



STOKENCHURCH PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY



AIMING HIGH ... FLYING HIGHER

Everything we do makes a difference to our children; empowering minds and shaping futures.



STOKENCHURCH STAR



4-PAGE ECO CHALLENGE



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www.stokenchurchprimary.co.uk

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THIS TERM'S SCHOOL VALUES ARE TO SPOT OUR CHILDREN WHO ARE:

CURIOUS

THIS WEEK:

WELCOME BACK
MYSTERY OBJECT
MYSTERY DONATOR
NEW HOUSES
CAN YOU HELP?
IMPORTANT MESSAGES
DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
AND MUCH MORE... 😊

ECO TICKER

Solar Panels
MWh produced = 77.60
CO₂ saved = 44.07t

GOLDEN RULES

READY
RESPECTFUL
SAFE

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This term we want to catch you being...

CURIOUS

😊 SO WHAT HAVE WE GOT IN STORE FOR THIS TERM? 😊

😊 THINGS TO CELEBRATE 😊

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK	Alder		Ash		Beech	
	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	60	147	98	79	117	114
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD WINNERS				To be announced next week!		



FROM THE HEAD'S CHAIR



WELCOME BACK! 😊

Welcome back to a new year and a new term at **STOKENCHURCH**. I hope everyone had a great break and enjoyed some well-deserved down time with friends and family. We are right at the start of term but there is lots to share with you so here we go...



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 you will see your new vision statement popping up everywhere, including in our weekly Star newsletter. We have discussed this value in assembly (more about that later) and children have definitely been demonstrating their curiosity in their learning already this week. In computing



in Y1 the children were challenged in pairs to get their Beebot from one side of the classroom into the masking tape square by selecting the appropriate commands. They worked and communicated brilliantly and were really resilient to solve the puzzle and be successful. Thank you to Mrs Whelan for sharing the photos and setting the challenge! Following some training from



Mrs Brind on Monday, we will be looking this year at how we can help more children to be quicker and more accurate with knowing their times tables. This is a hugely valuable (life) skill and the children in Y3 have enjoyed playing the 'Multiplication Poster Game' as a part of their learning this week. They have also been learning about pushes and pulls as a part of their science learning on forces. This learning is interactive, active, fast paced and impacts on the children's experiences....and these are happening in every class almost every day. Thank you to Mrs Smye for sharing what Elder class have been up to!

NEW SCHOOL WEBSITE

Our new school website launched just before Christmas and we have had nearly 12,000 visits already - from all over the world! I am proud of the

quality and range of information we have available about our school and I know this will continue to grow. Thank you to the parents, staff and governors who helped to test it before we launched and I hope you find it a useful source of information as needed.

MYSTERY NOMINATOR...THANK YOU! 😊

Before the Christmas break, Mrs Warner received an email to say that Acorns Class had been nominated as the BEST nursery in the area and had won a special prize - an amazing Brio table! The nominations were anonymous so we would like to send a huge thank you to whoever may have been involved in nominating us. We are truly grateful. When the Brio table arrived just before we broke up for the Christmas holidays, Miss Masterton set herself the challenge of building it ready for January. And I am pleased to say the challenge was successfully completed, and only in a few hours! It now has pride of place in our small world area and has been thoroughly enjoyed by all of our Nursery children this week. Thank you again our mystery nominator!



NEW SCHOOL HOUSES

Following work by our school council, we have this term launched the new names and logos for our school houses. The suggestions for new names were invited from all children and the school council have decided to go with the elemental theme. Our new houses are named below and we are excited by the new themes and how we plan to embed them at school. Over the next few weeks, we will be choosing charities to go with each house so the children will have a focus and an opportunity to champion support for those charities. We will also be choosing one (or two) 'House Champions' for each house, well known current figures who are role models who the children can learn about and be inspired by. Thank you to Ms Linfield for working with the school council on this aspect of school life!



FIRE	WATER	AIR	EARTH
Previously Raleigh	Previously Drake	Previously Nelson	Previously Grenville

Whilst I appreciate that our previous house names have been in place for many years and many of our families have a long affinity with them, I feel it is important to engage our children as much as possible and give them a voice. Their choice will help to refresh our house system, motivate curiosity, become more meaningful and more relevant to the children and I know with the plans we have, they will inspire!

