

# Stanbridge Lower School



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## Newsletter No 1

6<sup>th</sup> September 2022

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Dear Parents/Guardians

Welcome back to the start of another academic year. I hope you enjoyed the holidays and all feel happy and refreshed. I would like to welcome all the new parents and families to Stanbridge. I'm sure they will all feel at home very soon and will get to know school routines and procedures quickly. The staff and I have met, and set all key dates for the year and these are listed at the end of this newsletter and will be on our website soon.

### Academic Calendar 2022/2023

**Inset Days:** September 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 3<sup>rd</sup> January, 31<sup>st</sup> March

**Autumn term:** 5<sup>th</sup> September - 16<sup>th</sup> December

Half Term: 24<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> October

**Spring Term:** 4<sup>th</sup> January - 30<sup>th</sup> March

Half Term: 13<sup>th</sup> - 17<sup>th</sup> February

**Summer Term:** 17<sup>th</sup> April - 21<sup>st</sup> July

Half Term: 29<sup>th</sup> May - 2<sup>nd</sup> June

### Half Termly Class Letters and Topic Sheets

Each half term the teachers will put a class newsletter onto their class page with all the information you need for the half term for your class. There will also be a plan showing what your child is learning about for the half term. Please look at this as your class teacher will also state what gaps in learning are being focused on and this is a good source of information. The first set for this year will be with you soon.

### Phonics Workshop for Parents of Children in Pre-school and Reception : 15<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30

Parents are invited to join Mrs Forbes for a workshop where she will discuss and demonstrate how to teach key phonics and reading skills to help you and your child on your reading journey.

### Reception Baseline Assessment (RBA)

All the Reception children will take part in this assessment across September. More information about the RBA can be found on your class page at [www.stanbridge.beds.sch.uk](http://www.stanbridge.beds.sch.uk).

### Harvest Festival - 12<sup>th</sup> October

We would also like to invite parents to our Harvest Festival on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October. All the children are invited to bring in one item of food (tins, cans and packets) which we will then donate to the Leighton Buzzard Helpers Food Bank.

- PS, Rec and Year 1: 9.30 - 10.00
- Year 2,3,4: 10.30 - 11.00



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We look forward to seeing you all. If you have any symptoms of COVID we ask you not to attend. There will be limited space in the hall, so we ask for parents with younger children to leave prams/buggies in the front porch or in the school library.

### **Harvest Pumpkin Patch: 10<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> October**

We would like to invite all the children to decorate a pumpkin for Harvest. The pumpkins should be displayed on the front patch of grass, between the two trees at the front of school. Miss Hughes will put up a sign to indicate the space. The children can cut, decorate, draw or mark their pumpkin in anyway and then place it in the Pumpkin Patch. Pumpkins should be placed in the pumpkin patch on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October and then collected on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October. The children don't have to use a real pumpkin if they prefer to make a pumpkin. All pumpkins should be made at home. Make sure you can identify your pumpkin, as judging will take place on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October and there will be a special prize for the winner. All the children will be able to look at the Pumpkin Patch as they enter and leave school each day across the week. We look forward to seeing all your creative entries.

All pumpkins that are not collected by the end of the day on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October will go to the big pumpkin patch in the sky! (the school bin).

### **Stanbridge Big Breakfast: Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

We are pleased to announce the return of the Big Breakfast and we would like to invite you all to join us for a big breakfast from 8am in the school hall. There will be a small charge for breakfast. Further information to follow.

### **School Clothing and Personal Items - Reminder**

All school clothing, bags and personal items etc. should be named.

### **Communication at Stanbridge and Text Messaging for Parents**

We use the text messaging service to inform you that current newsletters, letters about trips etc are ready to be viewed and downloaded from our website ([www.stanbridge.beds.sch.uk](http://www.stanbridge.beds.sch.uk)). The newsletter is an important source of information with all key dates and times on it, so please make the effort to read it and add dates to your diary etc. Text messaging will be used to send out urgent or important information to parents. ***Reminders, via text messaging are only sent out in special circumstances*** so please note down all important information from the newsletter, as stated earlier. Please can you send in the updated form below if any of your phone numbers have changed.

All key information relating to our school can be found on our website and on your class page. Please take a look. You will find information about such things as

- School blog and announcements
- Newsletters, visits and trips
- School calendar: containing all key dates etc.
- Homework links
- Exciting websites for children to use
- Key information: school curriculum, policies, use of pupil and sports premium etc
- Curriculum Information: Find out what your child is learning about in school.

Please like and follow our school Facebook page. This is used to showcase the school and is not used as a form of communication between home and school.

### **Holidays in Term Time**

I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents that rules relating to holidays in term time changed and ***no holidays will be authorised in term time***. If there are circumstances where you need to take your children out of school for exceptional reasons, please can you speak to me about this. The form to request holidays for exceptional reasons is available to download on the school website and must be submitted to the Head Teacher for approval.



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## Parking Outside of School

We continue in our endeavour to encourage all parents to be considerate parkers and to avoid parking on the corner of Orchard Way, across drives and on/opposite the zig-zag lines. Please report all persistent offenders to the School Office as we pass on details of this to the Community Police Officer. Thank you to those parents who do park considerately.

**Diary Dates:** These will be included on the school calendar on the website. Teachers are currently planning school trips for their classes and other curriculum events will also be organised and as the teachers plan their topics for the term. You will be notified of these accordingly.

