



# 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



## ISSUE 186: 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2024

[www.stokenchurchprimary.co.uk](http://www.stokenchurchprimary.co.uk)

[@stokenchurchps](https://twitter.com/stokenchurchps)



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

## CURIOUS



### THIS WEEK:

- HOLLY CLASS ASSEMBLY
- GARSINGTON AUDITIONS
- ROAD SAFETY
- INTERNET SAFETY
- SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE
- IMPORTANT MESSAGES
- DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
- AND MUCH MORE... 😊

### ECO TICKER

Solar Panels  
 MWh produced = 77.74  
 CO<sub>2</sub> saved = 44.16t

### GOLDEN RULES

READY

RESPECTFUL

SAFE

😊 Y6 LEARNED ABOUT PERSUASIVE DESIGN DURING INTERNET SAFETY DAY 😊

### 😊 THINGS TO CELEBRATE 😊

ATTENDANCE THIS WEEK	Alder		Holly		Elm	
	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
	90	178	145	96	156	118
KITE'S KITCHEN AWARD WINNERS				ALDER CLASS		



# FROM THE HEAD'S CHAIR



## ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOPS



This week we had another series of road safety workshops, designed by our friends at the Hazard Alley Safety Centre in Milton Keynes, and delivered to children in school, thanks to the support of the PTA. Children learned about the importance of being safe

when out and about and the interactive sessions were fun and really engaging. Thank you to the children for getting involved with such enthusiasm about this important life skill!

### HOLLY CLASS ASSEMBLY

Holly class delivered a brilliant assembly about their science work and the states of matter on Thursday morning. We learned about solids, liquids and gases, shared lots of their work and listened to songs designed to help the information 'stick'. We were very proud of them – well done Miss Nixey!



### GARSINGTON AUDITIONS

44 children auditioned to become a member Garsington's Youth Company Opera this week. Composed by Andrew Norman, 'A Trip to the Moon' is based on the 1902 film of the same name by Georges Méliès; this is a fun and family-friendly production featuring a tour de

force of hapless astronomer escapades and Moonish antics! The children were brave and confident and an incredible 20 children were successful and now have the opportunity to take part in a real operatic performance on the stage at Garsington. Thank you to Mrs Brand for organising the opportunity and well done to all the children who took part.



### NURSERY UPDATE

To link with this week's nursery rhyme 'Polly put the kettle on', the children in Nursery have been exploring what happens when we boil water using an electric kettle and a saucepan on a stove. They showed a great understanding of safety when identifying the potential dangers when working with boiling water, and discussed lots of ideas on how to keep safe when helping to risk assess the different activities. We

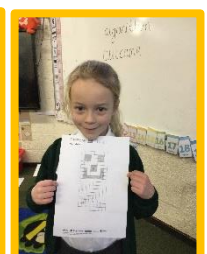
are so proud of how each of the children safely explored how to make a cup of tea for the Gruffalo and a cup of hot chocolate for themselves. The fun didn't stop there, for our baking this week the children turned solid chocolate into liquid by melting it over a saucepan in the stove and mixing it with coco pops to make Gruffalo paws! What amazing scientists we have!



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### SAFER INTERNET DAY

On Tuesday we celebrated Safer Internet Day with our Computing Curriculum Day. Children across the school completed various online safety activities from understanding how companies use persuasive



tools to attract consumers, to comparing the internet to a magic window and imagining what we would like to see. In addition, pupils developed their Computational thinking skills, taking part in 'barefoot' (device-free) activities such as using binary to draw pixels to create images or giving instructions to build Lego without being able to see the steps visually. For parents/carers, there are lots of helpful tips and advice for keeping your children safe online at [UK Safer Internet Centre](https://www.saferinternet.org.uk).



### SCHOOL COUNCIL UPDATE



## FIRE

## WATER

## AIR

## EARTH

Our school council met yesterday and in the pipeline they have a number of initiatives planned. Following the launch of our new houses, each house will choose a partner charity to support and work with throughout the year. The children will create a list of options and the school will vote for each house. We will also link each house with a 'house hero', an inspirational person who supports the theme and values of each house and can be a focus across the school. These will be chosen in the same way. Finally, with a general election looming at some point this year, the school council will be leading on democracy, what the process is and why we have them. Watch this space...

