



# 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 226: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025



£1,285 so far!

[www.stokenchurchprimary.co.uk](http://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:

- ACORNS GRUFFALO SEARCH
- CRUMBLE CONTROLLERS
- ASDA REWARDS
- AMAZON WISHLIST
- SAFEGUARDING SLOT
- ELM CLASS ASSEMBLY
- NEW RESPONSIBILITIES
- AND MUCH MORE...

### ECO TICKER

Solar Panels

MWh produced = 83.18 MWh

CO<sub>2</sub> saved=47.25 t

### GOLDEN RULES


READY

RESPECTFUL

SAFE

😊 SCIENCE - IT'S TRULY MAGICAL! 😊

### ☺ THINGS TO CELEBRATE ☺

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK	99.6% - Larch		98.2% - Chestnut		97.2% - Prunus	
	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	85	109	81	110	91	96
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD WINNERS				ALDER CLASS		



# FROM THE HEAD'S CHAIR



You can donate to our swimming pool project here:  
<https://justgiving.com/campaign/stokiesbigsplash>



## STEM ROBOTICS WORKSHOP

On Tuesday 11th February, we have a visitor from Eko STEM to lead fun and interactive workshops with Year 3 and Year 6. These sessions will introduce children to careers and opportunities in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) and include hands-on problem-solving activities focused on Technology and Engineering. It promises to be an enjoyable and educational experience!

More details: <http://exa.is/eko>



## YEAR 5 COMPUTING

This week, Year 5 explored Crumble controllers, learning to program motors and LED lights (called Sparkles) using simple code. They used repeat loops to make their programs more efficient and practised debugging to fix mistakes. This hands-on activity helped develop problem-solving,

creativity, and logical thinking. Ask your child about their Crumble project—they might even explain how loops make coding easier!

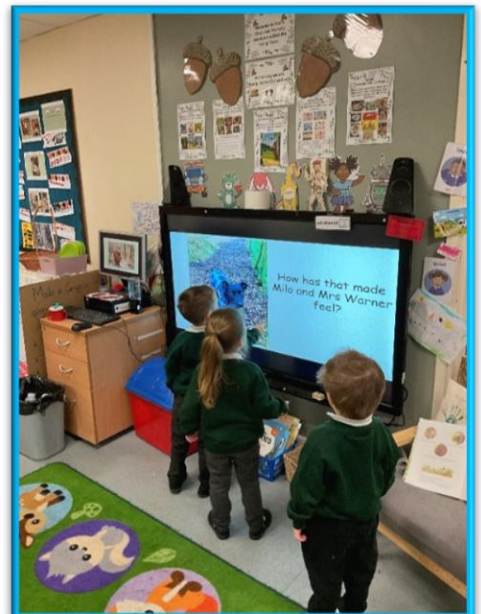


## ACORNS UPDATE

This week the children have been very curious as to who has been visiting their classroom!! Mrs Warner and Milo (her furry friend) went on a walk-through Wendover Woods at the weekend and spotted some rather strange footprints with terribly sharp claws. They also spotted some orange eyes, furry figures with purple prickles and poisonous warts! On further examination of the 'evidence' the children came to the conclusion that Mrs Warner and Milo had spotted a 'Gruffalo'.



Acorns were so excited that they made scrambled snake (eggs) on toast to lure the Gruffalo to school. After leaving the feast out overnight and carefully marking out trails for the Gruffalo to follow, the children were amazed to find footprints and a terrible mess in the classroom. They found other clues too - brown muddy patches, muddy trails, holes in the ceiling, scratches on the floor and quite a lot of crumbs! Acorns searched and searched and searched the school but could not find the Gruffalo anywhere, but there was a strange delivery in the classroom the very next day. Some of the children believed the Guffalo had sent them a gift - I think the huge paw prints and remains of scrambled egg and toast may have given





them a clue! The children were very curious as to what was inside the tank so asked the grown up's help them to investigate. They carefully removed the lid, scooped out the soil and to their amazement found all sorts of bugs and grubs! The children shared their ideas about the shapes, sizes, textures and movements of the creatures and asked lots of questions about what they could be, where they have come from and what they might turn into and how they travelled all the way from the forest to our school.

### MUSIC MONITORS & JUNIOR ROAD SAFETY OFFICERS (JRSOs)

We have some new positions of responsibility at STOKENCHURCH, filled amply by some excellent candidates who enjoyed receiving their badges and mentions in assembly this morning from Mr Sloan.

MUSIC ASSISTANTS				
Aoife	Ruby	Bluebelle	Mia	
JRSOs				
Isabella	Belle	Oscar	Archie	Chloe

Congratulations to those children – I look forward to sharing more about their work in the weeks to come.



