



# 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 260: 9<sup>th</sup> January 2026**



£65,246 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:

WELCOME BACK  
OUR AMAZON WISHLIST  
ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY  
SAFEGUARDING SLOT  
PROGRESS REPORTS  
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY  
AND MUCH MORE...

### ECO TICKER

Solar Panels  
produced = 89.87MWh  
CO<sub>2</sub> saved = 51.04t

### GOLDEN RULES

READY

RESPECTFUL

SAFE

😊 WE HAD LOTS OF FUN IN THE SNOW THIS WEEK 😊

### 😊 THINGS TO CELEBRATE 😊

ATTENDANCE	Holly & Prunus - 100%		Larch - 99.4%		Alder - 99.3%	
GOLDEN FOLDER	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	78	110	99	96	125	136
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD			Elm Class			



THIS TERM'S MUSIC TO WORK BY

[AMBIENT STUDY MUSIC](#)



# FROM THE HEAD'S CHAIR



You can donate to our swimming pool project here:

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

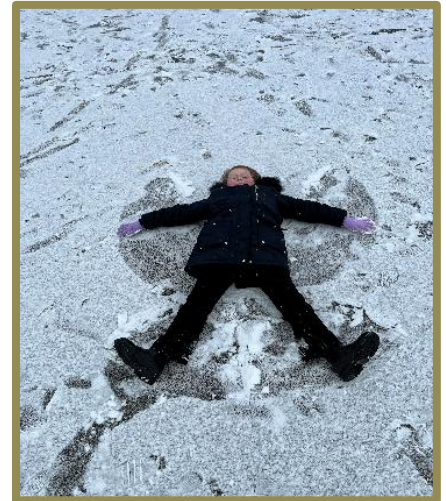
Together, we can make waves and build something amazing!

#SwimForAll #CommunitySupport #ThankYou #MakeADifference #Fundraiser #TogetherWeCan



## 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 too but I know lots of their holiday time has been spent preparing for this term and all the exciting events and activities coming up.



We are all looking forward to the term ahead and hope the weather warms up soon. The children have really enjoyed the wintery weather this week and (just in case) 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 the front page of our school website and the local authority website in the first instance. You will also receive a parent mail as early as possible.



Any decision to close the school, should it be needed, is only made if absolutely necessary and as a last resort. The decision is made based on local weather conditions, road conditions and safety, both for the school run and for staff getting to school. I follow advice from the local authority, liaise with other local schools and our school governors and keep a close eye on multiple weather forecasts to ensure that any decision taken is the right one. Please use

the link below should you be unsure...

<https://closures.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/check-if-your-school-is-closed/>

## INSET DAY

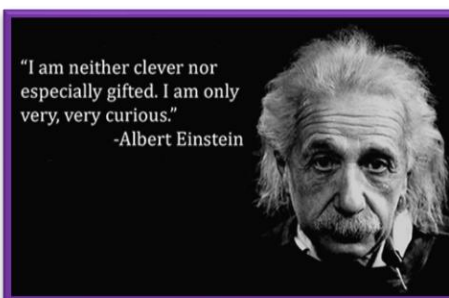
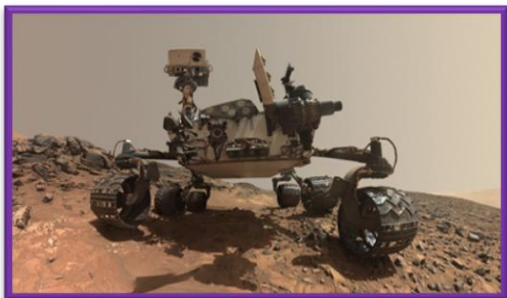
We had an INSET day on Monday, and amongst other things school staff spent time focusing on the school curriculum to ensure we are getting it right for every child. We talked about school lunches and will shortly be improving this important part of the day for your children even further and we received speech and language training which will prove to be invaluable for lots of our children.

