



# Stapleford Primary School

(Church of England, Voluntary Aided)



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Friday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## September Newsletter



We are finally fully open again after what felt like an eternity for all of us. The school building is just a shell and only comes to life when your wonderful children breathe the life back into it. We have all been working throughout this pandemic but it is only now that all children are back in their classrooms that it feels like the Stapleford Primary School we know and love.

In order to open we have had to follow many guidelines and put numerous measures in place to keep everyone safe. These were communicated to you earlier in September. I am pleased to report that apart from the odd tweak here and there the plan has worked extremely well. The staff have been amazing and the children have adapted very quickly to their new arrival times, entrances, hand washing regimes etc. Our attendance is currently higher than in previous years at this time which is also great to see.

Your children have already been away from school for too long so moving forward we must protect our entire school community as best we can. People will become ill with non-Covid-19 related illnesses throughout the year and with maximising learning time in mind please do not send your child into school, where they can pass it on, if they are unwell. Please do not simply administer a dose of Calpol and think that it is OK to send your child into school.

If anyone at school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they will be sent home and be advised to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate
- arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying any of the symptoms above.



I will look forward to a time when we can relax some of our precautionary measures and return the school to normality by holding Class Assemblies etc. In the meantime, I would like to thank you all for your sensible and patient approach towards our recent reopening.

### **Welcome to Class One**

**Teachers:** Mrs Morgan & Mrs Hobbs

**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs Wilson & Mrs Colpitts

Hello Stapleford,

We are so glad to be back in our lovely classroom. We can honestly say we have missed you all so much. The first few days have been lovely. Nothing could have made us smile more than seeing a full classroom with lots of smiling faces, ready to learn! We have already started working hard in lessons and are enjoying looking at performance poetry. We've even played some maths Bingo! Here's to great times ahead : )

### **Welcome to Class Two**

**Class teacher:** Mrs Mali

**Teaching Assistants:** Mrs Cant, Miss Froud

Welcome back to an exciting new term! We are all very excited and raring to go to get back into our learning in Class 2. I would firstly like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their kind and generous gifts that were received at the end of the summer term. Mrs Cant would also like to say a special thank you to the parents for her gifts. It was truly overwhelming! Thank you once again.

This term, we will be focusing on settling the children back into class and learning the new routines of KS2. Children will be getting used to daily reading, weekly spellings and homework. In Literacy, we will be focusing on reading a variety of stories, poetry and also looking at writing sets of instructions. Maths will be focusing on developing key number skills involving all operations. I am extremely excited about our Geography topic this term, where children will be learning about the World, continents, countries and Oceans. They will focus in particular on a country and produce information leaflets linked with their literacy learning.

### **Welcome to Class Three**

**Class teacher:** Mrs Phillips

**Teaching Assistants:** Miss Hampson

Welcome to the new Autumn term! In Class 3. We are all very excited to be back in school.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for their kind and generous gifts that were received throughout the year and particularly the summer term. It was truly overwhelming! Thank you once again.

Your child will receive the following homework each Friday:

- A reading book or books;
- A list of spellings or spelling-related work; and,
- A piece of mathematics homework to practise their mathematical skills.

We want to encourage adults in the home to support their child's learning. We want children to practise basic skills in reading, writing and maths to help improve their achievement in school.

Gentle reminder:

Your child will need to bring in a water bottle for school each day. School uniform including PE kits, coats, outdoor shoes should all be labelled clearly.



## Class Four: Nursery and Reception Class

**Class Teacher:** Miss Young

**Early Years practitioners:** Mrs Adams, Mrs Wilson.

Hello to all Nursery and Reception parents and welcome back to a new term. I hope you all had a lovely and relaxing summer. Mrs Adams and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the lovely cards and vouchers we received at the end of the Summer term.

Our topic for this term is All About Me. This gives the children many opportunities to get know each other and to settle into school life. We will be having lots of class discussions, talking about our interests and hobbies. We will also be looking at our physical appearance and learning to understand and appreciate that everyone is different.

Please note: Reception – Reading books will go home on Friday and will be changed every Friday. Nursery – You will take home a story pack on Friday which is to be returned in time to be changed on the following Friday.

To all our Early Years families –

Welcome back everyone! It has been lovely to see you all again this week, we have certainly missed you! To those joining us for the first time this term, a very warm welcome - we look forward to getting to know you.

We appreciate that things are a little different at school and we are grateful to you all for getting on board with our changes so quickly. We hope that once the children are safely inside the classroom, things are not too different for them and we will continue to offer them a fun-filled morning, keeping to our usual routine. Our theme this term will be, 'All About me', so we can get to know our new children and get reacquainted with our returners.

We would like to take this opportunity to outline a few admin arrangements. Our session times are slightly different this term; we open the doors at 9.00am and our sessions end at 12.00 midday. We will continue to provide snacks and drinks during the session. We would still appreciate children bringing in their own change of clothes/nappy changing items, in a small bag that can be kept on their peg – thank you.

For those wanting to stay to lunch club, this runs from 12.00 to 12.45pm Tuesday to Friday; bookings can be made via the school office – please call or email. Children will need to bring their own lunch.

Whilst we are unable to allow parents into the classroom at this time, we will always make ourselves available for a conversation. Please do not hesitate to catch us at the door if you'd like a chat.

Kind regards

Mrs Elmes & Mrs Heath

### 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 [ssfacommittee@outlook.co.uk](mailto:ssfacommittee@outlook.co.uk)

**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.

### **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.



**PLEASE PARK CONSIDERATELY**

**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.

**School Payments**

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



**Hit the button**

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/maths-games/hit-the-button>

Click the link to find great maths games.

**ATTENDANCE**

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

After so much time away from school please help your children catch up by making sure they have a high attendance

**Excellent attendance = Increased Learning time**

**Please note:**

- If your attendance falls towards or below 90% the Attendance Improvement Officer may wish to speak to you.
- Arriving late for school causes anxiety for your children which has a negative impact on their learning.



**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!!

## **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.

## **Stapleford Primary School Term Dates**

**For the academic year September 2020 to July 2021**

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 2020**

Term starts – Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September

Half term – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October - Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October

Term ends - 2:00pm Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December

### **SPRING TERM 2021**

Term starts - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January

Half term - Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 19<sup>th</sup> February

Term ends - 2:00pm Friday 26<sup>th</sup> March

### **SUMMER TERM 2021**

Term starts - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April

*May Day Bank Holiday* - Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May

Half term Monday 31<sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> June

Term ends – 2:00pm Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July

### **INSET Days and Occasional Day (School closed)**

*INSET Day 1* – Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

*INSET Day 2* – Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020

*INSET Day 3* - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020

*INSET Day 4* – Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020

*INSET Day 5* – Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2020

*Occasional Day* – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2020