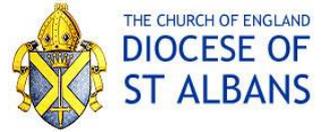




Stapleford Primary School

(Church of England, Voluntary Aided)



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Friday 8th March 2019

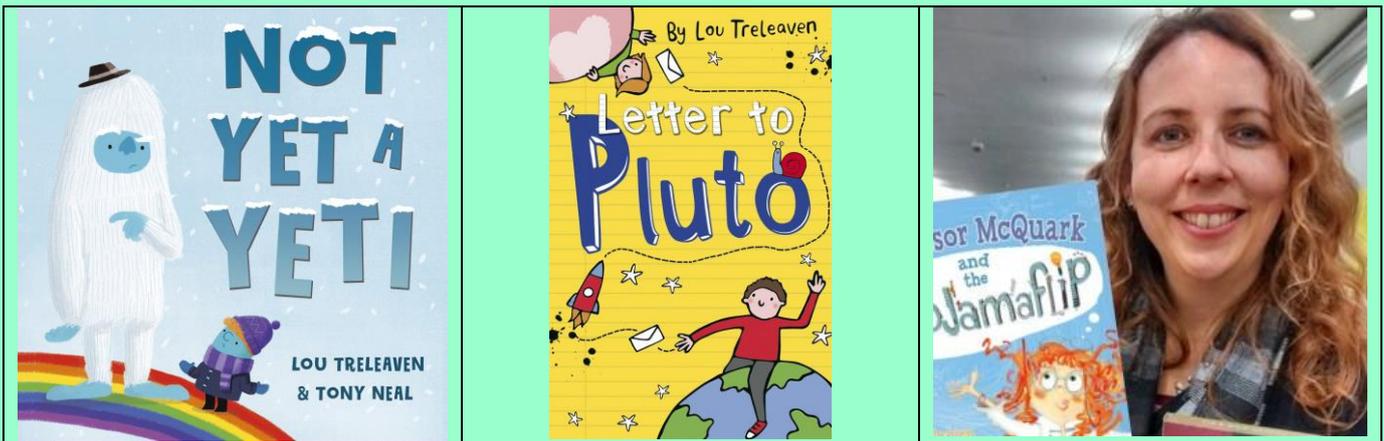
March Newsletter

Author visit and World Book Day

Last Thursday we celebrated World Book Day. You should all be very proud of your costume creations and the way you celebrated everything to do with books. We all had a great deal of fun and shared our thoughts about our favourite stories. Thank you for supporting your children with this at home. We appreciate that putting a costume together isn't always easy.

Our World Book Day celebration capped off an exciting week in which each class embraced books. The week got off to a great start with a visit from an author called Lou Treleven. She shared some of her stories with the children and advised them on what a good book should include. The children were totally engrossed when Lou was in character and she had them in the palm of her hand during her class workshops.

Some of the books the children read at included:



Dance Festival at Hertford Theatre

On Wednesday 27th February our team of Key Stage 2 dancers stole the show at the Hertford & Ware School Sports Partnership Dance Festival 2019 held at Hertford Theatre. Theoretically this event is not a competition but I can assure you that every school takes it very seriously and wants to be as good as they can be. This year the theme was "Fairy Tales and Fables" so there were dances about Hansel & Gretel, Beauty and the Beast and Snow White to name a few. Mrs Morgan was our choreographer and kindly gave up her time to create a delightfully dark routine about the dangers of social media told through the story of Red Riding Hood. In addition to this the costumes and make up were amazing. Thank you to Mrs Weaver and Mrs Duffy for the scary face painting. However, in the end it came down to the dedication and amazing attitude of all of your children. They were simply outstanding. Well done everyone and a huge thank you to Mrs Morgan and the office team for making it happen.

New Windows in Classes 1 & 2

We hope you agree that the new windows in Classes 1 & 2 look amazing! The staff and children love them. The extra ventilation they provide has improved the working environment hugely and the slight green tint is making it much easier to see the interactive whiteboard.

Reading

We use phonics to help your children to learn to read. You can too. The link below takes you to a one minute video clip showing you and your children how to pronounce the sounds within words. This can be used to help children break down words that they are struggling to read. We call this sounding out words.

