



STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



AIMING HIGH ... FLYING HIGHER

Everything we do makes a difference to our children; empowering minds and shaping futures.



STOKENCHURCH STAR



ISSUE 221: 10th January 2025



£100 so far!

www.stokenchurchprimary.co.uk

[@stokenchurchps](https://twitter.com/stokenchurchps)

<https://justgiving.com/campaign/stokiesbigsplash>

THIS TERM'S SCHOOL VALUES ARE TO SPOT OUR CHILDREN WHO ARE:

CURIOUS



THIS WEEK:
 WELCOME BACK
 GYMNASTICS
 POLYTUNNEL
 POETRY
 ENGINEER ASSEMBLY
 SAFEGUARDING SLOT
 AWARD WINNERS
 AND MUCH MORE...

ECO TICKER
 Solar Panels
 MWh produced = 83.05MWh
 CO₂ saved=t

GOLDEN RULES
 READY
 RESPECTFUL
 SAFE

☹️ NEW YEAR...SAME OLD PARKING! ☹️

☺️ THINGS TO CELEBRATE ☺️

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK	100% - Alder		99% - Cherry		98.7% Elder	
	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	62	71	80	66	59	69
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD WINNERS				Ash		



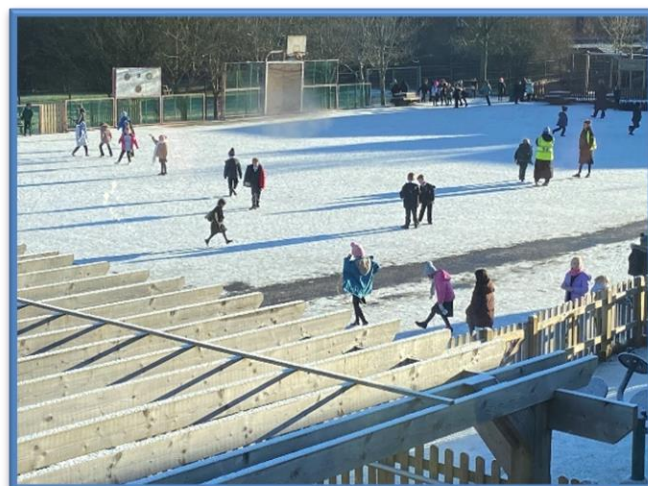
FROM THE HEAD'S CHAIR



Just Giving Page: <https://justgiving.com/campaign/stokiesbigsplash>

WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to a new term and a new year at **STOKENCHURCH**. I do hope you have enjoyed a wonderful festive break and I know the children have returned to school excited, refreshed and ready to learn! The teachers have enjoyed a well-deserved break but I know lots of their holiday time has been spent preparing for the term ahead and all the exciting events and activities coming up. Our INSET day was spent with a focus in two key areas. Most staff took part in Literacy Curriculum training with an



inspirational speaker called Claire Gadsby. They left the training feeling inspired and full of new ideas on how to bring the children's learning to life. Myself and 9 other staff completed day one of an accredited Mental Health First Aid training session, and will complete day two today (Friday). We are all looking forward to the term ahead and hope the weather warms up soon. The children have enjoyed the wintery weather this week but I would just remind you that any notification of school closure, should the decision need to be taken over the next few weeks, will

be communicated via our school website and the local authority website in the first instance.

ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY

This week we welcomed Neil Goodman, an experienced civil engineer (who has worked in the movies too) to **STOKENCHURCH** to talk to the children about his job and the important role engineers play in the world around us to solve problems and make our lives easier. The children now have the opportunity to take part in the 'If you were an engineer, what would you do?' national competition (which you may remember was won by a Y5 student from Stokie last year) in which they have to design a machine or product of their own. The children really enjoyed the assembly and were excited to get involved so look out for the details coming home soon. Thank you to Miss Blandford for arranging the challenge - the children loved it!



POLYTUNNEL IS COMING!



