

# 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 252: 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025**



£62,983 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:

## READY RESPECTFUL SAFE



😊 OUR PERFECT PUMPKIN PATCH THIS WEEK! 😊

**THIS WEEK:**  
 PUMPKIN COMPETITION  
 SCHOOL DISCO  
 MUFTI DAY  
 RECEPTION STAY & SHARE  
 ACORNS STAY & PLAY  
 IMPORTANT MESSAGES  
 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY  
 AND MUCH MORE...

**ECO TICKER**  
 Solar Panels  
 produced = 89.41MWh  
 CO<sub>2</sub> saved = 50.78 t

### GOLDEN RULES

**READY**  
**RESPECTFUL**  
**SAFE**

### 😊 THINGS TO CELEBRATE 😊

ATTENDANCE	Larch 99.4%		Holly 99.3%		Prunus 98.9%	
GOLDEN FOLDER	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	50	40	57	80	36	46
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD			LARCH 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



## PTA DISCO

On Tuesday evening the children had a great time as they enjoyed the PTA Autumn Discos. 250+ children danced, sang, screamed, had fun with friends, ate biscuits, drank squash and left pink-cheeked and having enjoyed a brilliant pop. Huge thanks to the PTA and especially DJ Chris for making the event so

successful and so much fun!

## SMASHING PUMPKINS

We also had almost 120 entries to this year's PTA Pumpkin Carving competition and the level of quality, artistry and creativity was as high as ever! Judging the winners was really tricky but the results are in! Prizes



were awarded in assembly today. Well-done to everyone who entered – the patch looked perfect 😊 It was particularly lovely to see the steady queue of admirers at the pumpkin patch, all which commented on how clever and unique the designs were this year.

**PUMPKIN PRIZE WINNERS**

<p><b>ACORNS</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Luca 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Alfie B</p>	<p><b>F2</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jasper 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Olivia</p>	<p><b>YEAR 1</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Jamie 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Sienna</p>
		
<p><b>YEAR 2</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: George A 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Summer</p>	<p><b>YEAR 3</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Rosie 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Elizabeth</p>	<p><b>YEAR 4</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Freddie 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Eilish</p>
		
<p><b>YEAR 5</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Myla 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: George</p>	<p><b>YEAR 6</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Emilia 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Sophie</p>	<p><b>ADULTS</b> 1<sup>st</sup> Place: Rima 2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Katie</p>
		

A **BIG THANK YOU** to the following companies who have made a donation for the Pumpkin Competition prizes:



*Painting parties*

**SHORT CIRCUIT**  
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTOR

# The **wye** Partnership




## EARLY YEARS STAY & PLAY SESSIONS

The Early Years team would like to say a **HUGE** thank you to all of our parents and carers who came to our 'Stay and Share' in Reception on Tuesday, and our 'Stay and Play' in Nursery on Thursday. The children thoroughly enjoyed showing their grown-up's the classrooms, our outside areas and all of the lovely activities that they had set up. It was lovely to see so many smiles and hear lots of laughter and as everyone joined in the fun! Thank you also to the Early Years Team for your help to make these events a success. What a super way to end the first half term in Early

Years 🎉



# IMPORTANT MESSAGES

	<p>Stokie's Big Splash Silent Auction - The Pool Committee will be holding a silent auction to raise funds for Stokie's Big Splash. If you are able to donate, or know someone who might be interested, please get in touch with us by 14 November at <a href="mailto:pool@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk">pool@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk</a>. We can arrange collection or provide more information if needed. Every contribution, big or small, will make a real difference - and help us reach our goal faster.</p>	
<p><b>AMAZON WISHLIST</b></p>	<p>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: <a href="https://amzn.eu/aw5up8c">https://amzn.eu/aw5up8c</a></p>	
<p><b>SAFE ROUTE IN &amp; OUT OF SCHOOL</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	
<p><b>HELP!</b></p>	<p>If you have any spotlights, lighting rigs, work lights or similar that the school / PTA could borrow for the fireworks event on <b>30<sup>th</sup> October</b>, please get in touch!</p>	

## 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.

#### SAFEGUARDING UPDATE ANDY COPE CHILDREN'S BOOKS

We have been made aware of a safeguarding alert relating to some children's books written by Andy Cope, including the *Spy Dogs*, *Spy Cats* and *Spy Pup* series. These books include a website link which, while originally connected to the author, now directs to a site that is no longer appropriate for children.







The stories themselves remain suitable to read, but the website link is not safe. As a precaution, we will remove these titles from our school library and book areas.

We would encourage families to check at home for any books by Andy Cope and to be mindful if children ask to follow a website link within a story. This is also

a good opportunity to remind children to always check with an adult before following any link they come across in a book or online. Thank you for your continued support in helping us to keep our children safe.

