



# Stamfordham Primary School

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 @StamfordhamPS

14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you all had a lovely half term break and managed to enjoy some of the lovely weather we have been blessed with lately.

The pupils returned to school last week with enthusiasm and we've already been very busy. We thoroughly enjoyed our World Book Day celebrations; there were some very creative costumes and some fantastic potato characters. Janice kindly offered to judge our entries and after lots of deliberation, the winners were Harlowe (Early Years and Reception), Ava (Year 1 and 2), Max (Year 3 and 4) and Stanley (Year 5 and 6). Well done to everybody who submitted an entry, we were so impressed!

Last Thursday, we also had a visit from Professor Brainstorm. All the pupils had the opportunity to attend a workshop where he performed what seemed like magic. We were blown away when we found out that all the tricks were not really magic but all down to Science. The pupils were then able to apply the learning from their Science lessons to work out what had happened. Professor Brainstorm commented on how confident the children were and how they could use some amazing scientific vocabulary in their explanations.

Have a lovely weekend.

Kind regards,

Miss Briddock and the team at Stamfordham Primary

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

### **Preschool and Class 1**

We've had a 'Space' encounter in Early Years since returning this half term - Reception has transformed into a space station! We have been learning the names and features of the different planets in the solar system and have even created our own solar system using papier-mâché as well as some constellations

using cocktail sticks & marshmallows!



There are lots of signs that spring is finally on the way. We have explored our outdoor areas and found buds, shoots, springtime flowers such as daffodils and we even found some visitors in the pond! Preschool have been learning a new core rhyme, 'I hear thunder' and Reception have been learning the poem, Furry Furry Squirrel. They are getting very confident in reciting these rhymes and poems independently along with the actions. Please ask them if they can remember it!

Reception have been doing lots of work linked to their core book, Chicken Licken, including learning to retell the story, decorating our window with the characters and creating some shared and independent writing linked to the story.

We all thoroughly enjoyed watching and taking part in Professor Brainstorm's science show and learning how to make a human circuit. One of our absolutely favourite things to do is having a get together with our year 4 buddies, as part of our World Book Day celebrations last week, we read and shared a cup of hot chocolate and biscuits with them.

## Class 2

Class 2 have had a fantastic start to this term. In English, we have started our new book 'The Koala Who Could' which was written by the same author as one of our previous texts 'The Squirrels Who Squabbled'. The children have enjoyed finding out about Kevin and his reluctance to come down from his tree. In Maths we have started and completed our topic on length and height and have continued onto our new topic of mass, capacity and temperature. The children have enjoyed measuring objects around the classroom and we will be exploring different ways of measuring mass, capacity and temperature this term. In Science, Class 2 have started learning about the growth and structure of plants; we have created our own flowers, practised a seed germination dance and next week we will be doing an experiment to test how plants grow. In art, the class have started their hand puppet topic, many of you will have seen their finger puppets from last week and we will be developing their sewing skills over this term to create their final piece. In Geography the children have had an exciting time creating their own treasure maps as part of our Map Makers topic and we will continue to develop their understanding of map reading as part of this. Mr Thompson has been impressed by their work in PE where they have been developing their skills in hockey. We had a successful day at the start of term, selling pancakes for the £50 challenge and we are looking forward to the other projects we have planned as part of this.

## Class 3

On Tuesday, we had our Class 3 talent show! The children loved putting the performance on for you and were very proud of themselves (I am extremely proud of them too!). Thank you for supporting us with this, the children managed to raise £177.00 from this event which will be added to our class £50 challenge pot. In Geography, we have been looking at North America. Last week, we looked at the 23 different countries within North America and recapped the difference between continents and countries. The children enjoyed taking part in a game aiming to recall the 23 countries from memory. We will continue to play this throughout our unit of work. This week, we focused on three different areas across the continent and compared their average temperatures and rainfall. In Science, we started our new unit of work States of Matter. This week we looked at the properties of solids and liquids. At the beginning of the lesson the children wrote definitions based on what they already knew about solids and liquids and at the end we rewrote the definitions aiming to include new vocabulary we had learnt. We looked at items such as ketchup, slime and oobleck and learnt that these were called non-newtonian fluids as they had properties of both solids and liquids. Next week, we will be carrying out a practical experiment which looks at whether gas has mass. Well done Class 3, keep up the hard work!

## Class 4

In Class 4, we have been working really hard to improve our writing, thinking about creating cohesion within and across paragraphs, using adventurous vocabulary and varying our use of punctuation. Mrs Watson and Miss Briddock were so impressed with our last piece of writing, where we told the story of 'Chaperon Rouge', writing in the style of Lemony Snicket. This is how we completed our work using 'A Series of Unfortunate Events' as our core book. We have moved onto a version of Shakespeare's Hamlet,

where we have met the characters and analysed their relationships with each other. Some of the vocabulary is a little tricky, so we have spent some time working out what different words and phrases mean. In Maths, we have come to the end of our unit on perimeter, area and volume; we are now confident with the methods to calculate these measurements and have moved on to finding equivalent fractions, decimals and percentages. In RE, we have started our new topic on Judaism; we looked at the diversity of people within the Jewish community and compared two different communities: the orthodox Jews and the Progressive Jews, considering how they worship, the clothing they might wear and the use of the Torah within their religion. As usual, the children have thoroughly enjoyed their PE lessons, where they have started their Hockey unit of work. They have practised their dribbling skills, controlling the hockey stick as well as the ball and beginning some tackling skills. This term, we are continuing with our £50 challenge, where we have already noticed (and enjoyed) our money starting to grow! We are busy developing our next ideas, using some of the funds we have generated to supply our future plans.

### **Red Nose Day**

Red Nose Day will be taking place on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Pupils can come into school that day wearing home clothes for an optional donation of £1. Any red noses that have been pre-ordered, will be given to pupils on the day.

### **Goodbye Miss Crowell**

Miss Crowell, who has been a teaching student in Class 3 since September, will be leaving us on 3<sup>rd</sup> April. She has been a real asset to the Stamfordham team and will be sorely missed. We wish Miss Crowell the best of luck in her final teaching placement.

### **School Lunches**

Week commencing 17<sup>th</sup> March – Week 1

Week commencing 24<sup>th</sup> March – Week 2

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

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

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>Parent's Evenings</b> SATS Preparation Club (Year 6) <b>(7 of 10)</b> <b>Outdoor Learning (Year 4, 5 and 6)</b>
Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Swimming for Years 3 & 4 Forest School Club Year 5 and 6 <b>(2 of 4)</b>
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) <b>(3 of 6)</b> Craft club Year 3 and 4 <b>(2 of 4)</b>
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Football Club Reception, Year 1 and 2 <b>(2 of 4)</b> <b>Hoopstarz Event</b>
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Music with Mr Radford <b>Red Nose Day</b>

Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	SATS Preparation Club (Year 6) <b>(8 of 10)</b>
Tuesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Swimming for Years 3 & 4 Forest School Club Year 5 and 6 <b>(3 of 4)</b>
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	PE with Mr Thompson Netball / Basketball (Year 1, 2 and 3) <b>(4 of 6)</b> Craft club Year 3 and 4 <b>(3 of 4)</b>
Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	Football Club Reception, Year 1 and 2 <b>(3 of 4)</b>
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Music with Mr Radford

**Upcoming Dates:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Service 9.30am at St Mary's Church
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> April	School closes for Easter
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> April	School re-opens to all pupils