## SCHOOL VALUES

This term we are focusing on the school value of being **CURIOS**. We are 'Aiming High' for all of our children all of the time and we had a special



assembly on Monday to explain what being 'curious' means and how important it is to our learning. It is a theme we will re-visit throughout the term and I encourage you to discuss curiosity with your children at home.



### ENGINEERING ASSEMBLY

This week we welcomed Gary Loak, an experienced civil engineer 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. Gary brought in parts of a train and a black box to show the children. The children now have the opportunity to



do?' national competition in which they have to design a machine or product of their own (In last year's competition we had 2 winners and 4 highly commended from our school). 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!

### PRE-LOVED UNIFORM UP FOR GRABS

We 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 are 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' continues to be 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!






## 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>









<b>SAFE ROUTE IN &amp; OUT OF SCHOOL</b>	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.	
<b>TESCO GRANTS</b>	We are fortunate to have recently received 2 grants from the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme. These will be used for playground redevelopment and educational resources. Thank you to everyone who voted for us in local Tesco stores 😊	
<b>PARENT COMMUNICATIONS</b>	We love receiving messages from parents, with the vast majority sharing pertinent information or saying thank you for something or other. Occasionally we might not get something as right as a parent or family hopes and we are always keen to identify these occasions and resolve them as quickly as possible. Our complaints policy is on the school website should you have something of concern to raise.	

## SAFEGUARDING: IT'S EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY. REMEMBER, IT COULD HAPPEN HERE (AND PROBABLY DOES).

**Are you concerned about a child?**

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

<p style="font-size: x-small;">Mr Nick Stevens Designated Safeguarding Officer Headteacher</p> 	<p style="font-size: x-small;">Mr Stephen Sloan Designated Safeguarding Lead Deputy Headteacher</p> 
<p style="font-size: x-small;">Mrs Francesca Avery Designated Safeguarding Officer SENCo</p> 	<p style="font-size: x-small;">Mrs Kat Warner Designated Safeguarding Officer Nursery Manager</p> 
<p style="font-size: x-small;">Miss Catherine Howland Designated Safeguarding Officer SENCo</p> 	<p style="font-size: x-small;">Mrs Judy Pope Designated Safeguarding Officer Administration Manager</p> 

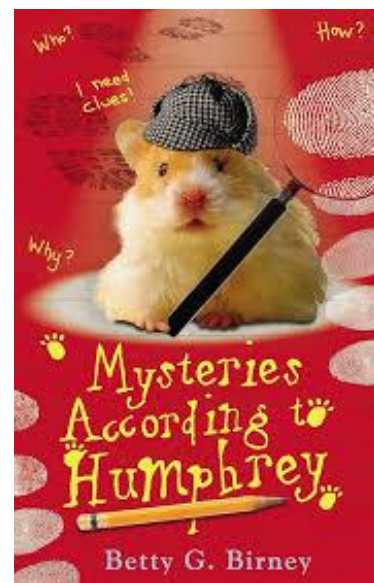
Please do not leave the site without sharing your concern, even if just a feeling.  
Remember, IT COULD HAPPEN HERE.

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. We have a dedicated email address solely for any concerns of this nature so that you can get in touch directly to our DSL team confidentially if needed. Please contact via [safeguarding@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk)

### HUMPHREY BOOKS STOCK RECALL

We have been informed by a local book shop that Faber has confirmed that their website advertised in some *Humphrey* books by Betty G. Birney, now redirects to a malicious site and is **not linked** to the author or publisher. Sales of the affected titles have been paused and the issue has been reported to the National Cyber Security Centre.

Parents and pupils are advised **not to visit the website**. We have been asked to **remove affected books from our book shelves** until replacement copies are available. Ebook versions have already been



updated. Faber apologises for any inconvenience caused.

The affected titles are eight books from the *Humphrey* series (ISBNs listed). Faber apologises for the inconvenience and distress caused.

