



Stapleford Church of England VA Primary School

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Tuesday 10th October 2017

October Newsletter



Harvest Festival Service

On Wednesday 4th October we attended our Harvest Festival Church Service at St Mary's Church in Stapleford. We were completely blown away by the children's work, conduct, behaviour and singing. Well done to all of you. There was a great turn out of families and local residents who all gave generously to our food bank.

Thank you everybody for your kindness

PE Kits and lost property

Please ensure that all uniform is clearly labelled so that we can return it. Our lost property box is bulging. We will be placing lost property out on tables in the run up to the end of half term. Please do have a look through it and claim your lost items. After this point items will be disposed of.

Outdoor Kit for lunchtimes

Now that autumn has arrived KS2 children are permitted to bring in a named set of outdoor clothing that they can change into at lunchtimes.



Medication

Please ensure that your children's medicines that are stored at school are within the best before date. Unfortunately we are unable to administer medicines.

Asthma – If your child has asthma please try to provide the school with two asthma inhalers and ensure you have provided the school with written permission to use the Emergency Asthma Inhalers should they be required.

Class 1 Residential Trip to Marrick Priory

Last week Class One went on their residential trip to Marrick Priory. All of the children were faced with challenges that were designed to push them to their limit. They had to overcome their fears, believe in themselves and develop trust in their equipment and each other. Particular highlights included caving which included commando crawling through very tight spaces and streams, beck scrambling, canoeing, climbing and abseiling. Well done to all of the children. You all participated and took on extra responsibilities which helped you learn some important life skills. Bed making and packing might still need a little practise but you were getting there by the end of the week.

A huge thank you must go to the administration team at school for making all of the bookings; to Miss Khanna for leading such a hugely successful trip; to Mrs Strong for administering all of the medicines; to Mrs Cutler for being a wonderful volunteer; to Mrs Fitzgerald for organising the paperwork; and to you as the parents for allowing your children to come along.



**Well Done
Everyone!!**

QUIZMASTER NEEDED

If you have all the answers please and would like to be the quizmaster on the 24th November please contact the SSFA ASAP.

Parent helpers in school



We are always looking for volunteers to help support the children's learning e.g. hearing children read. If you feel you could help please let a member of staff know.

School Payments

Please pay for all school meals, breakfast club and after school clubs in advance.



News From

The Stapleford School Friends Association (SSFA)

Dates to look out for:

Bring a bottle day (in support of SSFA Quiz) – 17/11/17

SSFA Quiz - 24/11/17

Chocolate Day – 06/12/17

Bring a bottle day (in support of Christmas Fete) – 08/12/17

QUIZMASTER NEEDED

If you have all the answers please and would like to be the quizmaster on the 24th November please contact the SSFA ASAP.



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 ssfacommittee@hotmail.co.uk

Thank you. You really can make a difference.

All visitors please report to reception

Safeguarding

Please be aware that as part of our safeguarding procedures we have informed the children not to open the doors to any adults. This includes for people that they know.

All visitors should report to reception and sign in.

Thank you for your understanding.

QUIZMASTER NEEDED - If you have all the answers please and would like to be the quizmaster on the 24th November please contact the SSFA ASAP.

eSafety

Internet safety advice is directly applicable to the gaming environment because of the risks that are present. It is essential that children are aware of these issues and are given the skills and knowledge to help manage and reduce these risks, with the help of those around them.

[Roblox - a guide for parents](#)

(click on the link)

[GAMING - Top tips for parents/carers](#)

(click on the link)

[PEGI Ratings](#)

(click on the link)

About PEGI?

What are ratings?

Age ratings are systems used to ensure that entertainment content, such as films, videos, DVDs, and computer games, are clearly labelled by age according to the content they contain. Age ratings provide guidance to consumers (particularly parents) to help them decide whether or not to buy a particular product.

Computer and video games are now enjoyed by millions of players throughout Europe. In the UK, 37 % of the population aged between 16 and 49 describe themselves as 'active gamers' (defined as currently playing games on a console, handheld or PC). While most games (49%) are suitable for players of all ages there are many that are only suitable for older children and young teenagers. There are also some games (4%) that are made for adults only (over the age of 18).

The rating on a game confirms that it is suitable for players over a certain age. Accordingly, a PEGI 7 game is only suitable for those aged seven and above and a PEGI 18 game is only suitable for adults aged eighteen and above. The PEGI rating considers the age suitability of a game, not the level of difficulty.

PEGI is used and recognised throughout Europe and has the enthusiastic support of the European Commission. It is considered to be a model of European harmonisation in the field of the protection of children.



