



Stokenchurch Primary School & Nursery

Newsletter Issue 4

1st October 2026

This term's school values are to spot our children who are:

READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE

Dates for your diary

Welcome to this week's newsletter.

What a fantastic assembly from 5 Larch last week! Their journey into space was packed with scientific knowledge, songs, drama, comedy and wonderfully enthusiastic performances. The children managed to inform, entertain and make us laugh, while showing us just how much they have been learning. They have certainly set a very high standard for class assemblies this academic year!

What particularly impressed me was the sheer amount of learning woven into the performance. Year 5's Earth and Space topic introduces some fascinating concepts, including the movement of the planets around the Sun, the Moon's orbit around Earth, and how Earth's rotation explains day and night. It is a topic that invites big questions, curiosity and wonder, and it was lovely to see the children bringing their enthusiasm for Science to an audience with such energy and imagination.

There was so much to enjoy: the singing, the acting, the humour and the effective use of props all helped to bring the subject to life. Combining that much information with an engaging performance takes considerable thought, preparation and teamwork. The children deserve enormous credit for the way they shared their learning and contributed to such an impressive class achievement.

The assembly also showed how learning can come together across the curriculum. Science provided the subject matter, while speaking and listening, music and drama gave the children different ways to communicate it. Explaining ideas, performing together and making an audience laugh are valuable skills in their own right, and it was a pleasure to see them used so effectively.

To produce an assembly of this quality so early in the school year is a real achievement. It offered a wonderful insight into the purposeful learning taking place in Year 5 and the care and effort going into it.

My thanks to the staff who supported and prepared the children, and a huge congratulations to every member of 5 Larch. You gave us an assembly full of knowledge, personality and joy, and you should feel very proud of yourselves. An absolutely brilliant start to this academic year's class assemblies!



Celebrating Mrs Brand's 25 Years at STOKENCHURCH

This term, we are delighted to celebrate twenty-five years of service to **STOKENCHURCH Primary School and Nursery** by Mrs Wendy Brand, who joined us in **September 2001**. This is a remarkable commitment to one school, and we want to recognise everything she continues to bring to our children, families and staff.

To mark this special milestone, Mr Sloan presented Mrs Brand with a card and gifts, including a silver pen commemorating her twenty-five years at **STOKENCHURCH**.

First and foremost, Mrs Brand is a fantastic class teacher. Her experience, encouragement and care help children overcome difficulties, take pride in their learning and discover what they can achieve. Alongside this, her pastoral



support makes a real difference. She gives children time, listens and offers reassurance, helping them feel understood, included and ready to learn.

And, of course, there is the music! Mrs Brand has helped our children perform at the Royal Albert Hall and the Wycombe Swan, filled our local church with carols and taken singing into the wider community, including to Chiltern Grange. Behind these experiences are hours of preparation, rehearsals and encouragement, together with her belief that every child should have the opportunity to take part. Her contribution to the school's Music Mark recognition has also been rightly acknowledged.

That same care extends to experiences such as the Isle of Wight residential, helping children develop confidence and independence. Mrs Brand is also a generous colleague, sharing her knowledge and supporting others as they develop their teaching.

Across twenty-five years, she has helped children learn, grow and make memories they will carry with them. On behalf of our children, families, staff and governors, thank you, Mrs Brand, for your dedication and the care you give every day. We are very fortunate to have you.

Thank you for the music — and for everything else you bring to **STOKENCHURCH**.



Year 5 & Year 6 take on the Bebras Challenge

Over the next few weeks, our Year 5 and Year 6 pupils will be preparing for the national [Bebras Challenge](#), which introduces students to computational thinking and logical problem-solving through interactive online puzzles. The children will complete a practice session in class to build their confidence before taking part in the official competition this November. This is one of the starter puzzles aimed at 8-9 year olds. Please see [this leaflet](#) for further details about the challenge.

Emil has 6 coins:



He put the coins on top of each other to make a triangle shape.

Question:

Which was the fourth coin Emil put down?
(Click on the coin and then press Save.)



Meet Your Governing Board

Who We Are and What We Do

You may have seen the word "governors" in school letters and wondered what it means. We're a team of volunteers, including parents, staff, and members of the local community, who help steer the school's direction and make sure it's the best it can be for every child.

