



Stamfordham Primary School

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13th February 2026

Dear Parents / Carers,

We can't quite believe that another half term has come to an end already! The weeks have flown by, and it has been wonderful to see how much the children have grown in confidence and how much progress they have made since the start of the year.

This week, we enjoyed a delicious 'Chinese New Year' themed lunch. A huge thank you to Pam and Susan for preparing such a wonderful banquet and decorating the hall and tables, it was very much appreciated!

We have endured a particularly wet half term, and we seem to have become experts at dodging raindrops between lessons and playtimes. Despite the soggy playground and the need for wellies and waterproofs, the children have shown great resilience and good spirits. Our new reading shelter has provided some shelter from the weather and we promise to share some photos with you when the sun finally comes out. Thank you again to Friends for making this possible.

We hope you all have a lovely half term break and let's hope for a little more sunshine next half term!

Miss Briddock and the team at Stamfordham Primary

The last 2 weeks in school

Early Years

We've had a lovely and very busy time in Early Years. We were excited to welcome Reverend Rachel, who visited us to talk about baptism and belonging. The children listened beautifully and enjoyed baptising our baby Jesus Betty, helping them understand what it means to belong. We also celebrated Lunar New Year, exploring lots of different resources such as a lion head, chopsticks, and lanterns. We created our own dragon body and took part in our very own Lunar New Year parade and dragon dance, which was great fun!

In science, we've been learning about materials and their properties. We explored what is waterproof and what isn't, chose materials we thought would keep us dry, and then tested our ideas when Miss Phillipson poured water on us — lots of excitement and laughter! In art, we have been studying Beatrix Potter and her love of animals and nature. We explored her illustrations and created our own watercolour artwork.

Preschool have been loving phonics this week! They've been listening very carefully to blends (m-a-n) and using the splatter to splat the correct picture — lots of great listening and concentration. In maths, they've turned into pirates, counting and comparing different amounts of treasure. Reception have been learning to read lots of short words fluently and blending much longer words. In Maths, they have been spotting number bonds to 10 and finding one more or one less than each number up to 10.

Class 2

Class 2 have had a fantastic end to the half term! We really enjoyed celebrating **Mental Health Day** last week and got very creative painting our stones. We're looking forward to spotting them around the school grounds very soon. In Maths, we have completed our addition and subtraction unit. The class have worked incredibly hard on this tricky topic, especially learning column addition and subtraction and remembering when to *exchange*. Everyone has been brilliant! In History, we finished our topic with an exciting WW2 Day. The children made ration booklets with coupons and name tags, wrote postcards home, and designed their own medals. Finally, in our last Art lesson, we worked in partners to create spiral sculptures inspired by Andy Goldsworthy, using only natural materials – they were absolutely epic! Well done, Class 2, for a super-duper half term. We **can't wait** for next half term!

Class 3

Our swimming sessions have now finished, and we are so proud of how much progress the children have made. Their confidence in the water has grown so much, and they should all feel very proud of themselves. We've also completed our art project inspired by Sarah Taylor, and the final pieces look fantastic. The children put so much thought and effort into their work. Please do have a look at our Facebook page to see some photos of their finished artwork – we're sure you'll be impressed! Class 3 also had a lovely time attending the Health and Wellbeing Festival. The children were a real credit to the school and enjoyed taking part in the different activities, learning about ways to stay healthy and looking after their wellbeing. Overall, it's been a great half term full of hard work, creativity, and lots of smiles. We're looking forward to next half term already!

Class 4

Class 4 have been incredibly busy over the past couple of weeks! We took a break from our core text in English to write our own versions of *Hansel and Gretel*, using exciting vocabulary and showing off some wonderfully creative writing skills. In Maths, we continued our work on decimals, adding and subtracting numbers with different numbers of decimal places, while remembering to take extra care with presentation so our calculations didn't get into a muddle. We have now completed our History unit on Crime and Punishment across different periods, comparing it to modern times and recognising how punishments today are far less violent and harsh. Using our IT skills on Chromebooks, we also created eye-catching timeline history bubbles for the whole-school display, helping everyone understand chronology and how different periods overlap – great job, Class 4! In PE, we have shown real skill and teamwork in Tag Rugby, practising accurate passing, effective tagging, dodging into spaces and supporting our teammates, Mr Thompson has been very impressed with our commitment and sportsmanship. After all that hard work, we are definitely ready for a well-earned rest!

Amazing Attendance

The Department for Education has contacted us to advise us that our attendance outcomes are in the top 10% of schools nationally. Thank you so much for ensuring pupils are in school whenever possible and helping us to achieve this recognition.

Rugby Sessions

Class 3 and 4 will be taking part in four tag rugby sessions on a Thursday afternoon commencing 5th March. These will be led by Newcastle Rugby Foundation. Pupils will need to come into school in full PE kit. Their Wednesday PE session will still take place as usual.

World Book Day

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 5th March but we will be celebrating this event on **Tuesday 3rd March**. Pupils can come into school dressed as a book character or non-uniform if they prefer. We will also be holding a fun reading competition.

We invite you to take a photograph of your child reading in an unusual or creative place. This is a wonderful way to celebrate reading while encouraging imagination and fun.

Your child might choose to read:

- In a tree or garden
- Inside a homemade den or blanket fort
- Under a table
- In a cardboard box “spaceship”
- At the park or on a picnic

Photos should be sent into school (paper copy or email to admin@stamfordham.northumberland.sch.uk) no later than Tuesday 3rd March.

Bikeability

Year 5 and 6 bikeability week will commence on Monday 2nd March. If your child is taking part, please take time over half term to check their bike is in good working order. Helmets must be worn throughout the sessions, please contact school if your child needs to borrow one as these will be issued on a first come, first served basis.

School Lunches

Week commencing 23rd February 2026 – Week 1 new menu

Week commencing 2nd March 2026 – Week 2 new menu

The dinner menus are available on the school website.

Diary dates for the next 2 weeks:

Monday 23 rd February	Teacher Training Day
Tuesday 24 th February	School reopens to all pupils
Wednesday 25 th February	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) (1 of 6)
Thursday 26 th February	Professor Brainstorm – Science Visit
Friday 27 th February	Music with Mr Radford

Monday 2 nd March	Year 5 and 6 Bikeability week
Tuesday 3 rd March	World Book Day in school
Wednesday 4 th March	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) (2 of 6)
Thursday 5 th March	Football Club (Year 1, 2 and 3) (1 of 4) Tag Rugby (Class 3 and 4)
Friday 6 th March	Music with Mr Radford

Upcoming Dates:

Date	Event
Monday 9 th March	SATS information evening – Year 6 parents
Monday 30 th March at 9.30am	Easter Service at St Mary's Church
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