Over the holidays we've had a few maintenance jobs completed to keep our school looking as good as it does. Mr Rose has worked hard to patch and paint ceilings from the roof replacement and decorate the school hall. We've also replaced the handrails leading up the slope from the main playground. Thank-you Mr Rose for your efforts! 😊 Mr Powell has also worked through freezing conditions to get the

polytunnel up. Its nearly finished and whilst not quite the weather for it right now, will be a brilliant addition to the school garden come the Spring. Thank you! 😊

GYMNASTICS WORKSHOPS

This week, children from Reception, Y1, Y2 and Y3 have all enjoyed a special gymnastics workshop run by our club partners SpringBucks. The children had all the



equipment out in the hall and had a highly active session which took their breathe away.

One little boy was very excitedly telling me all about the moves and balances and jumps he had been doing! Springbucks run a gymnastics club for all ages before school on a Monday and Wednesday morning, so to find out more, please get in touch.

Snow - By Cherry Class

mountain-topper

toe-freezer

snowman-maker

playground-coverer

snowball-fighter

ice-sledger

nose-chiller

hand-glover

flake-faller

hair-messer

frost-plougher

field-blanketer

hat-wearer

coat-zipper

slope-slipper

fun-giver

POETRY PLEASE

It has been poetry week for many children in their English lessons this week. In the first three days alone, I came across children writing Haikus, children planning poetry for a national competition in the hope of getting their work published, children using dioramas to set the scene for their poems before writing and incredible language being used in multiple year groups. I look forward to reading many of them for the **GOLDEN FOLDER** when they are complete. Remember, the children's work for each class is on display in the entrance hall so take a look next time you are

passing...here's a kenning poem by Cherry class.

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM UP FOR GRABS

We will have a rail of donated, pre-loved school uniform available **EVERY TUESDAY** at the end of the day. There will be an honesty box for donations and all items will be in good condition and washed. Look out for the sign in Reception and pop in for a browse at the end of the day on Tuesdays if this is helpful. The lost property box will also be left outside every Wednesday after school so missing items can be reclaimed!



DROP BOX

Our 'Drop Box' is now left outside daily. Please use this to quickly drop in any forgotten items such as PE Kits, homework, lunches or gloves. We will ensure that all items are delivered to their rightful owners as long as they have a name and class clearly labelled on them. Thank you - this

will save time for both you and us!

SAFEGUARDING SLOT

safeguarding@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk

With many children spending more time online and maybe having received new tech for Christmas, please read [this safety advice about social media](#). We also strongly encourage parents to watch Channel 4's programme *Swiped*. This eye-opening documentary highlights the risks and challenges of social media use, especially for young people. It's a valuable resource to help parents understand how to keep their children safe online and foster healthy digital habits. Taking the time to watch and discuss these issues can make a big difference in ensuring a safe and happy winter season for everyone.



A CURIOUS QUESTION:

What is the national animal of Scotland?



A CURIOUS QUESTION:







Suppose you have been given an elephant and you can't give it away or sell it. What would you do with it?



CURIOUS LEARNING

This term our school value is to try to catch our children being 'CURIOUS'. Being curious and wanting to find out more about the world around us is really key to children's learning and a special assembly this week introduced the school value and what it means. I will be putting questions up around the school for children to explore and to make them think. Here are two examples – one with an actual answer and one where every child may come up with something different. The first two children to come and tell me their answers will go in my **GOLDEN FOLDER!**

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

<p>DATA COLLECTION SHEETS</p>	<p>This year our data collection sheets were sent to you electronically, enabling quicker and (hopefully) more accurate information being shared with school that we need to know about you and your child. The information will be treated confidentially so please ensure you check, amend and return the information as soon as possible. Many thanks in advance – we are still waiting to hear from over 100 families.</p>	
<p>SCHOOL GATES CLOSE AT 8.45</p>	<p>The school gates close at 8.45am. Please ensure your child is in school by 8.45am. We are seeing an increase in children arriving late, which is disruptive to the class and to the school office team. Thank you.</p>	
<p>CURRENT VACANCIES</p>	<p>We currently have some staff vacancies in school for a 1 to 1 support LSA. For more information, please visit the vacancies section on our school website.</p>	
<p>PARENT FORUM RECRUITS</p>	<p>We currently have Parent Forum vacancies in Ash, Holly, Larch, Pear and Prunus classes. Please do get in touch if you can help in this way or want to find out more 😊</p>	
<p>DONATIONS PLEASE</p>	<p>Our new Family Support Lead is looking to fill the Rainbow Room with good condition games & puzzles suitable for Age 7 upwards, plus match box toy cars and soft toys. If you can help - Please drop to the school office – thank you! 😊</p>	
<p>PARKING</p>	<p>As you can see from the picture on the front cover, not every parent has heeded my collective new year's resolution for school. As a reminder, it was to please not park on other people's drives, gardens or local public green spaces(!) during the school run. May I also remind parents that use of the staff car park is not permitted. Thank you 😊</p>	