**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 Kal 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.

## SMARTPHONES UPDATE



As per [the letter sent home last week](#), we would like to share a brief update on our plans regarding smartphones at school. To support children's wellbeing, learning and behaviour, we will be introducing a phased ban on smartphones. From **September 2026**, current Year 4 pupils (then Year 5) will not be permitted to bring smartphones to school – only basic call-and-text phones will be allowed. From **September 2027**, this will extend to both Year 5 and Year 6.

**STOKENCHURCH** is proud to support the Smartphone Free Childhood initiative, and further details and helpful resources can be found in the full letter.

## THE DAYS ARE GETTING SHORTER AND DARKER

### Why does visibility matter in low light?

1. **Reduced Driver Visibility** In low light, drivers have a harder time spotting pedestrians, cyclists, and other road users. Wearing dark clothing makes you nearly invisible until it's too late.
2. **Shorter Reaction Times** If you're not clearly visible, drivers have less time to react—especially in poor weather conditions like rain or fog.
3. **Increased Risk of Accidents** According to road safety statistics, a significant number of pedestrian and cyclist accidents happen during dawn, dusk, or night time.

### How can I ensure I am seen?

1. **Wear Reflective Gear:** Jackets, vests, armbands, or even reflective tape on bags and shoes.
2. **Use Lights:** Cyclists should use front white and rear red lights. Walkers and runners can use clip-on LED lights or headlamps.
3. **Choose Bright Colours:** Fluorescent clothing (yellow, orange, pink) is more visible in daylight and twilight.
4. **Avoid Distractions:** Stay alert and avoid using phones or headphones when crossing roads.



## PARKING AROUND SCHOOL – A SERIOUS SAFETY CONCERN

We must urgently remind all parents and carers that parking on double yellow lines, zig-zags, and other restricted areas outside our school is both illegal and extremely dangerous.

Over recent weeks we have seen a significant increase in cars stopping and parking where they should not, particularly on the double yellow lines around the school gates. This is not a minor inconvenience – it places our children, families, and staff at real risk. Visibility is reduced, crossings are blocked, and



children are forced to navigate unsafe situations simply because some drivers choose convenience over safety. We cannot stress this enough: no drop-off or pick-up is worth endangering a child's life. Please take the extra care to park safely and legally. The school will continue to monitor the situation closely, and will liaise with local authorities to ensure enforcement if necessary. We ask every member of our community to do their part: set a good example, respect the rules, and put the safety of our children first at all times.

# 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			
Thu 30 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Fireworks Event at school – <a href="#">Tickets here</a>	ALL	
November 2025			
Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Start of Term (Autumn 2)	ALL	
Fri 7 <sup>th</sup>	Prunus Class Assembly	Y6	
Tue 11 <sup>th</sup>	Remembrance Service – 10.45/Y2 Walking to the War Memorial	ALL	
Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	National Kindness Day	ALL	
Fri 14 <sup>th</sup>	Children In Need (Details to follow)	ALL	
Tue 18 <sup>th</sup>	Y6 Height & Weight Check	Y6	
Sat 29 <sup>th</sup>	PTA Christmas Fair	ALL	
Letter available / to follow		Please join us if you can 😊	Please note change of date

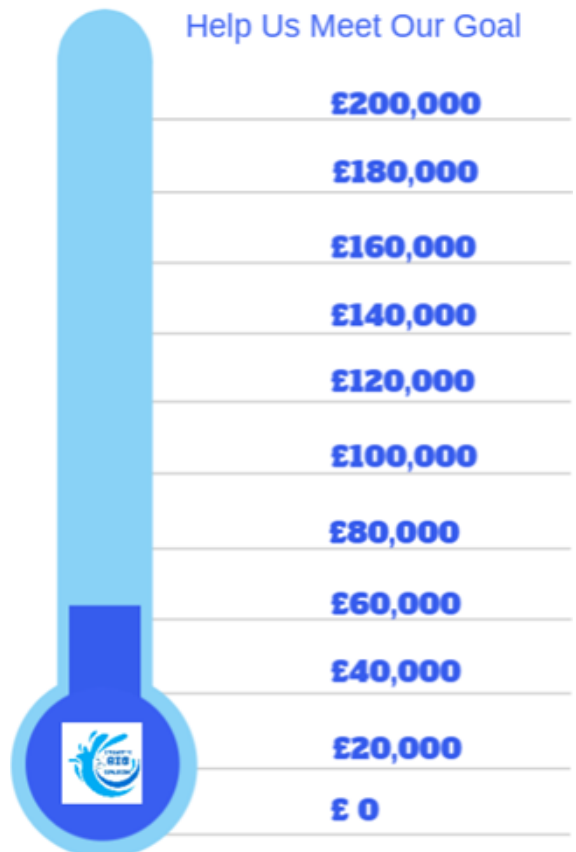
## BIG SPLASH UPDATE!

