



# Stapleford Primary School

(Church of England, Voluntary Aided)



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Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2019

## November Newsletter

### Alumni visit



During October 2019, and completely out of the blue, the school office received an old photograph showing the pupils, rector and staff in front of the Stapleford Primary School hall building. The photograph had been taken in 1947 and was kindly sent in by Mr Bill Wastell who is one of our ex-pupils. After the passing of 72 years it was deemed appropriate that Mr Wastell come back for a tour of our wonderful school. So on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November he visited with his wife Ros. He talked in great detail about the time he spent here at Stapleford and how the buildings were very different all those years ago. The Headteacher in 1947 was Mrs Sorbie and Mr Wastell remembered enjoying coming to school, much as many of you all do now.



In advance of the visit our Year 5 & 6 children had prepared several questions each for our visitor to answer. When the tour reached their classroom the children spent about 45 minutes interviewing Mr Wastell and his wife, both of whom were on great form and enjoyed holding court. Class 1 children will now write up the information they discovered and will hopefully produce an article worthy of publication in the local newspaper.

Just before our visitors left for the day Mr Wastell, with the help of some pupils, planted an oak tree on the school field. This was the first tree of 200 that the Woodland Trust have provided the school with, free of charge, to plant on our land. He was very touched and has asked that we take very good care of the sapling.

It was a real joy to host such an interesting and likeable character. We are hopeful that Mr Wastell and his wife will join us for the KS2 Carol Service at 6:30pm on the 11<sup>th</sup> December in Stapleford Church and then back at school for mulled wine and mince pies. I would love as many of you as possible to meet him too so please join us for the carol concert.

# WEATHER

## 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.



## CHRISTMAS DECORATION DAY

**SAVE THE DATE – 9am Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Decoration Day is possibly the most exciting day in the life of the school each year. It is the day when we invite parents, carers and governors into school for the morning to help transform the school and prepare it for the festive season.

The display boards in the hall are used to tell the story of the Nativity and the corridor boards will this year be transformed to show “Scenes from Christmas.”

If you would like to help on Decorations Day morning please let the office know.

**THERE WILL BE MINCE PIES!!!**

### FREE COMPOST



Our wonderful site manager MR Hart has, with his army of little helpers, cleared and bagged up a huge amount of leaf litter from the school field. Along with the pupils' fruit leftovers it is used to make compost that we use around the school grounds. However, he has told me that we have far more than we can possibly use and that it is **FREE TO A GOOD HOME**. Ideally we are looking for keen gardeners that would collect compost on a regular basis although Mr Hart has said he would happily deliver to addresses within the Hertford area.

If you would like some FREE compost please contact Mr Hart through the school office.



What an incredible poster. Such a powerful message!



**KEEP YOUR CHILD VISIBLE**



**If you hadn't already noticed there is a child stood by the tree in the second picture too!**

**DRESS YOUR CHILDREN SO THEY CAN BE SEEN IN THE DARK!**



### **CAR SHARING**

Sharing the morning drop off or afternoon collection is one way we could reduce traffic around the school. If you would be interested in car sharing with another family please leave your name in the school office and we will put you in touch with each other.

**PLEASE PARK CONSIDERATELY**

Attachment disorder arises from a failure to form attachments to primary care giving figures in early childhood. Psychological trauma is damaging to the mind that occurs as a result of a severely distressing event. Training helps staff support your children with both.

Well done everyone.



### **After School Club and Breakfast Club Bookings**

It is essential that bookings for both After School Club and Breakfast Club are made in advance. There have been occasions recently where families have turned up on the day to drop children off. You are at risk of being turned away and we would not want to have to do that. So that we can plan ahead for Staff:Pupils ratios please book in advance using the school money booking and payment system.

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](http://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.

**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.



## Stapleford Primary School



### Christmas 2019 - Dates to Remember

**9.00am Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November – Christmas Decorating Day**

(Contact the school office if you would like to spend the morning with us helping to transform the school – THERE WILL BE MINCE PIES!!!!)

**7.00pm Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December – Stapleford School Choir performance at the Christchurch Carol Service in Ware**

**10:00am Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – Class 4 and KS1 Nativity in church**

**3:00pm – 5:30pm Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – SSFA Christmas Fayre in the school**

**Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas card postal service begins**

**Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Trip to the Christmas Pantomime in Hertford for Classes 1, 2, 3 & 4**

**10:00am Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December – Early Years Christmas Party**

**6.30pm Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> December – KS2 Carol Service in church** (followed by mince pies & mulled wine in the school hall)

**Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Spell-a-thon**

**2.30pm - 3.00pm Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December – Work Sharing**

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Dinner Day** (including Christmas Cracker Joke Competition!! ☺)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Jumper Day** (Wear a Christmas Jumper and make a £1 donation to Save the Children please)

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Parties for Classes 1, 2, 3 & 4** (lunches will be served as usual)

**9.15am Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Christmas Service in Church**

**2.00pm Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – Break up for the Christmas holidays**

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December – No After School Club**

## Children in Need



Well done and thank you to Phoebe L in Class 3 who organised a playground collection for Children in Need last week. With the help of Lily from Year 6 they managed to collect £90.25!!! To see our little ones thinking of others like this demonstrates that the values we learn about in school are really sinking in. A super effort girls. Thank you.