Fancy being in charge?
Contact the SSFA



Link to buy your tickets

<https://www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/stapleford-church-of-england-va-primary-school>

Ticket cost £1 - Remember that 40p from every ticket sold comes directly to the school.

Each week there is a monetary prize for one of our ticket holders. People that buy tickets are also entered into the weekly National £25,000 draw!!

We are currently saving up the proceeds to buy some new playground equipment. **Since the lottery was launched we have raised £1150 towards our project through our lottery.**

HAVE YOU CLAIMED THE EXTRA FUNDING FOR YOUR CHILD?

Pupil Premium Funding - IMPORTANT

Pupil premium is additional funding for publicly funded schools in England to help raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and close the gap between them and their peers. **This means that YOUR child may be entitled to a quite considerable amount of funding that can be used within school to support their learning.**

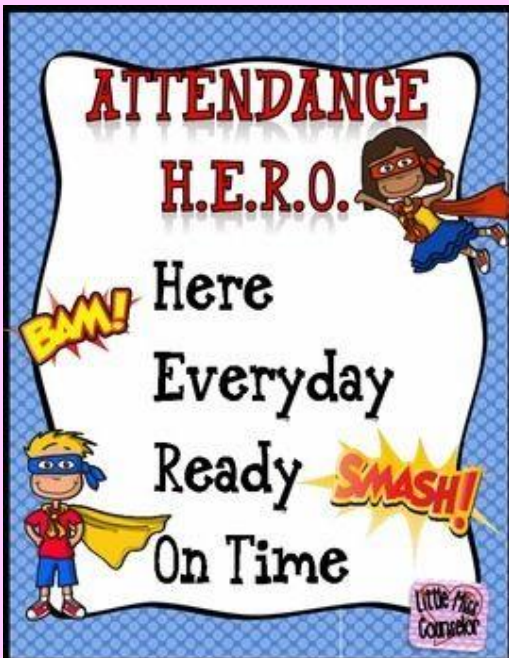
Your child could be eligible for extra funding if you receive any of the following:

Income Support
Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
Child Tax Credit (as long as you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and you don't get more than £16,190 a year)
Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
Universal Credit.

This extra funding can really make a difference to your child's achievements and for that reason we are asking that all Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 parents and any parents of older children whose circumstances may have changed register online at www.hertsdirect.org/freeschoolmeals.

Please note that children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with free meals. **However, this does not mean that you are already registered for the additional funding which is called Pupil Premium. To gain the extra Pupil Premium funding for your child you must register by using the above URL or link.** Thank you.

ATTENDANCE



**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**

THIS YEARS TARGET IS 97%!!!

Excellent attendance = Increased Learning time

Environmental Update from Mr Hart (Site Manager)

The school has made huge improvements in regards to recycling over the past 12 months. We are now recycling 150% more paper than ever before! The children and staff have a designated bin for food waste only which has led to:

- i) The children need to remove all packaging before clearing their plates which has actually led to them eating more of their dinners
- ii) The food waste is taken away for composting which means less is going to land fill sites
- iii) Less weight is going in the school bins, which has saved the school over £600 in the past year!!!
(That is amazing. Thank you Mr Hart)

We also have specific bins placed throughout the school for separating rubbish, paper towels, food waste etc. These are added to our eight compost bins. You may have noticed tomato plants growing around the school wherever compost has been deposited. Fact for the day: We have all learnt that tomato seeds don't break down in the composter.

We are very lucky to have so many trees around the school site. Last year Mr Hart collected 80 bin bags full of leaves, mulched the contents and spread it on our gardens.

Mr Hart would like to thank the staff and children for their patience with him nagging them to make these changes happen

NEXT mission: Lets do away with single use plastic bottles. If we all bring refillable drinking water bottles to school we can reduce the amount of plastic going into landfill and save the planet just a little bit.

Reading

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A"	Student "B"	Student "C"
reads 20 minutes each day	reads 5 minutes each day	reads 1 minute each day
3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year

1,800,000 words



90th percentile

282,000 words



50th percentile

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)



Mr Hart is an avid reader of Freecycle.com as he is always looking to reuse or upcycle unwanted items for the school. Over the past 18 months we have acquired and installed projectors, interactive whiteboards, a whole school wifi system and several large pieces of furniture all of which were going to be taken to the tip. Before you throw anything away please consider whether it could be upcycled first.

For instance:

- Noticeboards
- CD players
- Curtains/material
- Anything DIY or gardening



Class Assemblies

This year each class will deliver two class assemblies. They will start at 9.00am.

Class	Autumn term
Class 1	Class Assembly Monday 16 th October



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.