### ASDA REWARDS

Congratulations! In the Asda Rewards app, Stokenchurch Primary School raised **£544.70**. Thank you to everyone who supported us...the money raised will go towards new playground equipment for all the children to enjoy. 😊

### ELM CLASS ASSEMBLY



This morning we were treated to a magnetic assembly, lead by Elm Class. The children shared their learning about forces and magnetism in science, with some simple yet effective ways of bringing the principles to life for their audience. They did a great job and I know Mrs Barker and the Y3 team were really proud of them. Well-done children – the budding scientists of tomorrow perhaps! 😊



### MYSTERIES, TRICKS & SURPRISES CLUB

Unrelated to Elm's assembly, our KS1 club also investigated magnetism after school on Thursday this week. What was lovely is that I got lots of 'I know this' looks from the children in assembly as a result!

## SCHOOL TRAVEL PLAN

FIXMYSTREET is an independent website built by the charity mySociety, who want to make it easier to report problems in your community.



### FIXMYSTREET

Report, view, or discuss local problems (like graffiti, fly tipping, broken paving slabs, or street lighting). This enables you to help the local community by mapping and reporting street problems to the councils responsible for fixing them.

Use: [fixmystreet.com](https://fixmystreet.com)

One of the JRSOs current jobs is distributing the January 2025 badges for our Travel Tracker, which encourages sustainable travel.



### TRAVEL TRACKER BADGE DELIVERY IN PROGRESS!

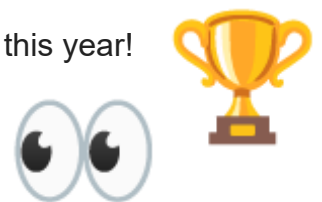


Our JRSOs are on a **mission** — distributing the **January 2025 Travel Tracker badges** to those who have been making **sustainable journeys** to school! Whether you've been walking, cycling, scooting, or park-and-striding, your efforts are making a **real difference** to our environment.

Keep up the fantastic work, and let's see how many badges we can collect this year!

Which class will have the most?

#TravelSmart #EcoWarriors #BadgeBraggingRights #JRSOs



### NEXT WEEK'S SCHOOL COMPOSER

(Music we listen to in class and assembly)



HANS ZIMMER

### CURIOUS QUESTION

(Something to talk & think about as a family)

If you could plan the best half term ever, what would you be doing?

## PTA NEWS



**STIKINS® Name Labels**  
SIMPLY STICK IN & STAY IN

**Save Time & Money  
Reduce Lost Property**

Quote Our Fundraising Member to Raise Funds for School  
[WWW.STIKINS.CO.UK](http://WWW.STIKINS.CO.UK)

Welcome to our PTA news section. This week, we have included a few reminders about how you can help and support the school without having to do anything...

Ways you can help support our fundraising:

1. Easy fundraising – booking a holiday? Ordering items? Go to our easy fundraising

page first and then access the company from there – each company offers different % donations, but a simple step to raise funds for the school! [Easyfundraising](#)

2. Our Blue textile bin for clothing donations, located at the top school entrance

3. Stikins labels for clothing - fundraising code is 22424 Please visit the PTA section (in the parents section) for more information about any of the above and upcoming events



**Help out when you check out**

Collect FREE donations for the Friends of Stokenchurch Primary School PTA every time you shop online.

We need you to...

1. Shop
2. Shop
3. Shop

[www.easyfundraising.co.uk/charities/stokenchurchprimaryschool](http://www.easyfundraising.co.uk/charities/stokenchurchprimaryschool)

## SAFEGUARDING SLOT

[safeguarding@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk)

### SMARTPHONE-FREE CHILDHOOD?

At **STOKENCHURCH**, we are committed to supporting the well-being and development of all our pupils. In line with this, we are encouraging families to consider the benefits of a smartphone-free childhood.

Research shows that delaying access to smartphones can have a positive impact on children's mental health, sleep, social skills, and academic focus. By providing children with a break from the digital pressures of the modern world, we give them the freedom to grow, explore, and build meaningful connections in healthier ways.

We would like to signpost you to resources from [Smartphone Free Childhood](#), an organisation that provides valuable guidance for families considering this approach. [This guide](#) outlines practical advice and the benefits of embracing a smartphone-free childhood. We hope this resource will inspire conversations at home and offer reassurance about the positive changes this approach can bring.










## IMPORTANT MESSAGES

### PHOTO PERMISSIONS

Thank you to those parents who have completed, signed and returned your data collection sheets. Part of this process, for GDPR purposes, is to provide an indication of permissions for use of your child's image. This number of children whose parents would prefer for their child's image NOT to be used, for example, in the school newsletter and on the school website, has jumped from around 12 children to almost 150. In order to respect those wishes, you may notice significantly fewer photos of school events and more images that are blurred or covered appropriately. This additional task may also mean that our weekly newsletter becomes fortnightly or monthly but we will endeavour to keep you as up to date as possible moving forward. Thank you in advance for your understanding.



