Stocks Green Primary School

'Learning to Live, Living to Learn'

Newsletter - Friday 2nd October

HEADTEACHER'S MESSAGE

I have had a lot of opportunities to speak to Headteachers at other schools over the last couple of weeks. When I speak to them, I always talk with such pride about our wonderful school community and how well we all support each other. It has been wonderful to share this with other Headteachers at the start of term. Thank you everyone for all your continued support of the school as we settled into a new academic year.

What has been the most pleasing, however, has been to share with them just how well our children have settled back into routines and expectations. Walking around the school has a wonderful feel at the moment with children desperate to show me how hard they have worked on their presentation and learning. This was noted also by our new School Improvement Advisor (SIA), who I had the pleasure of hosting recently he noted that:

- The work undertaken using relational practice and behaviour principles has had a positive impact on pupils' attitudes and conduct.
- Learning environments are calm, purposeful and conducive to learning.
- Expectations around behaviour and routines are becoming increasingly embedded across the school.
- Pupils demonstrate positive attitudes towards learning and engage well in lessons.

This was such lovely feedback to receive and shows that the team's hard work around embedding Zone of Regulation, our newly adjusted Behaviour Policy and Principles and routines, norms and rewards has all had a positive impact at the start of term. The use of Launchpad for supporting pupils to regulate was also praised alongside our key ethos for this resource that it is a tool to support pupils to 'launch' back to their learning ready to learn. I felt very privileged to show our SIA around and share the wonderful work the team are undertaking.

At the start of the year, I would like to remind parents about the vital importance of reading to and with your child every night. Reading is the core skill that permeates everything we do at Stocks Green Primary School and opens children up to future opportunities and learning across the curriculum. As a school we simplified our homework policy a few years ago to provide parents with time to really focus in on this core skill at home. Remember, especially with the younger year groups, that we want children to repeatedly read their books across the week to improve fluency and to support orthographic mapping. Older children should also be reading every night. I have popped a couple of graphics on the next page to illustrate the difference that this can make for pupils.

Learning to Live, Living to Learn!

THANK YOU - PTA

I just wanted to take the time to say a huge thank you to the PTA. Our incredible team of PTA members do so much for the school. They organise the most incredible events, raise precious funds as well as bring the community together. We are so lucky to have this incredible team supporting the school. If you feel like you could support them, please get in touch as they are always keen for new members. Without their support, we would not be able to offer children at the school the experiences that we do. They are holding their AGM virtually on 19th October, if you can attend you would be most welcome.

Thank you to the PTA for supporting with the Crazy Sock Day idea!



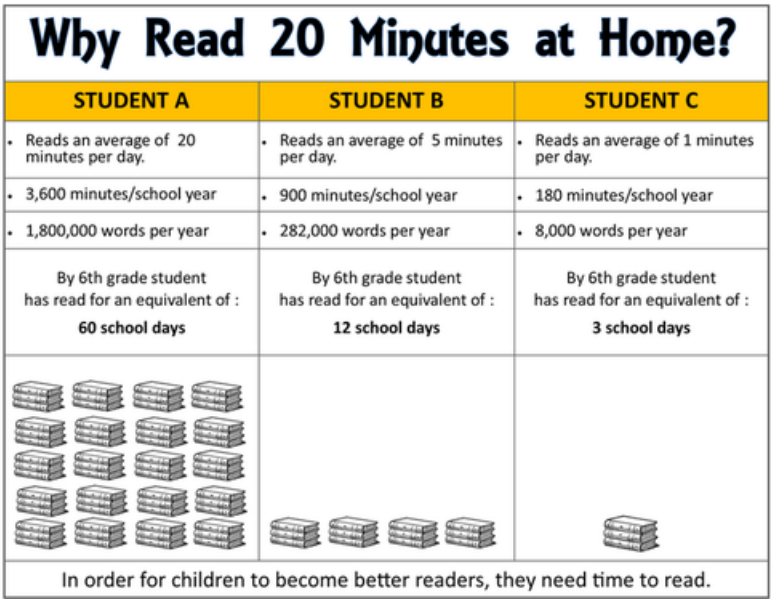
THANK YOU - MR ABEL-WRIGHT

One of our incredible parent body, Mr Abel-Wright came forward to help us paint our Year 3 and 5 classrooms over the summer. These classrooms were looking incredibly tired and in need of a new lease of life. Now they look superb. A huge thank you to Mr Abel-Wright for his help and support with this project!



