



# Stamfordham Primary School

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 @StamfordhamPS

28<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

I can't believe another 2 weeks have passed and we are now only a couple of weeks away from the Easter break. Last week, we celebrated Newcastle United winning their first domestic trophy in 70 years by holding a black and white / home clothes day and then having a fun-filled Carabao Cup party to end the week. It was lovely to see all the pupils across school singing, dancing and having fun.

The pupils have had further excitement this week watching the frogs in the school pond. We have lots of frogspawn and pupils will make regular visits to the pond over the coming weeks and months to observe the different stages of the life cycle.

Our school gardens are looking lovely with lots of signs of Spring. We would like to say a very big thank you to Mrs Forsyth who regularly works with our pupils on a range of gardening activities such as weeding and planting. She is also currently supporting us to create a wellbeing garden so the pupils have a calm and quiet space to use during breaks and lunchtimes to read a book or rest and relax.

Have a lovely weekend.

Miss Briddock and the team at Stamfordham Primary

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

### **Preschool and Class 1**

Preschool have started their new core book *Hansel & Gretel*. We have listened to the story, discussed the different characters and made props to help us to retell the story independently. A big focus this week has been 'feelings'; we read *The Colour Monster* story and discussed how he was feeling confused when his colours were all mixed up. We created our own mixed up monster using dabbers and created 'feelings' bottles depicting different emotions such as blue for sad or green for calm. The Reception children have also started reading their new core book *The Elves and the Shoemaker*. They have been busy drawing their own story maps to help retell the story and working together to write a fantastic shared version of the story. We have learnt lots of songs, rhymes and poems and have focused on listening carefully to lyrics and trying to keep in time with the beat with some hand clapping and toe-tapping! We are coming to the end of our Space topic and our solar system is now hanging in the classroom complete with labels for all the planets, carefully written by the reception children. We have discovered some fun facts about the sun, such as how it keeps us warm and gives us light, but we must never look directly at it and we have even acted out how the planets orbit the sun. Lots of future astronauts in the making!



## Class 2

We have continued to enjoy all activities linked to our core book in English, 'The Koala who could'; we explored where the book is set and where the animals come from. We came up with our own questions to inform our research about Australia and found some interesting facts! We have also identified the features of a non-chronological report which will help the children in Friday's lesson, where they will be writing their own non-chronological report using their research and a checklist of features.

So far in Geography, we have learnt lots of interesting facts about a range of maps. This week we have looked at some local maps very closely and considered key features as well as symbols.

Thank you so much for ALL of the amazing support we have received recently for the £50 challenge and in particular, working with your child to create their piece for our class magazine, we were super impressed with them all! Well done Class 2 pupils and families!

## Class 3

We have been very busy in Class 3 recently, taking part in a variety of different sports activities. Last Tuesday, we spent a full day at the Wentworth Leisure Centre. In the morning, we took part in our usual swimming session followed by an hour of bowling in small teams - there were strikes and spares galore! In the afternoon, we took part in a skipping festival led by Skip4Fit. We found that some of the skipping skills were quite tricky to do however everyone showed great resilience. In English, we have been reading 'The Boy Who Biked the World'. The children have really enjoyed listening to Tom's adventures so far and they are looking forward to finding out if he really can 'bike the world'. Next week is our last week with Miss Crowell. She has been with us since September and been a fabulous help in Class 3. We have all loved having her as part of our class and wish her luck in her next placement. This afternoon, we have 12 children taking part in Mr Thompson's after school event at QE, Hexham. The children will be playing a variety of small tag rugby games against other schools. Wish us luck!

## Class 4

Class 4 have continued to work so hard over the last 2 weeks. In Science, we have been looking at classification based on observable characteristics and we enjoyed researching different animals before creating our own factfiles. In English, our new core book is Hamlet. We looked at the different characters and then wrote letters from Hamlet to his friend Horatio when he discovered that King Claudius was responsible for his father's death. In Design and Technology, we have continued to explore different structures. This week we completed our 'Marble Run' designs ready to put our plans into action next week.

## **Easter Service**

Our Easter service will take place at St Mary's church at 9.30am on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April. Everybody is welcome to attend.

## **Thank you**

A huge thank you to Stamfordham Young Farmers for their kind donation of £500 which will be used to fund new programming equipment for our pupils.

## School Lunches

Week commencing 31<sup>st</sup> March – Week 3

Week commencing 7<sup>th</sup> April – Week 1

The new dinner menus are available on the school website.

### Diary dates for the next 2 weeks:

Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	SATS Preparation Club (Year 6) <b>(9 of 10)</b>
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Swimming for Years 3 & 4 Forest School Club Year 5 and 6 <b>(4 of 4)</b>
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) <b>(5 of 6)</b> Craft club Year 3 and 4 <b>(4 of 4)</b>
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Football Club Reception, Year 1 and 2 <b>(4 of 4)</b>
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Music with Mr Radford Outdoor Learning (Year 1,2 and 3) <b>Friends Easter Party</b>

Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	SATS Preparation Club (Year 6) <b>(10 of 10)</b> <b>Easter Service 9.30am at St Mary's Church</b>
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> April	Swimming for Years 3 & 4
Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) <b>(6 of 6)</b>
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	Music with Mr Radford <b>School closes for Easter 3.10pm</b>

### Upcoming Dates:

Date	Event
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens to all pupils
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> May	Curriculum cricket starts
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Spring bank holiday – school closed to all pupils
Thursday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Class photos
Week commencing 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATS week
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	School closes for half term
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	School re-opens to all pupils