AMAZON WISH LIST

We have updated our Amazon Wishlist – a way you can directly purchase items for your child's year group! To purchase items please click the link below. Thank you.

<https://amzn.eu/aw5up8c>



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

The dates below are for the next month or so.
For a full list please see (and link to) our calendar on the school website.

January 2025			
Mon 6 th	INSET - Teacher Training Day	ALL	
Tue 7 th	All Children Return to School	ALL	
Fri 17 th	Lime Class Assembly	Y5	
Fri 24 th	Holly Class Assembly	Y4	
Fri 31 st	Larch Class Assembly	Y5	
February 2025			
Fri 7 th	Elm Class Assembly	Y3	
Mon 10 th	Energise '25 Rehearsal @ 2.30pm	Y5	
Fri 14 th	Break up for Half Term	ALL	
Letter available / to follow		Please join us if you can 😊	Please note change of date

COMMUNITY PAGE



Starting school for the first time

Was your child born between
1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021?

If yes, Buckinghamshire parents can apply online for a school place from 5 November 2024. Visit [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions) to apply.

You must apply even if your child is at the nursery attached to the school you would like them to go to.

Information about starting school for the first time will be available on our website from the end of October [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions](https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools-index/school-admissions).

The application deadline is 15 January 2025, please do not miss it

Please contact the school nursing service using the link below to find out what health checks and vaccinations are available for your child.

buckshealthcare.nhs.uk/cyp/school-years-development/school-nursing



Application deadline is midnight on 15 January 2025



Buckinghamshire Family Learning



ONLINE SCHOOLS COURSES for PARENTS and CARERS

To book your FREE place call our enrolment team on 01296 383582, SCAN the QR code or CLICK on the [course code link](#) below

RECEPTION

Support Your Child with Phonics and Reading (5 weeks) **FMPR063**

Monday 13 Jan - 10 Feb	9:30am - 11:30am
Tuesday 14 Jan - 11 Feb	9:30am - 11:30am
Wednesday 15 Jan - 12 Feb	9:30am - 11:30am

SCAN ME

YEARS 1&2 WORKSHOPS

Monday 6 January	6:30pm - 8:30pm	Help Your Child with Handwriting (EMWR102)
Tuesday 7 January	9:30am - 11:30am	Maths Through Stories Workshop (EMMN118)
Wednesday 8 January	9:30am - 11:30am	Help Your Child with Handwriting (EMWR102)
Thursday 9 January	9:30am - 11:30am	Support Your Child with Homework (EMHM028)

SCAN ME

YEARS 1&2

Support Your Child with Maths (Shape, Data and Measure) (5 weeks) **EMMS047**

Monday 13 Jan - 10 Feb	6:30pm - 8:30pm
Tuesday 14 Jan - 11 Feb	9:30am - 11:30am
Thursday 16 Jan - 13 Feb	9:30am - 11:30am

Support Your Child with Maths **EMMN024**

Thursday 16 Jan - 13 Feb	7:00pm - 9:00pm
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SCAN ME

YEARS 1&2

Support Your Child with Phonics and Reading (5 weeks) **FMPR064**

Wednesday 15 Jan - 12 Feb	9:30am - 11:30am
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SCAN ME



[buckinghamshireadultlearning.org](https://www.buckinghamshireadultlearning.org)

[BucksAdLearning](https://www.bucksadlearning.org)

[adultlearningbc.ac.uk](https://www.adultlearningbc.ac.uk)