- 978-0571282500 - Secrets According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328338 - Holidays According to Humphrey
- 978-0571248186 - Friendship According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328352 - Mysteries According to Humphrey
- 978-0571284191 - Spring According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328383 - Imagination According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328390 - World According to Humphrey
- 978-0571328369 - Christmas According to Humphrey

# 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 2026			
Fri 9th	Progress reports sent home to parents	All	
Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Holly Class Assembly	Y4	
Fri 30 <sup>th</sup>	Beech Class Assembly	Y1	
FEBRUARY 2026			
Fri 6 <sup>th</sup>	Elm Class Assembly	Y3	
W/b 9th	History Week	All	
Tue 10 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery Stay & Play, 10.15 & 14.15	F1	
Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>	Break up for Half Term @ normal finish time	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    #CommunitySupport    #ThankYou  
#MakeADifference #Fundraiser #TogetherWeCan

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!



## CONGRATULATIONS!

I would like to wish our warm congratulations to Mrs Clyne, who gave birth to baby Alfie during the holidays. Mum and baby are doing really well and we look forward to a visit when we have warmed up a little bit!

I'd also like to congratulate Miss Blandford who got married during the holidays. Officially she has become Mrs Lowe, but she is keeping her 'teacher name' at school. It was a lovely day and everything went to plan!

## Stokie's Big Splash!

Help Us Meet Our Goal



# COMMUNITY PAGES

**Buckinghamshire Family Learning**

**FREE ONLINE SCHOOL COURSE for PARENTS and CARERS of children in YEARS 1 & 2**

**SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH PHONICS & READING**  
**Course code: FMPR064**

Join our course for practical, fun ideas to boost your child's phonics(sound) knowledge, strengthen reading and spelling skills, and build confidence for the Phonics Screening Check

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January - Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February**  
 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
 Online

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January - Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February**  
 9:30am - 11:30am  
 Online

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE → 01296 383582 - Enrolment team or SCAN the QR code or CLICK on the course code link

FOR MORE INFORMATION → 07710 145234 - Nina

Funded by UK Government

**Buckinghamshire Family Learning**

**FREE ONLINE SCHOOL COURSE for PARENTS and CARERS of children in RECEPTION**

**SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH PHONICS & READING**  
**Course code: FMPR063**

Practical ways to boost your child's phonics skills and early reading through fun, child-friendly activities. You'll learn how phonics is taught and why it builds confidence and reading ability.

• Mon 12<sup>th</sup> Jan - Mon 9<sup>th</sup> Feb  
 • Tue 13<sup>th</sup> Jan - Tue 10<sup>th</sup> Feb  
 • Thur 15<sup>th</sup> Jan - Thur 12<sup>th</sup> Feb

Choose from 1 of these 3 dates

**9:30am - 11:30am**  
 Online

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE → 01296 383582 - Enrolment team or SCAN the QR code or CLICK on the course code link

FOR MORE INFORMATION → 07770 641997 - Kathryn

Funded by UK Government

**Buckinghamshire Family Learning**

**FREE ONLINE SCHOOL COURSE for PARENTS and CARERS of children in YEARS 5 & 6**

**SUPPORT YOUR CHILD WITH READING & COMPREHENSION**  
**Course code: FMRC091**

This course will give you practical ideas and free resources to build strong reading habits, boost your child's understanding of what they read and help build confidence for tests!

**Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> January - Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February**  
 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
 Online

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE → 01296 383582 - Enrolment team or SCAN the QR code or CLICK on the course code link

FOR MORE INFORMATION → 07814 305345 - Lou

Funded by UK Government

**Buckinghamshire Family Learning**

**FREE ONLINE SCHOOL COURSE for PARENTS and CARERS of children in YEARS 3, 4, 5 & 6**

**HAPPY, HEALTHY AND SAFE ONLINE-TIPS TO HELP YOUR CHILD**  
**Course code: FMWB090**

Help keep your child happy, healthy, and safe online - whether they're gaming, doing homework, or connecting with friends through activities. Learn how to start conversations and access key information to support them.

**Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**  
 12:30pm - 2:30pm  
 Online

TO BOOK YOUR PLACE → 01296 383582 - Enrolment team or SCAN the QR code or CLICK on the course code link

FOR MORE INFORMATION → 07770 641997 - Kathryn

Funded by UK Government