



# Stockbridge

## Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 19

11 March 2022

### A 'temperature check'

Can you believe it? We are over half way through this academic year! Time flies!

The Parent questionnaire sent out earlier this week is proving really helpful as an insight into how things are for our families as we move out of COVID.

Your thoughts on the behavior system, both reward and sanction are really, really helpful and, as Miss T & I investigate different models further, we will keep you informed and are likely to form a focus group to gauge your thoughts as we move forwards.

As well as taking this 'temperature check' with parents part way through the year, our school councilors and a few additional helpers have been working their socks off this week by supporting every child in school to respond to our children's questionnaire. I believe that this is fundamentally important so that no adult influences their thinking. The responses really are the children's own.

It has been so brilliant listening to our older children explaining the questions to their younger counterparts and they have some genuinely fantastic responses which we will share in due course. My favourite idea for improvement is to have 71 real horses to ride although this may prove hard to realise! There were some other really grown up, sensible solutions to problems they have spotted. One has namely been the trim trail so I am planning to share the design with all children and.....we have an installation date.....25<sup>th</sup> April so we will have it in place for a summer of heavy use hopefully.

This change, so wished for by the children is down to the hard work of FOSS committees in the past 5 or 6 years and of course your support at events in this time - thank you. It is something the children desperately want improved.

Kind regards,

Emma Jefferies  
Headteacher

### Parent questionnaire

As a gentle reminder, this is the link to the parent questionnaire, issued earlier this week by email. We'd really appreciate your thoughts on the year so far. The survey will be open until Monday evening next week.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE SURVEY](#)

### Next Friday - Bake sale & Comic Relief

Next Friday the School Council would like to organise a bake sale for the Ukrainian refugee crisis. They will sell their wares at break and after school with cakes available for 50p.

If you are able to bake a tray of cakes, that would be really helpful please. School council will be available to collect and organise them at the beginning of the day.

That Friday (18<sup>th</sup>) is also Comic Relief. For Comic Relief we would love the children to join in the fun with a SILLY SOCK DAY. We thought it would be lovely to have a dress down day, with fun socks, odd socks, colourful socks for a £1 donation.

**Noses will be on sale for £1.50 from the School Office from Tuesday**



### Club change next week

Coding & Cooking club will be running on Wednesday for next week only due to previously booked staff training which had to be rearranged due to COVID. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

### Outstanding monies

The end of March is creeping closer - please make sure any outstanding balances on Scopay are settled before March 29<sup>th</sup>. Thank you!

# Sport

James & George (Year 4) & Alex (Year 5) were among a group of 13 boys and girls selected to play for Andover U9 Rugby Team at the Overton Festival on Sunday.

They managed a staggering 4 wins against Eastleigh Trojan's, Winchester, Romsey & Overton and a nail biting draw against Alton in their final game. Both boys scored a number of tries between them & performed some incredible tackles in the first of their competitive contact games. They are hopeful to be selected to play at the Hampshire County tournament in 2 weeks.

Morris Campling & Rowan Foord were also representing U8 rugby for Winchester & Andover respectively, playing in their first tag competition

We also have some serious sporting competitors in other areas this weekend.

Beau (Year 3) is taking part in the National BMX Championships in Manchester – what an amazing achievement for someone so young – best of luck Beau!

Jack (Year 6) is travelling all of the way up to Edinburgh to take part in his first national Taekwondo completion next weekend.

We've seen how amazing you are at this Jack – go for it!

William (Year 6) had another fantastic achievement with more firsts when representing his Athletics team last weekend. MASSIVE well done William!



## REGULAR UPDATES



Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

### Safeguarding

Have you heard of 'swiggle'?



This is a child-friendly search engine which we're encouraging children to use when searching for things in school. This is suitable for children in years 3-6. The reason it's suitable for children is that it's ad-free so there's no possibility of inappropriate content popping up anywhere.

### Music

This month we've got a new musician to focus on, it's

**ED SHEERAN**

We all know at least one or two of his songs and they're catchy, aren't they? We'll be using his music to help the children focus on tempo – this is how fast (or slow!) the music goes.



### Reading

In school, we listen to children read throughout the week during guided reading sessions but what do these entail?

#### SPRAT & WINKLE & YEAR 1

Children have guided reading as a year group. Each class have a focus author which helps broaden the children's knowledge and access to rich texts which may be outside their individual reading level.

In addition, they are heard read at least twice per week by an adult in school.

#### LOWER SCHOOL – Years 2 & 3

In lower school, children work in small groups, with children of similar reading ability and have a text that is unique to that group. They read with an adult in this way 6 times over a fortnight. On the days they're not reading with an adult, they complete a comprehension task based on the text they're reading so that we can check how much they are independently understanding of what they read.

#### UPPER SCHOOL – Years 4-6

In the older year groups, we generally have one text which is a 'class read' and chip away at it chapters at a time. We might paraphrase some if it's a particularly chunky text! We also use mixed media with film as well as audio clips of the book, children may read it but also may listen to their teacher read to them and will always be learning new comprehension skills.

We unpick:

Why the author uses particular language

What the overriding themes are of the text

What impact it has on the reader

What we can tell about a character, setting or plot through inference (when the answer isn't immediately clear)

# In other news...



## Breakfast Club

This is an important part of our daily provision and supports many families who may need to use it on a regular basis as well as being a useful 'extra' on those days when you as parents are needed elsewhere. Since returning from COVID, numbers have significantly dropped and we need it to be financially viable. You do not need to book a space – just turn up! It's £4 and that includes as much breakfast as your child can eat!

## Massive thanks!

Mr & Mrs Maple, Mr King, Mr Liddiard and their respective children joined Mrs Holdich, Miss Tregunna & I to form a miracle team last Saturday morning. In 2 short hours, we managed to cut back a lot of old growth, make a new play area, clear the pond path so we can get children all the way around it, lay a new path ready for lots of spring adventures AND (perhaps most importantly) make a toilet area! How exciting!

The before and after photos don't do it justice – the transformation is incredible in real life. Thanks so much!



Before

&

after

## School Council Ukrainian refugee response

We've got a new display in school for children to explore where in the world, in relation to them, the conflict is happening and we're using 'First News' to help us keep up to date with happenings in Russia and Ukraine. This provides an open forum and opportunity for children to question and explore with their friends. I've also said that children may borrow a book to take home and share – if they bring one home, please could we have it back within a few days so others can use it too.

Thank you for the brilliant efforts on our dress down day today – we raised £339.21!

**We HIGHLY recommend Lorraine's brilliant workshops plus they're online so easy to access.**

**If you'd like to access them but the fee is a barrier, please speak to us so we can support you with this.**

**Foundations For Positive Mental Health**

A workshop for parents of children age 9 upwards  
**Tickets cost £10 (plus online booking fee): Visit [www.lorrainelee.org](http://www.lorrainelee.org) and select 'EVENTS'**

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**Helping Children Who Struggle To Open Up**

If children express how they feel, it helps to ensure their needs are appropriately met. It enables their peers to respect things that are important to them and helps parents to support them better.

A workshop for parents and carers of children who find it hard to express their feelings  
**Tickets cost £10 (plus online booking fee): Visit [www.lorrainelee.org](http://www.lorrainelee.org) and select 'EVENTS'**

**Online Parent Workshop 17th March 8:00-9:30pm**