How to pronounce the sounds within words: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BqhXUW_v-1s

Five keys strategies that you can use to support your child when they get stuck on a word in their reading book include:

- 1 – Encourage your children to sit up, hold the book themselves and follow the words with their finger.
- 2 – Use the pictures
- 3 – Sound out unknown word e.g. cat = C – A – T and blend them together again e.g. C – A – T = cat
- 4 – Break the word into chunks (your child may be able to read part of the word and sound out the rest)
- 5 – Read to the end of the sentence and use your comprehension to suggest what the unknown word might be.

Sharing books with your children can have a huge impact on their learning.

Please take the time to enjoy books with your children and hear them read every day.



Help and advice for families in a digital world

Parent Info is a free service that shares articles, tips, expert advice and resources designed to help parents keep up with what their children are doing on-line. Parent Info is a collaboration between CEOP and Parent Zone.

We have embedded the Parent Info news feed into the Stapleford Primary School website. It will update automatically and can be found by under the eSafety heading on the statutory information page. Alternatively you can [click here](#)

Operation Garden

Mr Hart has started work on the new school garden which is located by the school gate. Using his world famous recycling skills he has managed to acquire some wooden sleepers that we would like to construct into a raised bed. If you have any knowledge of how to put something like this together please contact the school office.

Science Week

An exciting programme of activities has been planned for Science Week which will be taking place during the week commencing 11th March 2019.

For one of the activities we will require clean, empty, 2 litre plastic bottles (the type that fizzy drinks usually come in). The aim is for every child to bring in at least one bottle. If you have more bottles, then please do send them in. Please hand these bottles to each class teacher, on Monday 11th March, who will store them in class until they are needed.

Alongside their science lessons your children will hopefully enjoy the activities below:

- Stomp Rockets
- KS2 Science Quiz
- "Eggsploring" – Chick hatching experience
- Sponsored nature walk: 9am Thursday 14th March (families welcome to join us – details to follow)
- Brilliant Birds Challenge
- Science Splat Wall

PE KIT

In a recent check it became clear that many children did not have a PE Kit at school. Many thought that their outdoor kit they had brought in to enable them to use the muddy field at lunchtime was indeed their PE Kit. This is not the case and children will not be permitted to wear this muddy clothing for PE. To clarify any confusion regarding shoes:

- Children need a clean pair of trainers for PE.
- OPTIONAL – Children are permitted to change into outdoor kit at lunch time so they can use the field. This kit is likely to get very muddy so don't plan on using these trainers for PE.

Church Services

Mothering Sunday service
27th March 9:15am

Easter Service
3rd April 9:15am

Parents & carers are invited to join us for this church service.

CHOIR PERFORMANCES

Music Festival, Ware Drill Hall, 26th March

**BEING LATE FOR SCHOOL HAS A NEGATIVE
IMPACT ON YOUR CHILD'S EDUCATION**

Decorated Egg – EASTER COMPETITION

We will be holding a decorated egg competition in the run up to Easter. There will be a prize for the best creation in each year group and in the parents/carers category. To enter all you need to do is hard boil or blow an egg or group of eggs before you decorate them and place them in a setting. Be as creative or corny as you like. It is just a bit of fun. **The eggs competition entries should be brought into school from Tuesday 26th March.** They will be on display in the school corridor during work sharing on Friday 29th March. Good luck. See the examples below for ideas:



eSafety

What are the risks of online games?

- **Children may view inappropriate or upsetting content** if they play games that aren't suitable for their age. This could include sexual or violent material. It might be in-game content or produced by other players.
- **Some players can be abusive towards others** or try to exclude them from the game. Some players may also hack another user's account or try to steal and destroy their virtual possessions. This can be as upsetting for a young person as if it happened in real life.
- **Children may play with adults they don't know.** People of all ages play games. Some adults may exploit this and try to build an emotional connection with a child for the purpose of grooming.
- **Some children may find it hard to stop playing games** or find that gaming is getting the way of them doing other activities.

UNIFORM

Please ensure all items of clothing are named so we can return them to you when lost.

Please contact the school office if you can spare a morning to help Mr Hart paint our blue fences.
Thank you

Communication:

The school office is open between 8.30am – 3pm and there is also a great deal of information on the school website www.stapleford.herts.sch.uk.

Don't forget that we are on  - follow us @staplefordPS

We will aim to send out your newsletter in the first half of each month.



Link to buy your tickets

[Click here to buy your £1 school lottery ticket](#)

Our attendance target is 96%

If you have 80% attendance you will have missed 1 YEAR of school by the end of Year 5!!!!!!