## IMPORTANT MESSAGES

<b>CURRENT VACANCIES</b>	We currently have a full-time admin / receptionist and a midday supervisor vacancy in school. For more information, please visit the vacancies section on our website.	
<b>FUN MOUSE GAME</b>	One of our children have designed their own game to help children practise their motor skills. Here's a link if you'd like to give it a try!	 
<b>LATE CHILDREN</b>	We are seeing a gentle trickle of children who are arriving a few minutes late each morning. Please ensure that your children are here on time to reduce the impact on their own and others' learning. Thank you!	
<b>WORLD THINKING DAY THURSDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY</b>	World Thinking Day is a global event where children are encouraged to celebrate international friendship, and speak out and raise awareness for issues facing young women and girls. Each year World Thinking Day has a theme, between 2022 and 2024, the theme is on the Environment and Climate Change. World Thinking Day is celebrated around the world by 10 million Girl Guides and Girl Scouts in 150 countries. Additionally, some boy-orientated organisations also celebrate this day. If you are a Girl Guide, Brownie or Rainbow, you can wear your special uniform on Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> February.	
<b>UNIFORM / PE KIT</b>	Please can I remind children and parents that we request children to wear a PE kit in line with our school uniform policy. Bring your kit on Monday and take it home on Friday – that way you'll have it if you need it. Our PE kit uniform is listed on the school website <a href="#">here</a> as a reminder. Thank you.	
<b>EARRINGS</b>	With the exception of wristwatches, pupils are not allowed to wear <b>ANY</b> jewellery. Parents who wish to have their child's ears pierced are advised that this should be done at the beginning of the 6 weeks summer holiday. To avoid the loss of PE lessons, to ensure your child's safety and that of others, any earring that needs to remain in due to recent piercing, needs to be taped by parents prior to arrival at school. Given the length of the summer break, it is expected that the very latest this may be necessary is October half term. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.	
<b>HISTORY DAY HELPERS</b>	Our history days are next week and we have a few year groups who need parent volunteers to help support the day and enable the children to get the most out of it. If you are a Y4 or Y5 parent and can help on Monday or Thursday next week, please get in touch!	
<b>TOY CARS &amp; FANCY DRESS?</b>	Our Reception children are enthralled by cars and dressing up at the moment. If you have any toy vehicles or dressing up clothes languishing in a cupboard at home, give them a new lease of life so they can be enjoyed by dropping them into school. Thank you 😊	

# 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.

FEBRUARY				
Thu 1 <sup>st</sup>	Holly class assembly 9am		Y4	
5 <sup>th</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup>	KS2 History week		All	
5 <sup>th</sup> - 11 <sup>th</sup>	Children's Mental Health Week		All	
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	Nursery stay for a story 11am & 3pm		N	
Fri 9 <sup>th</sup>	School closes for half term (usual time)		All	
Mon 19 <sup>th</sup>	School returns today		All	
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Prunus Class Assembly 9am		Y6	
Thu 22 <sup>nd</sup>	World Thinking Day - Girl Guide / Brownie / Rainbow uniforms (optional)		All	
Thu 29 <sup>th</sup>	Larch Class Assembly 9am		Y5	
Letter available / to follow		Please join us if you can ☺	Please note change of date / info.	

## COMMUNITY PAGE

ONLINE SAFETY TIPS FOR PARENTS	SPRINGBUCKS	HIGH WYCOMBE RUGBY	BIG GREEN LEAF	CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK
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**My VOICE MATTERS**  
TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

Are you a parent or carer who wants to talk to your child about mental health?

This Children's Mental Health Week we want all children and young people, wherever they are and whenever they are in the world, to be able to say... and believe... "My Voice Matters".

We visited primary and secondary schools to ask children what they wanted from the week - so help shape the activities we create for schools, the messaging we give to teachers, the messages we give to other children, and the advice we give to parents, carers and families.