The headteacher and staff run the school day to day. Our job is to look at the bigger picture. We focus on three main things:

1. Setting the direction: working with the headteacher to agree the school's vision, values and long-term priorities.
2. Asking the right questions: supporting and challenging the school to make sure every child is learning, making progress and thriving.
3. Looking after the money: checking that the school's budget is spent wisely and in the children's best interests.

We also make sure the school meets its legal responsibilities, including keeping children safe, supporting pupils with special educational needs, and treating everyone fairly.

We visit the school regularly, meet as a board throughout the year, and listen to what parents, pupils and staff tell us. We think of ourselves as a "critical friend": we're here to encourage and support, and also to ask the difficult questions when they need asking.

If you'd like to find out more, share your views, or are interested in becoming a governor yourself, please contact us via the school office at office@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk. We'd love to hear from you.

Gary Murton, Co-Chair of Governors, on behalf of the Governing Board



STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY
AIMING HIGH ... FLYING HIGHER
Everything we do makes a difference to our children; empowering minds and shaping futures.
01494 482112 office@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk @stokenchurchps George Road, HP14 3RN

RECEPTION OPEN DAYS
For children starting Reception in September 2027

Wednesday 30th September: 9:15am – 10:45am
Monday 5th October: 9:15am – 10:45am

Discover Our Early Years' Experience

Reception Open Days

Please help us spread the word about **STOKENCHURCH!**

We have so much to be proud of, and we want more families to hear about our school and come and see it for themselves. Your recommendations and conversations with friends, neighbours and colleagues can make a real difference.

Our first Reception Open Morning yesterday was a great success and we have another booked for Monday 5th October 2026, from 9:15am–10:45am. New, current and prospective families are warmly welcome.



What to Expect During Your Visit:

- Enjoy a brief presentation about our school, followed by a guided tour
- Meet our caring, experienced teachers and dedicated leadership team
- Discover our rich Early Years curriculum and exciting learning opportunities across our school
- Explore our bright, purpose-built Early Years classrooms and outdoor learning areas

No need to book, just turn up!
We look forward to welcoming you and your child to our school.

READY RESPECTFUL SAFE RESILIENT CURIOUS CONFIDENT INDEPENDENT SUCCESSFUL

Please share the poster as widely as you possibly can: on social media, in WhatsApp and community groups, with friends and family, and through your workplaces. You never know who might be looking for a school or know someone who is.

Every share, conversation and recommendation helps. Thank you for your support.

Important Messages

Harvest Festival

We would be very grateful to receive any food donations for the residents of St Hugh's Close. Collection boxes will be available in the school reception area from **Friday 2nd October until Thursday 8th October**.

Suggested items include:

- Tinned goods
- Biscuits and cakes
- Fresh fruit and vegetables (Please note: to keep fresh produce in top condition, please wait until Thursday 8th October to drop these off)

See ParentMail letter for more details.



Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings

Bookings are now open for parent/carers meetings with your child's class teacher(s) on Tuesday 13th October and Thursday 15th October. This evening has a pastoral focus and helps establish strong relationships between staff and families about how children are settling, learning and feeling.

End-of-Day

For parents/carers who collect a younger sibling (EYFS, KS1) and then wait to collect an older sibling in KS2 at 3.30pm, we politely ask that you closely supervise your child(ren) during the intervening time.

Children should not be using school equipment during this time, or riding their scooter or bicycle on the playground or at the front of the school.

Thank you.

School Photographs

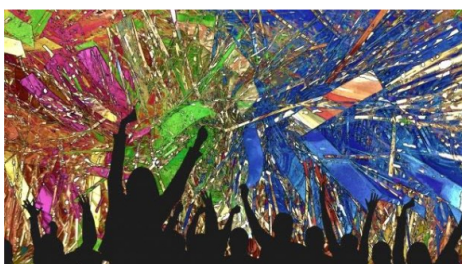
The school photographer will be in on two dates this term to take individual and sibling photographs.

19th October — Nursery, Reception, Year 1 to Year 5

9th November — Year 6

Please note: As Year 6 will be away on their residential trip on 19th October, any sibling photos involving a Year 6 child will take place on 9th November.

Things to Celebrate



Attendance this week:

1. Lime - 100%
2. Chestnut - 99.2%
3. Alder - 99.1%

Golden Headteacher's Awards

112 awards given this week!

Safeguarding Slot

Are you concerned about a child?

