

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 248: 26th September



£62,983 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:

READY RESPECTFUL SAFE



THIS WEEK:

- Y5 PLANETARIUM
- PTA AGM
- PAPAYA WORKSHOP
- Y6 SHACKLETON
- HOUSE CAPTAIN ELECTIONS
- EARLY YEARS OPEN MORNING
- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
- AND MUCH MORE...

ECO TICKER

Solar Panels
MWh produced = 89.14MWh
CO₂ saved = 50.63t

GOLDEN RULES

- READY
- RESPECTFUL
- SAFE

😊 Y5 WENT TO INFINITY & BEYOND THIS WEEK! 😊

😊 THINGS TO CELEBRATE 😊

ATTENDANCE	Ash - 98.6%		Holly - 98.3%		Pear - 97.7%	
GOLDEN FOLDER	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	7	13	13	25	10	10
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD			BEECH CLASS			
THIS TERM'S SCHOOL COMPOSER (Music we listen to in class and assembly)			Johann Sebastian Bach			



FROM THE HEAD'S CHAIR



You can donate to our swimming pool project here:

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

Together, we can make waves and build something amazing!

#SwimForAll #CommunitySupport #ThankYou #MakeADifference #Fundraiser #TogetherWeCa



Y6 SHACKLETON

Y6 have been learning about the incredible journey taken by Ernest Shackleton and the crew of the Endeavour across the Antarctic almost 100 years ago. They have read diaries, stories and personal accounts as well as looking at pictures describing starvation, sadness, cold, hunger and attacks from leopard seals! They really enjoyed bringing the story to life through drama and their freeze-frames were pretty striking. Well-done Y6 – I know you enjoyed it 😊



Y5 PLANETARIUM

On Monday, Year 5 were shown the skies and space by astronomer, Daniel, from Science Oxford in a Space Dome. Using a variety of enthralling visuals, he showed them the structure of the Solar System, details of the Sun and every planet, and explained about galaxies beyond. With images from the James-Webb telescope, he discussed with the children the possibility of extra-terrestrial life out there somewhere, and

encouraged the children to aspire to become scientists themselves in the future. The children greatly enjoyed this experience which enhanced their understanding of our science topic. They have strongly suggested that Year 5 should book this again for next year!



BETTER BEHAVIOUR

I said last week that we had enjoyed a particularly positive start to the new academic year. This has certainly continued and the school remains a calm and purposeful environment for the business of learning. I presented to governors last week and one of their questions was about the impact of the new behaviour policy we introduced last year. Having analysed our records, I was really pleased to see a term-on-term reduction in behaviour incidents across the school, leading to an overall 50% drop in instances by the end of the summer term.

This is a great impact and the number of children needing to attend reflection sessions has also dropped as they have an impact. This means our school is a safer and more enjoyable place for all children and staff and whilst we are not complacent or accepting of any instances of poor behaviour, we are really pleased to see that our approach has had a successful impact. Thank you for your support in this from home by reinforcing our high expectations and values – I look forward to this continuing this year.

PAPAYA WORKSHOP

Our Y5&6 children enjoyed a screen-time workshop this week with our friends from Papaya. They learned about the benefits of screen time as well as the pitfalls and risks to sleep, mental health and wellbeing. They shared some good experiences and great tips and the children were engaged in the sessions throughout. Well-done to the children and thank you Mrs Whelan for arranging the sessions.

The word 'PAPAYA' is written in large, bold, dark blue letters inside an orange speech bubble shape.

OPEN DAY(S)

On Wednesday we welcomed prospective parents to our Open Day – a chance for families looking for the right school for their children to get a flavour of **STOKENCHURCH** and what we are all about. It is always lovely to share and show off our school. Year 6 pupils showed our visitors around the school and gave short speeches about their experiences as a pupil. Many of the parents visited because they had 'heard good things' about our school and I know they left having made up their minds! Thank you to everyone who shared a poster or a kind word to help promote our brilliant school and especially Poppy, River, Rhidee, Skye and Noah for their excellent contributions 😊

If you missed the Open Day yesterday, we have another **OPEN EVENING** on **7th October**. @ 17.30. We would love you to spread the word of the open invitation to new, current and prospective families far and wide this year, so please check out the poster and share it with your networks and friendship groups or workplaces as much as possible. Thank you for your support

A dark blue rectangular poster with the words 'OPEN EVENING' written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters.