**LOOKING FOR FREE PRACTICAL ADVICE TO HELP YOU SUPPORT YOUR CHILD?**  
Parenting Smart, Place2Be's site for parents and carers, is full of expert advice and tips on supporting primary-age children, and managing their behaviour, and act on their views.  
[PARENTINGSMART.ORG.UK]

**WHAT MATTERS TO YOU? CREATIVE VIDEO ACTIVITIES FOR FAMILIES**  
These wellbeing activities can help children and young people think about and share what matters to them.  
[PARENTINGSMART.ORG.UK]

**Here's what children and young people told us they need from you:**

- We don't need to have 'one-off' conversations about our mental health - sometimes a chat on a journey or at bedtime is enough.
- I need to know it's okay to talk to you about any and all of my feelings. Please hear what I have to say without interrupting me.
- Please listen to me carefully and acknowledge how I am feeling - it might seem silly to you but what I am going through is important to me.
- Playing with pets can make me feel better. Same with playing football, basketball or whatever type of sport I am into.
- Don't compare my experiences to your own when you were a child.
- Sometimes I just need you to listen and hear what I'm saying - I don't always need answers (or lectures).
- Please don't worry about trying to fix things for me - I often just need to know you are there for me and understand what I am going through.
- If you are open with me about your feelings, this can help me to be more open about mine.
- Sometimes I don't want to talk. Please trust that I will come to you (or another grown-up or someone my own age) when I'm ready. Sometimes it's easier for me to talk to someone nearer my own age - my siblings, cousins, friends, younger teachers at school - because they 'get it'.
- Sometimes a hug is all it takes to make me feel supported.

CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK

**My VOICE MATTERS**  
TALKING TO YOUR CHILD ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH

**CONVERSATION STARTERS**  
Some ways to start a conversation with your child about mental health could be...

TELL ME ABOUT YOUR DAY

WHAT WAS THE BEST THING ABOUT TODAY?

WHAT IS THE BIGGEST STRESS / WORRY IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?

WHAT'S YOUR ONLINE LIFE LIKE?

WHO WOULD YOU TALK TO IF YOU WERE FEELING WORRIED ABOUT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH?

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP YOU?

CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK

**HIGH WYCOMBE RUGBY UNION FOOTBALL CLUB**  
KINGSMOOR ROAD HP11 1JB

TEAMWORK - RESPECT - ENJOYMENT - DISCIPLINE - SPORTSMANSHIP

**YOUTH RUGBY EVERY SUNDAY**  
SEPTEMBER TO MAY FROM 10AM

MINI RUGBY FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 5-12

JUNIOR RUGBY FOR BOYS & GIRLS AGED 13-18

With DBS and RFU-Approved Coaches

**WE OFFER A 4 WEEK FREE TRIAL SO WHY NOT COME AND GIVE IT A TRY**

Sign Up Using The QR Code, email us at [join@hwrufc.com](mailto:join@hwrufc.com) or follow the link below <https://hwrufc.com/childrens-registration-form>

CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK

**SPRINGBUCKS GYMNASTICS CLUB**

**Half Term & Easter Gym Camp**  
Bookings Now Open!

**HAZLEMERE CAMPS - 14<sup>th</sup> Feb & 3<sup>rd</sup> / 10<sup>th</sup> April**  
Hazlemere Youth Centre, Rose Avenue, HP15 7UB

**MARLOW CAMP - 15<sup>th</sup> Feb & 4<sup>th</sup> / 11<sup>th</sup> April**  
Court Garden Leisure Centre, Marlow, SL7 2RE

OPEN TO CHILDREN OF ALL ABILITIES & EXPERIENCE, AGED 4 - 12 YEARS

Times: Mornings 9am - 12 noon (£16)  
Lunch Club\* 12 - 1pm (£3.00)  
Afternoons 1.00pm - 4.00pm (£16)

\*Bring packed lunch, supervised free play time

Our camps are a great mix of gymnastics and trampolining as well as lots of fun and games!

**BOOK IN VIA OUR WEBSITE SHOP TODAY - [www.springbucks.co.uk](http://www.springbucks.co.uk)**

USE CODE EARLYYEAR for 10% OFF CAMP BOOKINGS OF 2 SESSIONS OR MORE  
Code valid for Feb camps until 21<sup>st</sup> January and for Easter camps until end of February

CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK

**Green Eden**  
Monday 12<sup>th</sup> - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> Feb

Join us under the big green leaf this half term for interactive stories, puppetry, crafts and more.  
Located outside Black Sheep Coffee.  
For further details visit [edenshopping.co.uk](http://edenshopping.co.uk)

FREE EVENT

eden

CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK

**What Parents & Carers Need to Know about PERSUASIVE DESIGN ONLINE**

KEEP SCROLLING

Advice for Parents & Carers

ES TARBLES JIMES

ENCOURAGE MINDFULNESS

MAKE A CHECKLIST

Meet Our Expert

The National College

National Online Safety

CHILDRENSMENTALHEALTHWEEK.ORG.UK