THANK YOU - OUR TEAM OF VOLUNTEER READERS

We are very lucky to have several members of our parent body, and the local community, who come into school to listen to children read on a regular basis. This means that we can support even more children as they begin their journey to become fluent readers. I wish to express my deep gratidue to those members of our community who give up their time on a regular basis to support the school and listen to readers.



Learning to Live, Living to Learn!













OPAL

As we head into the Autumn term, we want to reinvigorate our OPAL playtimes after an incredibly wet and wild winter that forced us to shut the field for a period of time! We have been talking to the children in our play assemblies and through the School Council. They have identified some donations that they would love to add to our offer. If you are able to source any of these for us, we would be so grateful! Our OPAL offering really relies on donations from parents and the local community.

We also have some big plans for continuing to improve our outside environment over the coming terms and hope to share these changes in due course.

Donations we would currently love:

- dressing up clothes
- car seats
- suitcases
- coat hangers - for our new costume corner
- ride on suitcases
- wheelchairs



Learning to Live, Living to Learn!

NEW PREFECTS AND SPORTS LEADERS

Our incredible new Year 6 pupils all wrote letters to me a couple of weeks ago to request to either be a Sports Leader or a Prefect. Both of these roles come with a lot of responsibility, including supporting younger children to and from classes ready for assembly, saying good morning to our school community at the gate, organising and running sports events as well as writing reports for the newsletter. Their letters were incredibly persuasive and said how they would show the school values and the Stocks Green Way.

You can see the two groups below. Please make them feel welcome in their new roles by saying good morning to them on the gate in the morning or at sporting events!



YEAR 6 PREFECTS



YEAR 6 SPORTS LEADERS

PREFECT REPORT

Within the past fortnight, Stocks Green has been full of fun and creativity. The school have had a great time at the Harvest Assembly and they all tried their best and did really well.

Year R have had an amazing time during their phonics lessons learning the sound "t", different types of families and how to understand them.

Meanwhile, Year 2 have learnt about microhabitats and how some animals live in warm temperatures and some live in cold temperatures. If you didn't know what micro habitats were, they are small places where animals live. In geography, they have been learning about different continents, oceans and atlases. They leant about five different oceans and seven continents.

Stepping into Year 3, in science they learnt about lights and how they reflect. During their geography lessons, they investigated different layers of the Earth. In their math lessons, they finished place value. They were super glad to be done with it and move on to number lines. The best bit of all, they learnt how to write good instructions on "how to look after a magical creature" they all found it very exciting.

The year sixes were buzzing about their buddies and everyone is having a great time playing with them. The Year R's loved it too as they also found some friends. Everyone was so excited to see them join in with the Harvest Assembly.

Over this past 2 weeks, we have had fun but also worked hard to achieve our best abilities. We are proud of what we have done in the past fortnight.
Kacey C, Emilia W & Harry S



Learning to Live, Living to Learn!



SHOE SWAP

Thank you to all who donated and picked up shoes last Friday. The remainder have been dropped to Clothes2Go at Tonbridge Baptist Church, which offers clothing items to the local community at low cost.



REMINDER: CYCLE TO SCHOOL WEEK 5-9 OCTOBER

Get involved and Cycle to School when you can next week. Cycling helps build confidence, independence and lifelong healthy habits.