Breakfast Club and After School Club

To ensure we stay within our staff to pupil ratios **ALL** children must be booked into Breakfast Club and After School Club and paid for in advance through the school office.

News From - The Stapleford School Friends Association (SSFA)

Make A Difference



If anyone else is interested in joining the friendly SSFA team or just wants to offer a helping hand at any events, please do get in touch by emailing staplefordsf@gmail.com

Thank you. You really can make a difference.

Parking at the church

We have been requested to politely remind parents and carers not to park on the lawn outside the church.

Football and Netball Kit

We are missing some kit. Please can team players return kit asap ready for our next match. Thank you.

WEATHER WARNING

The procedures for school closures due to severe weather are:

The school will notify parents/carers via the school website and a text message if the school is going to be closed. **It is therefore important that the contact details we hold for you are correct.** If your contact details change please let the school office know.

The school will also use the County Council's Closure notification system. This information will be communicated on local radio stations. The local authority web page can be found here: [School Closures Website](#).

In the event of a snow closure please check this information daily.

Every effort will be made to keep the school open but in certain circumstances this may not be possible due to health and safety concerns.



PLEASE PARK SAFELY AND CONSIDERATELY.

- It has been reported to me that **we had a near miss the other day** when a car, that was double parked in Clusterbolts, opened their door into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

Please avoid illegal parking. Slightly further along Clusterbolts there are usually parking spaces. It only takes 2 minutes to walk in from there.

Local residents are becoming frustrated that during school drop off and pick up times parents/carers are:

- Making access to their homes difficult through inconsiderate parking and
- Using their private driveways to turn around in

After this near miss I am worried that somebody is going to get hurt. Please park sensibly.

Pedestrians are advised to keep close control of the children in their care especially when close to the school. Many thanks.

Signing children in

When dropping children off at Breakfast Club or Pre-school it is essential that you sign your children in. Please do not just drop off and leave. This helps us to keep your children safe.

w/c 11 th March 2019	Science Week
11 th - 22 nd March 2019	Eggsploring – Chick Hatching Experience in Class 4
26 th March 2019	Stapleford School Choir perform at the Hertford Music Festival in Ware
27 th March 2019	Mothering Sunday Church Service 9:15am
29 th March 2019	Work Sharing 2:30pm
1 st – 3 rd April 2019	Class 2 residential trip to Hudnall Park
3 rd April 2019	Easter Church Service 9:15am
5 th April 2019	Break up for the Easter holidays 2.00pm
6 th - 22 nd April 2019	April Easter holidays
23 rd April 2019	Children back to school
26 th April 2019	Ice Cream Friday (run by the School Council) commences – Proceeds go towards the school library
13 th May 2019	Mon-Thurs SATS week
24 th May 2019	Break up for half term 3pm
27 th - 31 st May 2019	Half Term
5 th June 2019	Sex Education talk for Year 6 Parents – 3.15pm
10 th June 2019	Mon-Fri Year 1 Phonics Screening checks
17 th June 2019	Countryside Learning Day at Hatfield House for Years 1-6
28 th June 2019	INSET DAY (School Closed)
3 rd July 2019	KS2 End of Year Performance – Evening performance starts at 6:30pm
4 th July 2019	KS2 Performance – Matinee Performance starts at 1:30pm
5 th July 2019	School BBQ and Year 6 Leaver's Party (FAMILIES OF ALL YEAR GROUPS WELCOME) – Date and time TBC
w/c 8 th July 2019	Year 6 Bikeability Level 2 Training
11 th July 2019	Transition (Moving Up) Day
12 th July 2019	Work sharing 2.30pm
19 th July 2019	Leaver's service in church – time TBC

2018/2019	Autumn 2018	Spring 2019	Summer 2019
<p>Monday 3rd September – Friday 21st December</p>	<p>Monday 7th January – Friday 5th April</p>	<p>Tuesday 23rd April – Wednesday 24th July</p>	
<p>October Half Term Monday 29th October – Friday 2nd November</p>	<p>February Half Term Monday 18th February – Friday 22nd February</p>	<p>May Half Term Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May</p>	
<p>INSET Days (School Closed to Pupils) Monday 3rd September Tuesday 4th September</p>			<p>INSET Days (School Closed to Pupils) Friday 28th June Monday 22nd July Tuesday 23rd July Occasional Day (School Closed) Wednesday 24th July</p>