15 <sup>th</sup> September	Reading workshop for Reception Parents in school 10.30 am
12 <sup>th</sup> September	Cooking Lessons for Year 1/2 - further details to follow
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 3/4 Football - Mrs Brewer to send further details
October tbc	Pegasus Award - Induction Training date tbc
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 1,2,3,4 Run for Fun - Mrs Brewer to send further details
10 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Pumpkin Patch
11 <sup>th</sup> October	Parent Consultations: choice given of face to face, zoom or telephone consultations
12 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival: PS, R, Yr1 (9.30 - 10) and Yr 2,3,4 (10.30 - 11)
12 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 3/4 Sports Cluster Meeting - Mrs Brewer to send further details
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Yr 3/4 Tag Rugby - Mrs Brewer to send further details
20 <sup>th</sup> October	Stanbridge Big Breakfast 8am
15 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photographer for individual photographs and group photos of siblings in school, 9.30am
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Yr $\frac{3}{4}$ Sports Hall Athletics - Mrs Brewer to send further details
23 <sup>rd</sup> November	Art afternoon for all year groups - The colours of Christmas
7 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Production: Yr PS, R, Yr 1 (9.45pm) and Yr 2,3,4 (1.45)
Date tbc	Christmas Dinner at School
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Parties in school - further details to follow
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Bake Sale - 3.30pm - 4pm
Spring Term	Cooking Lessons for Yr 3/4
18 <sup>th</sup> January	Art afternoon for all year groups - Sensational sculptures
31 <sup>st</sup> January	Year 3/4 Gymnastics - Mrs Brewer to send further details
Spring Term - date tbc	Year 3/4 Ukulele lessons
8 <sup>th</sup> February	Online Safety Day
22 <sup>nd</sup> - 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Grafham Residential Field Trip - Year 3 and 4
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Art afternoon for all year groups - Charcoal images
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	World Book Day - further details to follow
8 <sup>th</sup> March	Sports Disney Day - Mrs Brewer to send further details
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Science Day
16 <sup>th</sup> March	Parent Consultations: choice given of face to face, zoom or telephone consultations
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Poetry week in school
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Sports Cluster Meeting - Mrs Brewer to send further details
28 <sup>th</sup> March	Great Stanbridge Bake Off: Child, parent and staff categories
27 <sup>th</sup> April	Yr 3/4 Hockey - Mrs Brewer to send further details
Month of May	KS1 SATs Testing Period
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3/4 Netball - Mrs Brewer to send further details
5 <sup>th</sup> May	Art afternoon for all children - The sky
23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Year 3/4 Sports Cluster Meeting - Mrs Brewer to send further details



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Week of 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 4 Multiplication Test
Month of June	Phonics Screen Test for Year 1
8 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3/4 Cricket - Mrs Brewer to send further details
9 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day 2pm on school field
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Quad Kids Sports - Mrs Brewer to send further details
Tbc July	Year 4 Transfer Day
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3/4 Tennis - Mrs Brewer to send further details
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Children visit new classes for next year
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Reports sent home
14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Leavers Forest School Evening
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Open Afternoon and informal parent consultations
20 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4 Leavers Assembly at 9.30

### **Brief Explanation of Sessions for New Parents**

**Sporting Events:** School is part of the Leighton Linlade Sports Partnership who provide many sporting activities and competitions for children in KS1/2 across the year. We encourage all children to take part in competitions/festivals across the year and this is tracked by the PE Subject Leader - Mrs Brewer.

**Harvest Festival** - see above for this year's arrangements

**Pegasus Award:** Based on developing resilience. Children work towards objectives in four areas (see website for further details) and achieve an award at the end of the year

**Parent Consultations:** Parents and children are invited to talk to teachers about their child's achievements, progress and targets. These sessions take place in the school hall or over Zoom. In the summer term a drop in parent consultation session is held for parents, after school reports have been sent out (tbc).

**Christmas Production:** Parents are invited to watch their child perform in for Christmas

**Cooking Classes:** Children learn to cook as part of the new National Curriculum. A specialist teacher is brought in to teach the lessons to the children. Cooking also focus on healthy eating, food preparation etc. Further details are published on our website.

**Sports Day (arrangements for this year to be confirmed nearer the time):** Come and join us all on the school field and watch your child take part in sports across the afternoon.

**Grafham Residential Field Trip:** Is open to all children in year 3/4. Children spend three days away from home and school taking part in adventurous activities.

**School Photographer:** Across the year children will be invited to have their photographs taken. There is no obligation to purchase the photographs.

**Art Focus Afternoons:** Your child, in addition to their art lessons, will take part in a range of art focus lessons across the year which will help them to develop their skills at using different mediums.

**Science Day:** This links to National Science Week and the children will take part in a range of activities across the day which link with the current theme.

**World Book Day:** Each year is different at Stanbridge. Mrs Forbes will send out information nearer the time informing parents what the children will be learning about and about any book fairs that have been organised.



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**Online Safety Day:** This links to National Online Safety Day where you child will take part in a range of activities where they learn about how to keep safe when working online and will link to the current theme.

**Great Stanbridge Bake Off**

This is an annual event for everyone to take part in. Children, parents and staff all bake cakes and we invite special guests into school to judge them. They are judged on taste, appearance and quality of the bake. There are 3 categories: child, parent and staff. Prizes are awarded at the end.

**Stanbridge Big Breakfast**

Children and families are invited into school and for a small charge, they can all enjoy breakfast together from 8am.

Yours sincerely

R J GODWIN

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**Teachers 2 Parents - Text Messaging Service**

Name of Child: .....

My mobile/home telephone/emergency telephone number has changed to

.....  
.....



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