CURIOUS ASSEMBLY




On the theme of 'Curiosity' I presented the school with a challenge in assembly on Monday either to ask a question (on a theme you are curious about) or to help me identify something that was handed to me. I have no idea what it is or what it is used for and don't want to dispose of it in case it is important! The children have been invited to assist by trying to find out and their answers can go in the box in the ICT suite. I have already had dozens of questions (and suggestions of what the mystery object could be!) and I hope to respond with the answers in assembly next week!


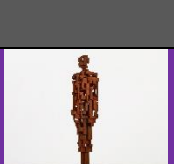



SCULPTURE CLUB

We started our new sculpture club yesterday and had the chance to create doves of peace from paper plates and masking tape. The children tackled the challenge confidently and were pleased with the results! I'm looking forward to more creative challenges in the weeks to come!

IMPORTANT MESSAGES

NEW WEBSITE GOES LIVE!	We are excited to announce our new school website is now LIVE!: stokenchurchprimary.co.uk - Here you should be able to find all the information you need about our school including upcoming events and year group information. To subscribe to our new website calendar (e.g. to get the dates in your phone calendar), please follow instructions on the Calendar page. Thank you to Mrs Whelan for all her hard work – it looks amazing! 😊	
LATE ARRIVALS	Reminder that school starts at 8.30am for F1, 8.40am for F2 and 8.45am for Year 1 to 6. Many children are regularly arriving at 9am or later, this means lost learning time and disrupts the learning of others. Please ensure your child arrives in school on time	
LUNCH REMINDER	Bookings for lunches must be made by midnight on Tuesday for the following week. No bookings can be made after the deadline.	

PARENTMAIL	If you find ParentMail emails going to your spam/junk folder, please change your account settings to mark ParentMail as a safe sender. Please also add info@parentmail.co.uk to your contact address book to avoid missing out on important communications.	
CURRENT VACANCIES	We currently have a full-time admin / receptionist vacancy in school. For more information, please visit the vacancies section on our website.	
SPRINGBUCKS GATE OPEN	To help keep you safe, we will from next week ensure the pedestrian gate is open to the school garden when you are dropping off early for Springbucks Gym club. Please use this rather than the car park vehicle gates. Thank you.	
PARKING PROMISE	Following a report of some unsavoury behaviour from one of our parents towards a local resident before Christmas, I am again reminding all of us to be considerate and safe when parking for the school run. Thank you.	
POLYTUNNEL HELPERS	We have secured a polytunnel and gardening equipment for our school. If you are able to spare an afternoon to help Mr Rose and I put it all together, please do let me know by contacting the school office. Thank you! 😊	
LOVELY LIBRARY LADIES	I would like to thank our brilliant parent volunteers who are now collectively offering 10+ hours per week to help keep our library amazing for the children and to listen to our children read. It makes a huge difference!	
CHILDREN'S COMMISSIONER SURVEY	This 'Big Ambition' survey from the Children's Commissioner will make sure that the children and young people of High Wycombe are fairly represented in the results and can share their views with policy makers ahead of the General Election. Children and parents or carers can complete the survey here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition	
SCULPTURE CLUB LIST	I have started a sculpture club this term and any donations of cardboard tubes, clean 4l milk bottles or egg boxes would be very helpful. Thank you in advance for your support... Mr Stevens 😊	
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD	From this week, the lunch service team will be awarding a special award to the class who demonstrate the best conduct and manners in the hall at lunch time. Each week the winner will receive a special certificate in assembly, be recognised in the newsletter and have a small class treat. I look forward to seeing who our first winners will be next week!	
WEATHER WARNING	Depending on which forecast you trust, we may be in for some snow next week. If there are any conditions that may affect a school closure, we will inform you via Parentmail, the website (or both) as early as possible.	

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 2024			
Thu 25 th	Cherry class assembly 9am	Y2	
Tue 30 th	Safer Internet Day	All	
FEBRUARY			
Thu 1 st	Holly class assembly 9am	Y4	
5 th - 8 th	KS2 History week	All	
Fri 9 th	School closes for half term (usual time)	All	
Mon 19 th	School returns today	All	
Thu 22 nd	Prunus Class Assembly	Y6	
Thu 29 th	Larch Class Assembly	Y5	
Letter available / to follow	Please join us if you can 😊	Please note change of date / info.	