Our Stocks Green Bike Bus will ride Tuesday-Friday from Oast Theatre through Brookmead.

This initiative supports Cycles for Children to help every child aged 5-10 have a bicycle at home.
www.bikeability.org.uk/cyclesforchildren

ST JOHNS COMMUNITY LARDER

To all the Stocks Green Community,

The St John's Community Larder would like to say a MASSIVE thank you to all in the community for their donations received from the Harvest Assembly.

There were so many more donations than it appears in the photo attached. As a result, the shelves are looking very well stocked and we're really grateful.

Our Community Larder grew out of the Foodbank. Open to all, it is available 11.30am-1pm every Tuesday throughout the year. Its focus is stretching household budgets and reducing food waste.

Thank you so much
ST JOHNS COMMUNITY LARDER



Learning to Live, Living to Learn!













OPAL PLAY

Learning to Live, Living to Learn!

UPCOMING DATES FOR THE DIARY

Please remember that the full, and constantly updated list of dates, is on the school website under 'News and Events' - 'Yearly Planner'. It can also be accessed at https://www.canva.com/design/DAFM81PhRVw/8VzWtjH8GL43QK9p2eK6uA/view

- 5/10/26 - INDIVIDUAL PHOTOS
- 6/10/26 -YEAR R AND 1 BALANCE BIKEABILITY
- 8 & 9/10/26 - YEAR 6 BIKEABILITY
- 12 & 13/10/26 - YEAR 6 BIKEABILITY
- 13/10/26 - PARENTS EVENING
- 14 & 15/10/26 - LIFE SPACE WORKSHOPS
- 15/10/26 - PARENTS EVENING
- 19/10/26 - YEAR 6 TRIP TO HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT
- 20/10/26 - INTRA-HOUSE SPORTS
- 22 & 23/10/26 - BIKEABILITY
- 23/10/26 - FLU VACCINATIONS
- 23/10/26 - END OF TERM
- 2/11/26 - INSET DAY

SUPERSTAR CORNER

Well done to all our hardworking superstars from the last two weeks.

The Values Cup goes to a child who has shown our school values during the week. This term we are focusing on the value of respect.

25/9/26: Evie W - Year 4
2/10/26: Announced next week

The Values Cup for Sport goes to a child who has shown our school values during a sporting events, such as PE or a tournament, during the week. This term we are focusing on the value of respect.

Values Cup for Sport Winners:
25/9/26: Archie C - Year 2
2/10/26: Eliza M - Year 3

Our 'Above and Beyond' certificates are awarded to those pupils who have gone 'Above and Beyond' with their learning and attitudes in class all week.

Above and Beyond Winners 25/9/26:
Year 1: Freya E
Year 2: Iris G
Year 3: Amaya I
Year 4: Charlotte D
Year 5: Harry C
Yar 6: Liam F

Above and Beyond Winners 18/9/26:
Year 1: Michael K
Year 2: Sofia P
Year 3: Hunter F
Year 4: Finley H
Year 5: Chloe L
Year 6: Finn J



Learning to Live, Living to Learn!





Well done to Annabel (Y5) who achieved two silver medals over the summer. Annabel is a very keen tennis player and this success is a testament to her hard work and determination.



ZONES OF REGULATION

Each week in school we talk about a different Tool to help children regulate their emotions. This is our 'Tool of the Week'. We will be sharing the Tools we are using in school in the newsletter. This will enable parents to talk about them at home with their children too, so we can have a joined up approach to helping children to regulate their emotions.



Practice

Do something that sparks joy for you or others.

Some ideas:

- Help someone out
- Notice something you're grateful for
- Remind yourself of the positive side
- Write a nice note or draw a picture for someone
- Give a compliment



WHY TO TRY:

Sparks of joy can positively affect your mood for the rest of the day. These actions can help you cope with stress, think positive, grow relationships, and give you a sense of well-being.

Try to find a moment each day of the week to practice the tool.