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

Mr Stephen Sloan
Designated Safeguarding Lead
Acting Headteacher

Mrs Samantha Elliott
Designated Safeguarding Officer
Acting Deputy Headteacher

Mrs Francesca Avery
Designated Safeguarding Officer
SENCo

Mrs Kat Warner
Designated Safeguarding Officer
EYFS Lead

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.
Speak to one of the DSLs or email safeguarding@stokenchurchprimary.bucks.sch.uk

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.

Health & Wellbeing

6 Ways to Support Your Child's Mental Health and Wellbeing

Using NHS Guidance at <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters/supporting-others/childrens-mental-health/#signs-child-struggling>

- 01 BE THERE TO LISTEN**
Regularly ask your child how they're doing, to help them get used to talking about their feelings, and know there's always someone there to listen. You can get tips on [Young Minds: How to talk to your child about mental health](#).
- 02 STAY INVOLVED**
Show interest in their life and what's important to them. It not only helps them value who they are but also makes it easier for you to spot problems and support them.
- 03 SUPPORT THEM THROUGH DIFFICULTIES**
Pay attention to how your child is feeling or behaving and try to help them work through difficulties. It may not be easy facing challenging behaviour, but try to help them understand what they're feeling and why. Learn more from [the Maudsley Charity on difficult behaviour](#).
- 04 ENCOURAGE THEIR INTERESTS**
Support and encourage your child to explore their interests. Being active or creative, learning new things and being a part of a team helps connect us and boost our mental wellbeing.
- 05 TAKE WHAT THEY SAY SERIOUSLY**
Listening to and valuing what they say makes them feel valued. Consider how to help them work through their emotions in constructive ways. [Anna Freud Centre's guide on ways to support children and young people](#) has more on this.
- 06 BUILD POSITIVE ROUTINES**
Try to have structure around regular routines, especially around healthy eating and exercise. A good night's sleep is also important, so have a fixed time for going to bed and getting up. The [Sleep Charity has relaxation sleep tips for children](#).

 Stokenchurch Primary School and Nursery Wellbeing Team

PTA

Pumpkin Competition - 19th & 20th Oct 2026

PTA Fireworks Event - 30th October 2026

Come and join us for our firework display — tickets available [here!](#)

STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

PUMPKIN COMPETITION EXTRAVAGANZA!

George Road, HP14 3RN

DROP-OFF
Mon 19th & Tues 20th Oct
at the Flagpole

£1 ENTRY PER PUMPKIN

FLASHY WANDS, GLOW STICKS & MORE FOR SALE!

LICENCED BAR

HOT FOOD

Gates open from 5.30pm
Fireworks at 7.15pm

TICKET PRICE RELEASES
(BUY EARLY & SAVE!)

16 AUGUST onwards:	£6
1st SEPT onwards:	£7.50
15th SEPT onwards:	£8.50
1st OCT onwards:	£9.50
15th OCT onwards:	£10.50

BUY TICKETS HERE:
<https://www.ticketsource.com/friends-of-stokenchurch-middle-school/t-oevma00>

DON'T MISS OUT! GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Organised by Stokenchurch Primary School PTA

STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL PTA

FIREWORK DISPLAY EXTRAVAGANZA!

George Road, HP14 3RN

Friday 30th October

FLASHY WANDS, GLOW STICKS & MORE FOR SALE!

LICENCED BAR

HOT FOOD

Gates open from 5.30pm
Fireworks at 7.15pm

TICKET PRICE RELEASES
(BUY EARLY & SAVE!)

16 AUGUST onwards:	£6
1st SEPT onwards:	£7.50
15th SEPT onwards:	£8.50
1st OCT onwards:	£9.50
15th OCT onwards:	£10.50

BUY TICKETS HERE:
<https://www.ticketsource.com/friends-of-stokenchurch-middle-school/t-oevma00>

DON'T MISS OUT! GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Organised by Stokenchurch Primary School PTA

Autumn Disco - 4th November 2026

Buy your tickets on ParentPay - available now!



Autumn Disco

Wednesday 4th November 2026

Years 1, 2 & 3 - 5pm-6.15pm
Years 4, 5 & 6 - 6.30pm-7.45pm

Includes drinks & snacks with a treat to take home!