Work sharing

This year Work Sharing will take place on:

2.30-3.00pm Friday 13th October 2017
2.30-3.00pm Friday 15th December 2017
2.30-3.00pm Friday 2nd February 2018
2.30pm-3.00pm Friday 23rd March 2018
2.30pm-3.00pm Friday 8th June 2018
2.30pm-3.00pm Friday 13th July 2018

Friday 13 th October	Work sharing 2.30pm-3.00pm
Monday 16 th October	Class 1 Assembly 9.00am
Friday 20 th October	Break up for the half term holidays at 3.00pm
Monday 23 rd - 27 th October	HALF TERM
Monday 30 th October	Children back to school
Wednesday 8 th November	Remembrance Service in church 9.15am
Tuesday 21 st November	Parent consultations 3.30-5.00pm
Thursday 23 rd November	Parent consultations 4.30-7.00pm
Friday 1 st December	Christmas Decorating Day
Thursday 7 th December	Nativity – 9.30am
Tuesday 12 th December	Christmas Pantomime at Hertford Theatre
Wednesday 13 th December	KS2 Christmas Carols Service in church followed by mince pies and mulled wine in school hall – 6.30pm
Friday 15 th December	Work Sharing 2.30-3.00pm
Monday 18 th December	Christmas Service in Church 9.15am
Tuesday 19 th December	Break up for Christmas holidays 2.00pm
Tuesday 20 th December – Tuesday 2 nd	Christmas Holidays
Wednesday 3 rd January	INSET DAY – School Closed
Thursday 4 th January	Children back to school
Monday 15 th January	Class 3 Assembly 9.00am
Wednesday 24 th January	Christingle Service in church – 9.15am
Friday 2 nd February	Work Sharing 2.30-3.00pm
Tuesday 6 th February	Safer internet day (eSafety day)
Friday 9 th February	Break up for half term holiday 3pm

Monday 12 th - 16 th February	HALF TERM
Thursday 1 st March	World Book Day
Tuesday 6 th March	Parent consultations 3.30-5.00pm
Thursday 8 th March	Parent consultations 4.30-7.00pm
Monday 12 th March	Class 4 Assembly 9.00am
Monday 19 th March	Class 1 Assembly 9.00am
Friday 23 rd March	Work Sharing 2.30pm-3.00pm
Monday 26 th March	Class 2 Assembly 9.00am
Thursday 29 th March	Break up for the Easter holidays 2.00pm
Friday 30 th March - Monday 16 th April	Easter holidays
Monday 16 th April	Children back to school
Friday 20 th April	Ice Cream Friday (run by the School Council) commences – Proceeds go towards the school library
Monday 23 rd April	Class 3 Assembly 9.00am
Monday 14 th May	Mon-Thurs SATS week
Friday 25 th May	Break up for half term 3pm
Monday 28 th May – Friday 1st June	Half Term
	PLEASE NOTE: KS2 Sports Day will be hosted by Puller Primary School in 2018. We will let you know the date as soon as we have it.
Wednesday 6 th June	Sex Education talk for Year 6 Parents – 3.15pm
Friday 8 th June	Work Sharing 2.30pm-3.00pm
W/c Monday 11 th June	Mon-Fri Year 1 Phonics Screening checks
Monday 18 th June	Class 4 Assembly 9.00am
Friday 22 nd June	INSET DAY (School Closed)
Monday 25 th June	INSET DAY (School Closed)
Friday 6 th July	School BBQ and Year 6 Leaver's Party (FAMILIES OF ALL YEAR GROUPS WELCOME) – Date and time TBC
Tuesday 10 th July	KS2 Performance -TBC
Wednesday 11 th July	KS2 Performance -TBC
Thursday 12 th July	Transition (Moving Up) Day
Friday 13 th July	Work sharing 2.30-3.00pm
Friday 20 th July	Leaver's service in church – time TBC Leaver's picnic – Date and time TBC Break up for the Summer holidays 2.00pm ☺

2017/2018	Autumn 2017	Spring 2018	Summer 2018
Monday 4th September – Tuesday 19th December		Thursday 4th January – Thursday 29th March	Monday 16th April – Friday 20th July
October Half Term Monday 23rd October – Friday 27th October		February Half Term Monday 12th February – Friday 16th February	May Half Term Monday 28th May – Friday 1st June
Occasional Days (School Closed) Wednesday 30th August INSET Days Thursday 31st August Friday 1st September		INSET Days Wednesday 3rd January	INSET Days Friday 22nd June Monday 25th June Occasional Day (School Closed) Monday 23rd – Friday 27th July