both in school and around the village developing their confidence and understanding of staying safe on the roads. The instructors (Suzanne and Felix) were very impressed with the pupils' attitudes, effort and behaviour and we are delighted to announce that all the pupils who took part achieved the standard to pass their Level 2 Bikeability certificate. Well done everybody!

Parent's Evenings

These will take place in the week commencing 23rd March. More information will follow.

School Lunches

Week commencing 9th March 2026 – Week 3 new menu

Week commencing 16th March 2026 – Week 1 new menu

The dinner menus are available on the school website.

Diary dates for the next 2 weeks:

Monday 9 th March	SATS Club (Year 6) (1 of 8) Year 6 SATS parent information session @ 4.15pm
Tuesday 10 th March	
Wednesday 11 th March	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) (3 of 6)
Thursday 12 th March	Tag Rugby (Class 3 and 4) Football Club (Year 1, 2 and 3) (2 of 4)
Friday 13 th March	Music with Mr Radford

Monday 16 th March	SATS Club (Year 6) (2 of 8)
Tuesday 17 th March	Class 3 outdoor learning (pm)
Wednesday 18 th March	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) (4 of 6)
Thursday 19 th March	Football Club (Year 1, 2 and 3) (3 of 4) Tag Rugby (Class 3 and 4)
Friday 20 th March	Music with Mr Radford Comic Relief

Upcoming Dates:

Date	Event
w/c 23 rd March	Parent's Evenings (more info to follow)
Monday 30 th March at 9.30am	Easter Service at St Mary's Church(Rec – Year 6)
Thursday 2 nd April 2026	School closes for Easter
Monday 20 th April 2026	School reopens to all pupils
Thursday 30 th April 2026	Cricket sessions start (more info to follow)
w/c 11 th May 2026	Year 6 SATS assessment week
Friday 22 nd May 2026	School closes for half term
Monday 1 st June 2026	School reopens to all pupils
Tuesday 23 rd – Friday 26 th June 2026	London Trip – Year 5 and 6
Friday 17 th July 2026	School closes for the summer break 1.15pm