£5
via parentpay or on the door

No Mobiles or ipods allowed

Dates for your Diary

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

For a full list of dates, please see our calendar on the [school website](#). Scroll down to see more dates. To subscribe to the calendar so you can view it on your phone, please click on Subscribe at the top of the [Calendar](#) page on our website.

Oct – Nov 2026				  Schedule ▾	
1	OCT, THU				
2	OCT, FRI	● 9 – 9:30am	4 Hazel Class Assembly		
5	OCT, MON	● 9:15 – 10:45am	Reception Open Morning (for 2027 starters)		
9	OCT, FRI	● All day	Secondary Transfer Test Results		
13	OCT, TUE	● 5 – 8pm	Parent/Carer Consultation Evening		
15	OCT, THU	● 3:45 – 6:45pm	Parent/Carer Consultation Evening		
16	OCT, FRI	● 9 – 9:30am	3 Elm Class Assembly		
19	OCT, MON	● All day ● All day ● All day	Year 6 PGL Little Canada, Isle of Wight residential (Day 1/5) PTA Pumpkin Competition Drop Off (Day 1/2) Individual & sibling photographs - Nursery to Y5		
20	OCT, TUE	● All day ● All day	Year 6 PGL Little Canada, Isle of Wight residential (Day 2/5) PTA Pumpkin Competition Drop Off (Day 2/2)		
21	OCT, WED	● All day	Year 6 PGL Little Canada, Isle of Wight residential (Day 3/5)		
22	OCT, THU	● All day ● 2:30 – 3:10pm	Year 6 PGL Little Canada, Isle of Wight residential (Day 4/5) Nursery & Reception Makaton Singing Assembly (for parents/carers) School hall		
23	OCT, FRI	● All day ● All day	Year 6 PGL Little Canada, Isle of Wight residential (Day 5/5) End of term 1 (finish normal time)		
24	OCT, SAT	● All day	October half term holiday (Day 1/9)		
25	OCT, SUN	● All day	October half term holiday (Day 2/9)		
26	OCT, MON	● All day	October half term holiday (Day 3/9)		

Add to Google Calendar Google Calendar

Community Area

Click to view each poster in more detail.



Fun for all and supporting our school!

AMAZING ACTS
CIRCUS FUN
GAMES
FOOD & DRINKS
FUN FOR EVERYONE!

LAUGHTER, THRILLS & MEMORIES TO LAST A LIFETIME!

Partners:

BLACK LIVES IN MUSIC
making music
mia
MUSIC TEACHERS
MUSIC MARK
ROCKSCHOOL
Take it away

BE PART OF THE TEAM

MONTHLY SUBS FROM £10.00

WELCOMING MATCH PLAYING CHILDREN AGED 6 AND ABOVE
TRAINING SESSIONS FOR CHILDREN AGED 4 & 5
LOOKING FOR ENTHUSIASTIC COACHES TO RUN YOUNGER SESSIONS.
ALL TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED
WE RUN MIXED TEAMS OF BOTH BOYS AND GIRLS, OF ALL ABILITIES, IN A NO PRESSURE ENVIRONMENT.
VARIOUS FUN SOCIAL EVENTS RUN THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.
COACHED BY QUALIFIED, DBS CHECKED COACHES TO A HIGH STANDARD
MEMBERS OF THE BUCKS & HERTS FA

ACCREDITED
Part of Premier Football

AT SFC WE WANT YOU TO HAVE FUN, MAKE FRIENDS & PLAY FOOTBALL

Chairman Adam - 07528 579400
hello@wearesjfc.co.uk
www.wearesjfc.co.uk
StokenchurchJuniorsFc
Stokenchurchjuniors
Stokenjuniorsfc

The Pop-up Pumpkin Patch

PYO PUMPKINS

23RD - 31ST OCTOBER
11AM - 3PM
STOKENCHURCH HP14 3YF

FREE ENTRY - NO BOOKING REQUIRED
TRACTOR & TRAILER RIDES - CAFE - KIDS PLAY AREA
FREE PARKING

The Daisy Collective

STOKENCHURCH - DUCKINGHAMSHIRE

Movement made for everyone

Inclusive junior fitness classes built to welcome all from day one.

AGES 5 - 12
Have a child aged 5-12?
Sign up to one of our **free** taster sessions here:

TEENS 13+ & ADULTS
Teen & Adult classes
Join the **waiting list** to find out more:

thedaisycollective.co.uk @thedaisycollectiveuk