You can donate to our swimming pool project here:  
<https://justgiving.com/campaign/stokiesbigsplash>  
Together, we can make waves and build something amazing!

#SwimForAll

## Stokie's Big Splash!

Help Us Meet Our Goal



#CommunitySupport  
#MakeADifference  
#TogetherWeCa

#ThankYou  
#Fundraiser

Our BIG SPLASH fundraising campaign continues and the committee have lots of ideas of helping us reach our target for the pool. We have a very fancy totaliser which shows our progress and will be updated regularly through the newsletter after half term. If you can donate, please do. If you work for a company or organisation that can help or signpost our campaign, go for it. If you have any contacts or ideas, please don't hesitate to get in touch as we all work together to bring our school's dream to reality!

  
**FRIENDS OF  
STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**FIREWORK  
DISPLAY**

**THURSDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025**

GEORGE ROAD, STOKENCHURCH HP14 3RN

**PTA BAR**  
🍷🍷🍷 **SWEET TREATS & HOT DRINKS** 🍪🍪  
🌟🌟 **GLOW EMPORIUM** 🌟🌟  
🍔 **SCOUTS BBQ!** 🍔  
RAISING FUNDS FOR THEIR TRIP TO SLOVENIA

TICKET PRICES  
15/09 TILL MIDNIGHT 30/09\* - £7.50  
\*01/10 TILL MIDNIGHT 26/10\* - £9.50

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



Buckinghamshire Family Learning



FREE ONLINE SCHOOL COURSES for PARENTS and CARERS

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE → 01296 383582 OR SCAN the QR code or CLICK on the course code link below

RECEPTION (MATHS - 6 week online course) Develop your child's Early Maths Skills

9:30am - 11:30am
• Mon 3rd Nov - Mon 8th Dec
• Tue 4th Nov - Tue 9th Dec
• Thur 6th Nov - Thur 11th Dec

Choose from 1 of these 3 dates

Course code: FEMEM049



YEARS 1 & 2 (MATHS CONFIDENCE - 6 week online courses)

Tue 4th Nov - Tue 9th Dec 9:30am - 11:30am Support your child with Maths

Course code: FEMMN024



Mon 3rd Nov - Mon 8th Dec 7pm - 9pm Support your child's understanding of Shape, Data & Measure

Course code: FEMMS047



YEARS 3 & 4 (MATHS CONFIDENCE - 6 week online courses)

Mon 3rd Nov - Mon 8th Dec 9:30am - 11:30am Support your child with Geometry, Statistics & Measurement

Course code: FEMMS088



Wed 5th Nov - Wed 10th Dec 6:30pm - 8:30pm Support your child's Confidence with Numbers

Course code: FEMMN028



YEARS 1 - 6 (MONEY MATTERS - 4 week online course)

Wed 5th Nov - Wed 26th Nov 7pm - 9pm Help teach your child the value of Money

Course code: FEMMM100



social media icons and website links

Funded by UK Government



Buckinghamshire Family Learning



FREE ONLINE SCHOOL COURSES for PARENTS and CARERS

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE → 01296 383582 OR SCAN the QR code or CLICK on the course code link below

YEARS 3, 4 & 5 (2 hour online workshops) Advice for parents to support their children with the pressures & anxieties of the 11+ (Part 1)

6:30pm - 8:30pm
• Tue 4th Nov
• Tue 2nd Dec

Choose from 1 of these 2 dates

Course code: FMEP095



Expectations of the 11+ and useful information to support your child (Part 2)

6:30pm - 8:30pm
• Tue 11th Nov
• Tue 9th Dec

Choose from 1 of these 2 dates

Course code: FMEP096



YEARS 5 & 6

Thurs 6th Dec - Thurs 11th Dec 6:30pm - 8:30pm Support your child with MATHS - Fractions, Decimals & Percentages (6 week online course)

Course code: FMPD135



Using Books to help your child with Grammar, Vocabulary & Punctuation (2 hour online workshop)

6:30pm - 8:30pm
• Tue 18th Nov
• Tue 25th Nov

Choose from 1 of these 2 dates

Course code: FEMWG033



YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6 (WELLBEING)

Tue 9th Dec 12:30pm - 2:30pm

Help your child develop Self-Belief through Problem Solving (2 hour online workshop)

Course code: FEMWB021



Tue 4th Nov - Tue 2nd Dec 12:30pm - 2:30pm Support your child's Wellbeing (5 week online course)

Course code: FEMWB020



social media icons and website links

Funded by UK Government



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



Springbucks Gymnastics Club Holiday Camps advertisement featuring gymnasts, winter decorations, and camp dates: Wed 29th Oct, Mon 22nd Dec, Thurs 30th Oct, Tues 23rd Dec.