PTA AGM

On Monday the PTA held their first meeting of the academic year, doubling as the annual AGM. Attended by 17 mums, it was lovely to see so many new faces and we really appreciate you giving up your valuable spare time to support the PTA. I was blown away by the support of this dedicated team of parents who work tirelessly behind the scenes to help us provide so much more to every child who is lucky enough to come to **STOKENCHURCH**. We discussed the plans for the term ahead – school disco, fireworks and (shhhh) Christmas! I'm looking forward to sharing more with you about the events



coming up to support the school and ultimately your children and would like to thank Mrs Springett, Mrs Stiles and the PTA team for everything they do! 😊

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank Brian and Penny Cole from the **Chiltern Partnership Limited** in Watlington for their generous donation of two computers to our school. We are very grateful for their support, and we look forward to putting the equipment to good use to enhance our pupils' learning.

HOUSE CAPTAINS

Well-done to our new house captains who gave a speech to their houses before a secret vote to choose the winners. They were awarded their special badges in assembly and will be representing their houses with pride throughout the year. Congratulations to...

AIR	FIRE	EARTH	WATER
Ollie B & Skye	Sophie & Rozii	Ollie W & Poppy	Scarlett & Brodie

MOBILE PHONE REVIEW

Following a review with our Governors, we will be updating our school's mobile phone policy shortly. We will share full details with parents well in advance, giving plenty of notice ahead of the September 2026 changes.



IMPORTANT MESSAGES

AMAZON WISHLIST	We have recently updated our Amazon wishlist! Here you can purchase items for your child's year group to be delivered directly to the school: https://amzn.eu/aw5up8c	
PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS	Please ensure that school is informed if someone different / new is picking up your child at the end of the day. To keep them safe, we insist that children are only released to familiar / expected adults so please don't be offended if we just take a moment to check before letting children go occasionally. Thank you!	
LEAVE OF ABSENCE FORMS	Please ensure you click on this link: Leave of Absence if you need to request Leave of Absence for your child during term time so we know where your children are during planned absences!	
SAFE ROUTE IN & OUT OF SCHOOL	Please can I ask that you use the pedestrian gates to enter / exit the school site at drop off and pick up times. We have seen a couple of near misses with cars this week and want to keep your children as safe as possible. Thank you in advance.	
HELP!	If you have any spotlights, lighting rigs, work lights or similar that the school / PTA could borrow for the fireworks event on 30th October , please get in touch!	

SAFEGUARDING SLOT






SAFEGUARDING – IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY.

REMEMBER, IT COULD HAPPEN HERE (AND PROBABLY DOES).

If you have any concerns about a child or notice something that makes you feel uncomfortable, please contact one of our DSL team (in confidence) who are always happy to listen.

Are you concerned about a child?

ALWAYS act on any concern.
Make a written record of your concern and share without delay.

 Mr Nick Stevens Designated Safeguarding Officer Headteacher	 Mr Stephen Sloan Designated Safeguarding Lead Deputy Headteacher
 Mrs Francesca Avery Designated Safeguarding Officer SENCo	 Mrs Kat Warner Designated Safeguarding Officer Nursery Manager
 Miss Catherine Howland Designated Safeguarding Officer SENCo	 Mrs Judy Pope Designated Safeguarding Officer Administration Manager

Please do not leave the site without sharing your concern, even if just a feeling.

Remember, IT COULD HAPPEN HERE.