Thank you too for your generosity

## Thank You from Mr Shillito

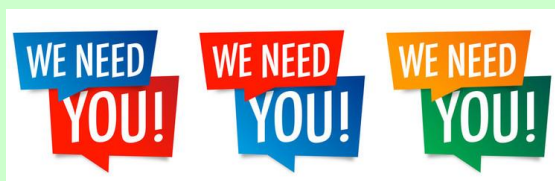
I just wanted to take this opportunity to express my thanks and gratitude to all of the amazing staff and governors who rallied round during my recent absence. The fact that the school did not merely tick over but kept on running productively indicates what an outstanding team we have here a Stapleford. The importance you all placed on my own well-being meant a huge amount to both myself and my family.

Stapleford Primary School really is a very special place.

Mr Shillito

## News From

### The Stapleford School Friends Association (SSFA)



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 [ssfacommenttee@outlook.com](mailto:ssfacommenttee@outlook.com)

Thank you. You really can make a difference.

## HEAD LICE

Please check your children's hair regularly for signs of head lice. Over the counter treatments and advice are available from chemists.

## School Payments

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



## 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.** Please do have a look through it and claim your lost items.

**Unclaimed items will be recycled at the end of term.**

## 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.



## Our School Uniform

### For GIRLS

#### Winter Uniform (September – April)

- School navy blue sweatshirts or cardigan with logo (available from School Trends Website)
- Grey or black (any shade) trousers, skirt or dress
- White Blouses and Shirts
- White polo-shirts
- Navy/White/Grey Socks
- Navy Tights
- Navy P.E. Shorts
- School white P.E. T-shirt with logo (available from School Trends Website)
- Black leather school shoes
- Trainers (for P.E.)
- Long hair is to be tied back with a blue or black hair band
- Small stud earrings are the only form of jewellery permitted (these are to be removed for P.E.)
- No nail varnish

### For BOYS

#### Winter Uniform (September – April)

- School navy blue sweatshirts or cardigan with logo (available from School Trends Website)
- Grey or black (any shade) trousers or shorts
- White Shirts
- White polo-shirts
- Navy/White/Grey Socks
- Navy P.E. Shorts
- School white P.E. T-shirt with logo (available from School Trends Website)
- Black leather school shoes
- Trainers (for P.E.)
- Long hair is to be tied back with a blue or black hair band
- Small stud earrings are the only form of jewellery permitted (these are to be removed for P.E.)



### MUDDY FIELD

#### Outdoor Kit for lunchtimes

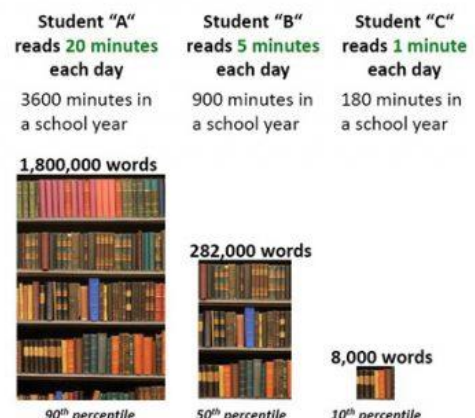
Now that autumn has arrived KS2 children are permitted to bring in a named set of outdoor clothing that they can change into at lunchtimes.

### Library Books

Library sessions have commenced again. Every child should bring home a book from the school library and another book from the reading scheme. Please support them with their reading every day. It makes a huge difference to their learning. Thank you.