Buckinghamshire
Family Learning



ONLINE SCHOOLS COURSES for PARENTS and CARERS

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YEARS 3,4,5&6

Happy, Healthy and Safe Online-tips to Help Your Child (5 weeks) [EMWB090](#)

Tuesday 14 Jan - 11 Feb 12:30pm - 2:30pm

SCAN ME



YEARS 3&4

Support Your Child with Geometry, Statistics and Measurement (5 weeks) [FMMS088](#)

Monday 13 Jan - 10 Feb 9:30am - 11:30am

Tuesday 14 Jan - 11 Feb 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Wednesday 15 Jan - 12 Feb 9:30am - 11:30am

Thursday 16 Jan - 13 Feb 6:30pm - 8:30pm



SCAN ME



YEARS 5&6

Supporting Your Child with Fractions, Decimals and Percentages (5 weeks) [FMED135](#)

Wednesday 15 Jan - 12 Feb 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Thursday 16 Jan - 13 Feb 9:30am - 11:30am

SCAN ME



YEARS 1 TO 11

Support Your Autistic Child at Home Workshop [EMAC134](#)

Thursday 23 January 9:30am - 11:30am



First Aid Workshop [EMEA042](#)

Elmhurst Adult Learning Centre, Aylesbury

Monday 27 January 9:30am - 12:00am



SCAN ME



Buckinghamshire
Family Learning



**Well-being Online Course
Monday 7pm-9pm**

For parents and carers with children in Years 7 to 11

13 Jan to 10 Feb (5 weeks)
Y7 to 9: Support your child's mental health and wellbeing (FMWB057)

3 February - Help your child to develop confidence and resilience workshop (FMWB112)

10 February - Help your child with stress and anxiety workshop (FMWB105)



Help your child manage their wellbeing and mental health. To book your FREE place, contact our enrolment team on 01296 383582 or scan the QR code. For more information call/text Kathryn on 07770 641997

SCAN ME



[buckinghamshireadultlearning](#) [BucksAdLearning](#) [adultlearningbc.ac.uk](#)

Funded by UK Government



create club

Create Club booking is open for the Spring Term 2025!

The Creation Station

Contact Lisa on 07885 492952 or lisaandrews@thecreationstation.co.uk for details

iHola!



Sign up now to a NEW after school club at [Stokenchurch Primary School](#)!

Kidslingo Spanish clubs are filled with fun and interactivity through:

- ◆ singing songs
- ◆ playing games
- ◆ storytelling
- ◆ role play



If you would be interested in your child taking part in a Spanish club, please contact Kidslingo via email / phone or via the school office.



esti.perez@kidslingo.co.uk

07909610876

www.kidslingo.co.uk

I am a native Spanish speaker with enhanced DBS /PVG checked & fully insured.
A Kidslingo franchise owned & operated under licence by INSERT NAME.



Thank you to **ELIZABETH GRACE BALLOONS** for donating a fabulous prize for the end of term raffle before Christmas! 😊



Introducing a free online support tool for Buck's parents

FREE FOR PARENTS FROM 1 DECEMBER

To provide early help and guidance and an online community of support, Buckinghamshire Council have partnered with specialist local charity Autism Early Support, to offer parents unlimited access to The Parent's Portal.

This is a self-guided learning tool, designed for parents of children aged 2-17 years who:

- Have noticed differences in their child and they're exploring neurodivergence
- Have Googled, 'Is my child autistic?, or what is ADHD?'
- Have an autistic child(ren)
- Are awaiting a Neurodevelopmental assessment



SCAN TO REGISTER

Funded by



Using the Parent's Portal

The Parent's Portal by AES is an online resource it contains

Resources to watch and read:

A multi media library of information available to view and download, available 24/7

Live Workshops and parent support groups:

Interactive sessions on the key topics, bookable in advance

Discussion forums:

Exchange ideas and perspectives with parents and practitioners

Information broken down into four sections.

- Understanding my child
- Supporting my child with education
- Supporting my child at home
- Family relationships and sibling support

There is no referral required for families make use of the Parent's Portal.

Registration is straightforward with Autism Early Support.



SCAN TO REGISTER

241201 - launch