FRAUDULENT APP

We've been alerted to a fraudulent app on the Apple App Store using the ParentPay branding, which is not affiliated with ParentPay and has been reported as a scam. Please do not download it, never enter card or personal details, and access ParentPay only via the official website: www.parentpay.com

GROUP CHATS

Group chats are increasingly common among children, but they can also expose them to risks such as unkind comments, peer pressure, oversharing and exclusion. Our latest online safety guide highlights the potential challenges children may face in these chats and offers clear, practical advice for parents. It includes strategies for setting healthy boundaries, managing notifications and supporting children to behave responsibly online. You can read and download the full poster from our website [here](#)

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD

As we start the new school year, we'd like to gently remind families of [the information we shared in June about smartphones and safeguarding](#). Many of you told us how tricky this topic can be, and how much pressure

children (and parents!) can feel when it comes to phones. As a school, **we strongly recommend that you do not give your child a smartphone**. We see first-hand how smartphones can affect sleep, friendships, and focus in class, and that's why we continue to encourage families to wait before introducing one.

Lots of parents are already choosing simple alternatives and joining the voluntary [Parent Pact](#) to delay smartphones until secondary school. If your child does bring a phone in (Year 5 and 6 only), please remember it must be switched off, labelled, and handed to their teacher at the start of the day.

To join the conversation about SFC at **STOKENCHURCH**, join the [WhatsApp group](#). By working together, we can reduce the pressures and help our children feel safer, happier, and more ready to learn.

SNAPCHAT

Our school's position is that Snapchat is not appropriate for primary-aged children. The app has a range of risks which many parents/carers may not be aware of, including disappearing messages, location sharing through Snap Map, access to strangers, and exposure to inappropriate content. Increasingly, there are also concerns around scams and overuse. As a school, we strongly discourage children from using Snapchat. However, we know some families may already be dealing with this at home. To support parents/carers in understanding the risks, [this guide](#) which explains the latest features and provides advice from online safety experts.

PARKING

As we return to a new academic year and the school run, please can I ask all of you to take extra care and consideration as you drive to school in the mornings or afternoons.

BE KIND, PARK WITH OTHERS IN MIND

#selfishparking



- ✓ RESPECT OTHERS
- ✓ THINK BEFORE YOU PARK
- ✓ DON'T BE SELFISH



1. Please park safely and considerately of other road users and pedestrians – remembering not to block access and driveways.
2. Please do not park on the double yellow lines or yellow zig-zags – they are there for a reason!
3. Take care of your speed as you use George Road and surrounds and please try to respect our unofficial one-way system – it helps everyone if we stick to it!
4. Please use our Kiss and Drop if you have children in Y1 or beyond. This is a safe, supervised way of dropping off and delivering your children in the morning which saves you lots of hassle!
5. Please be aware of the added impact of vehicles related to the building work going on at the edge of Britwell Court.....

Thank you in advance for your support in doing all we can to keep your children safe.

BIKES & HELMETS



Children are encouraged to cycle to school if they can do safely. However, I have already received reports of some children not wearing a cycle helmet and weaving in and out of the road / traffic on their way to and from school. This privilege will be revoked for any child reported as travelling unsafely. I will talk to the children about this in assembly next week.

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.

October 2025			
Wed 1 st	Flu Immunisations F2 – Y6	Y1 – Y6	
Fri 3 rd	Larch Class Assembly @ 0900	Y5	
Sun 5 th	National teacher's Day	ALL	
Mon 6 th	Dyslexia Awareness Week	ALL	
Tue 7 th	Open Evening Reception Sept 2026 Intake @ 1730	ALL	
Fri 10 th	Harvest Festival (Further details to follow)	ALL	
	World Mental Health Day	ALL	
Mon 13 th	Parent Consultation Meetings (1700 – 2000)	ALL	
Wed 15 th	Parent Consultation Meetings (1545 – 1845)	ALL	
Thur 16 th	Individual/Siblings Photograph Day	ALL	
Fri 17 th	Lime Class Assembly @ 900	Y5	
	Wear Red – Show Racism the Red Card	ALL	
Tue 21 st	PTA Disco's (Y1-Y3 1700 – 1815 & Y4-Y6 1830 – 1945)	Y1 – Y6	
Fri 24 th	Pear Class Assembly @ 0900	Y6	
Thu 30 th	PTA Fireworks Event at school	ALL	
Letter available / to follow		Please join us if you can 😊	Please note change of date

COMMUNITY PAGES



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01494 482112 office@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk @stokenchurchps George Road, HP14 3RN



Early Years Open Day Events for children starting school in September 2026

Wednesday 24th September 2025, 9.15am

Tuesday 7th October, 5.30pm

To come and MEET THE HEADTEACHER, contact our office to book your place.