**1,792,000**  
**reasons**  
**why your child**  
**needs to**  
**read every day**

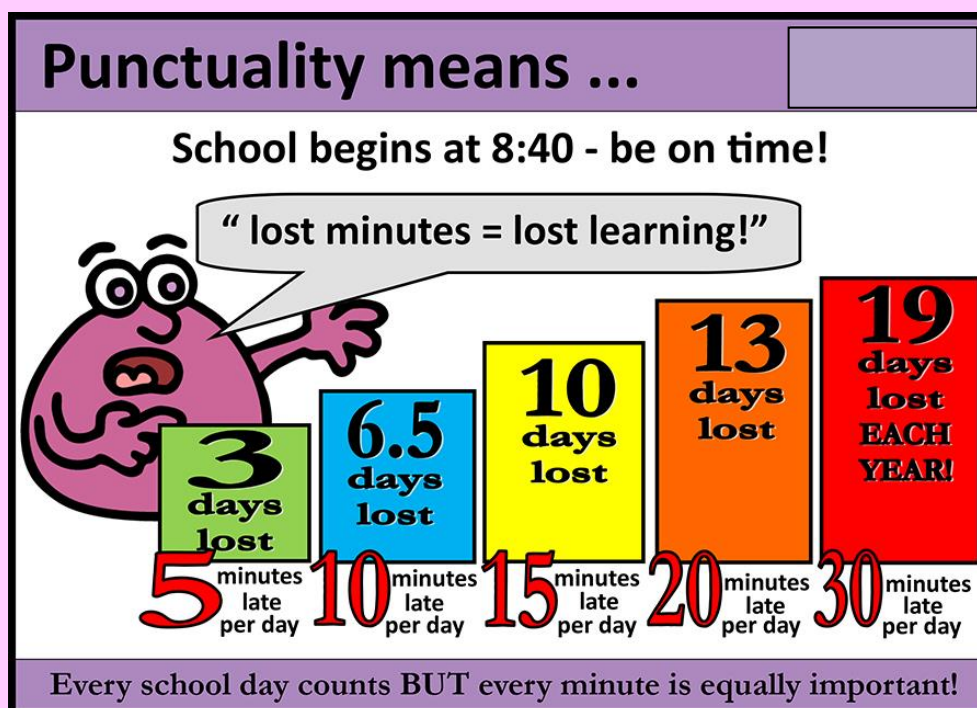
### Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?



By the end of 6<sup>th</sup> 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)

## ATTENDANCE



**THIS YEARS ATTENDANCE TARGET IS 96%!!!**

## **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](http://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.





## 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.**

## Stapleford Primary School Term Dates

### For the academic year September 2019 to July 2020

We would like to remind parents and carers to ensure that holidays are booked **outside of term time** – Thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

#### AUTUMN TERM 2019

Term starts - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September

Half term – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 1<sup>st</sup> November

Term ends - 2:00pm Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December

#### SPRING TERM 2020

Term starts - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January

Half term - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Term ends - 2:00pm Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April

#### SUMMER TERM 2020

Term starts - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April

*May Day Bank Holiday* – Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May

*Please note that the Business Secretary, Greg Clark announced on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2019 that the Early May Bank Holiday in 2020 will be moved from Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May, to Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2020, marking the 75th anniversary of VE Day. VE Day will be celebrated from Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May and over a 3 day weekend.*

Half term Monday 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May

Term ends – 2:00pm Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July

## INSET Days and Occasional Day (School closed)

*INSET Day 1 - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September*

*INSET Day 2 - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September*

*INSET Day 3 - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> June*

*INSET Day 4 - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June*

*INSET Day 5 - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July*

*Occasional Day - Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July*

### Calendar - DATES FOR 2019/2020

<b>29th November 2019</b>	Decorations Day
<b>6th December 2019</b>	Classes 3 and 4 Nativity in Church – 10:00am
<b>12th December 2019</b>	Work Sharing 2:30pm
<b>20th December 2019</b>	Christmas Church Service – 9:15am
<b>21st - 5th January 2020</b>	Christmas Holidays
<b>7th February 2020</b>	Work Sharing 2:30pm
<b>11th February 2020</b>	Safer internet day (eSafety day)
<b>3rd March 2020</b>	Parent consultations 3.30-5.30pm
<b>4th March 2020</b>	Parent consultations 4.30-7.30pm
<b>27th March 2020</b>	Work Sharing – 2:30pm
<b>4th - 19th April 2020</b>	Easter holidays
<b>24th April 2020</b>	Ice Cream Friday (run by the School Council) commences
<b>11th May 2020</b>	Mon-Thurs SATS week
<b>3rd June 2020</b>	Sex Education talk for Year 6 Parents – 3.15pm
<b>8th June 2020</b>	Mon-Fri Year 1 Phonics Screening checks
<b>19th June 2020</b>	INSET DAY (School Closed)
<b>22nd June 2020</b>	INSET DAY (School Closed)
<b>1st July 2020</b>	KS2 Performance -Performance starts at 6:30pm
<b>2nd July 2020</b>	KS2 Performance -Matinee Performance starts at 1:30pm
<b>9th July 2020</b>	Transition (Moving Up) Day
<b>10th July 2020</b>	School BBQ and Year 6 Leavers' Party (FAMILIES OF ALL YEAR GROUPS WELCOME) – 5pm
<b>10th July 2020</b>	Work sharing 2.30pm
<b>17th July 2020</b>	Leavers' service in church – 9:15am