<b>AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS</b>	There are still some spaces in the Clubsport after school clubs. For more information please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter or email <a href="mailto:info@clubsportuk.com">info@clubsportuk.com</a>	
<b>PRE-LOVED UNIFORM</b>	The pre-loved uniform will out every Tuesday afternoon located in the Reception foyer. Please come and take a look, there is an honesty box for any donations.	
<b>SCHOOL GATES CLOSE AT 8.45</b>	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.	
<b>NUT FREE SCHOOL</b>	Please remember we are a nut free school. Please can you make sure that your child's packed lunch does not have any food that contains nuts, this includes chocolate spread. Please can you also make sure that if you are giving your children grapes in their lunch box that they have been cut up as they can cause a potential choking hazard.	
<b>PARENT FORUM RECRUITS</b>	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 😊	
<b>AMAZON WISH LIST</b>	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. <a href="https://amzn.eu/aw5up8c">https://amzn.eu/aw5up8c</a>	
<b>NEW HOMEWORK POLICY</b>	Following feedback from teachers and the Parents Forum last term, our school governors have this week ratified our updated school homework policy. I will ask Mrs Whelan to pop this onto the school website early next week and will send you a link when its ready, all set for launch after half term.	

### SLIMEY ANTICS IN RECEPTION

This week we have gone snail crazy in Reception! Here is our acrostic poem that Ash class came up with together... I was very impressed!

#### SNAILS - BY ASH CLASS

**S**tuck  
**N**ap in our shells  
**A** small spiral  
**I**n the mud  
**L**aps of the garden  
**S**limey



## 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.

### February 2025

Mon 10 <sup>th</sup>	Energise '25 Rehearsal @ 2.30pm	Y5	
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Thu 13th	Cherry Class Assembly @ 9.00am	Y2
Fri 14th	Break up for Half Term	ALL
Mon 24th	Return to School & History Week	ALL
<b>March 2025</b>		
Thu 6th	World Book Day	ALL
Fri 7th	Elder Class Assembly @ 9.00am	Y3
Wed 12th	Y3/Y4 Production - Ali Baba & The Bongo Bandits @ 6.00pm	Y3/4
Thurs 13th	Y3/Y4 Production - Ali Baba & The Bongo Bandits @ 9.00am	Y3/4
Letter available / to follow		Please join us if you can 😊
		Please note change of date

## COMMUNITY PAGES



**Thursday 20 February, 11am - 3pm**

Sands Village Hall, 12, Lane End Road, High Wycombe HP12 4JF

Residents and community members are invited to come along and discuss any matters with multi-agency teams:

- FREE Crime Prevention advice and security items
- FREE Health Checks and advice
- FREE bouncy castle and activities for children and young people
- FREE Waste/recycling advice and products
- Helping Hands – advice on help and support available
- Domestic Energy Efficiency- advice on grants and schemes
- Housing- discuss any concerns and issues
- Adult Learning- advice on courses available to you

Teams and local volunteers will be in the area undertaking high visibility patrols, engaging with residents, completing litter picks and dealing with a range of issues identified by the community.



Visit: [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-action-days](http://buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-action-days)



**Wednesday 19 February, 11am - 3pm**

Wrights Meadow Community Centre, Wrights Meadow Rd, High Wycombe, HP 11 1SQ

Residents and community members are invited to come along and discuss any matters with multi-agency teams:

- FREE Crime Prevention advice and security items
- FREE Health Checks and advice
- FREE bouncy castle and activities for children and young people
- FREE Waste/recycling advice and products
- Helping Hands – advice on help and support available
- Domestic Energy Efficiency- advice on grants and schemes
- Housing- discuss any concerns and issues
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Visit: [buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-action-days](http://buckinghamshire.gov.uk/community-action-days)

Scan the QR code



**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

**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

**YEARS 3&4**  
Support Your Child with Geometry, Statistics and Measurement (5 weeks) [EMMS088](#)  
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

**YEARS 5&6**  
Supporting Your Child with Fractions, Decimals and Percentages (5 weeks) [EMED135](#)  
Wednesday 15 Jan - 12 Feb 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
Thursday 16 Jan - 13 Feb 9:30am - 11:30am

**YEARS 1 TO 11**  
Support Your Autistic Child at Home Workshop [EMAC134](#)  
Thursday 23 January 9:30am - 11:30am  
First Aid Workshop [EMFA092](#)  
Elmhurst Adult Learning Centre, Aylesbury  
Monday 27 January 9:50am - 12:30pm



Working together for a safer Buckinghamshire



Working together for a safer Buckinghamshire

### 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



Professional Sports Coaching for Primary Schools

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We are pleased to confirm that [Stokenchurch Primary & Nursery School](#) are offering the following clubs for the Spring Term 2024-25.

Activity	Day	Time	Year Groups	Fee
Football	Wednesday	3:20-4:30pm	3 & 4	£37.50
Multi-Sports and Dance	Friday	3:20-4:30pm	Rec, 1 & 2	£37.50

Clubs will run W/C 24<sup>th</sup> February until W/E 4<sup>th</sup> April for a total of 5 weeks. Excluding Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April (parents evening) and Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April (school closes at 1pm)

Spaces are limited to 16 per club and given on a first come first served basis.

**If the uptake isn't enough, then these clubs may be cancelled so please do book a space if you are interested ASAP.**

To sign up visit:  
<https://club-sport.classforkids.io/term/182>

Children will need to wear their PE kit or other appropriate sports kit. Please ensure your child has a re-fillable water bottle for the session. The meeting place for your child will be arranged by the school.