Office@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk

01494 482112



We offer an inspiring and innovative curriculum to engage and inspire your children, led by dedicated staff that encourage them to become curious and independent learners.

READY RESPECTFUL SAFE RESILIENT CURIOUS CONFIDENT INDEPENDENT SUCCESSFUL



Make Your Mark

Exciting chance to make your mark on this campaign! Within the enclosure we will be dedicating a space to display names of supporters.

We are offering 4 different levels of sponsorship:

Platinum: £300

Gold: £150

Silver: £75

Bronze: £25



We are also offering corporate sponsorship opportunities!
Please get in touch to find out more.



Building a better future for our community



pool@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk
[facebook.com/stokiesbigsplash](https://www.facebook.com/stokiesbigsplash)
<https://sites.google.com/stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk/pool>



PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS

more fun, more friendships, more smiles
DURING THE OCTOBER HALF-TERM!

SPORTS
HOCKEY
FOOTBALL
BASKETBALL
TAG-RUGBY
GYMNASTICS

ADVENTURE
ARCHERY
FENCING
NERF GAMES
DEN BUILDING
GLOW DODGEBALL

ENRICHMENT
CRAFTS
EDIBLE ART
YOGA
DANCE
KARAOKE



Book today
premier-education.com



YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CAMP

**MANOR FARM JUNIOR,
HAZLEMERE, HP15 7PH**

DATES:
27th - 30th October
TIMES:
9:00 - 15:30
8:30 - 17:30
AGES:
4 - 12 years old

**STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY,
HIGH WYCOMBE, HP14 3RN**

DATES:
27th - 30th October
TIMES:
9:00 - 15:30
9:00 - 13:00
AGES:
4 - 12 years old



Looking for something exciting this October half-term? Our multi-activity holiday clubs are packed with fun, energy, and variety for children of all ages!

Each day brings something new – from archery and fencing to dodgeball, cricket, and loads more. With a mix of sports, team games, and seasonal crafts, there's never a dull moment.

Book now for an unforgettable half-term!

Prices start from **£35.10 a day!**



CAMPS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!



TREAT YOUR FRIENDS TO 20% OFF...AND GET 20% OFF TOO!

*T&Cs apply. Refer a friend discount on new bookings only.





**FRIENDS OF
STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

FIREWORK DISPLAY

THURSDAY 30TH OCTOBER 2025

GEORGE ROAD, STOKENCHURCH HP14 3RN

TICKETS ONLINE AT:
[WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/
FRIENDS-OF-STOKENCHURCH-MIDDLE-SCHOOL](http://WWW.TICKETSOURCE.CO.UK/FRIENDS-OF-STOKENCHURCH-MIDDLE-SCHOOL)

EARLY BIRD PRICES
SUPER EARLY *NOW TILL MIDNIGHT 14/09* - £5.00
EARLY *15/09 TILL MIDNIGHT 30/09* - £7.50
BIT LATE *01/10 TILL MIDNIGHT 26/10* - £9.50

ON THE GATE TICKETS
WILL BE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY

GATES OPEN 6:00PM - FIREWORK DISPLAY 7:00PM



Autumn Disco

Tuesday 21st October 2025
Years 1, 2 & 3 - 5pm-6.15pm
Years 4, 5 & 6 - 6.30pm-7.45pm

Includes drinks &
snack with a treat
to take home!



£5
via parentpay or
on the door

No Mobiles or ipods allowed



High Wycombe Music Centre

LEARN TO PLAY

11 October '25

Saturday 11th October 25
Millbrook School HP12 4BA

Musikids session 9.30-10.30am
for all children aged 4-7 years old

Come and try a musical instrument 11-12.30pm
For children of all ages

**contact lle@bucksmusic.org to book your space or
for more information
www.musicforall.org.uk**

Music for All supports disadvantaged music makers across the UK
Registered UK charity no 1055371

pipers
corner
SCHOOLS



OPEN MORNING
SATURDAY 4 OCTOBER 2025

An Independent Day School for girls aged 4-18