



Stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 18

28th February 2025

Sunshine brings spring

What a delight to end the week with a beautifully sunny morning, we paused on the bridge on the Bunny road today in the school minibus to admire the view and think how lucky we are to live and work somewhere as beautiful as Stockbridge.

Your children have settled calmly and easily back into the routine of school after half term and this week our playground has been packed with skipping and learning as we master new skipping tricks, I have been really impressed by the determination of children to learn to skip – it's not an easy skill! Our skipathon is in just over a week's time and we'll all be engaging in fun activities on the afternoon of 11th March to test our skipping skills.

Talent show

I'm sorry about the delay in sending the last newsletter. In it, I mentioned about the talent show but, as the letter has only just gone out, we have decided to delay holding it to allow more time for practice! We will now hold in the afternoons of the week beginning 17th March. Videos of hobbies and talents at home can be shared via google classroom or dojo and we will play them in class. A reminder than no entry should be more than 2 mins long.

Lunches

You may have heard in the news recently that Hampshire Catering service are ceasing operations in December 2025. Governors voted unanimously last night to move to a new supplier which will hopefully be in place for September. I will write with more details as we firm them up over the coming weeks and months. It's very exciting!!

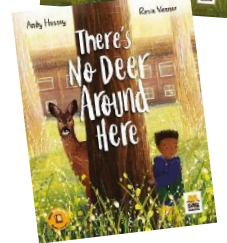
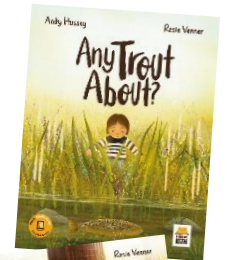
Mrs Emma Jefferies
Headteacher

World book day - Fri 7th March

On this year's world book day, you can relax! No costumes are required! We hold a book week in May which allows us to really get into the theme rather than a one off day but we will be sending home the world book day vouchers next week so that children can purchase the books (for free) from retailers.

We will be marking the day though with a visit from local author, Andy Hussey who will share some writing tips and read his books to the children and then be around after school to sign copies.

They can be purchased from school on the day for £8.50.



Comic relief day – Fri 14th March

We are yet again breaking the rules for Comic relief day. For every rule you break, you are 'fined' 50p! Break all the rules and pay £4!

This year, the rules are:

1. NO trainers or sparkly shoes
2. NO odd socks or crazy tights
3. NO superheroes or fancy dress
4. NO crazy hair
5. NO hats
6. NO football, rugby or other sports tops
7. NO odd shoes
8. You MUST wear school uniform

All proceeds will go to Comic relief.



We will NOT have red noses for sale this year so if your child is wearing one from home, please ensure it has their name on it.

Grounds working party

We have big things planned for our spring grounds working party and we really, really need all hands on deck please! This helps save us literally thousands of pounds across the year that means we can put more money into resources and staffing for your child in school.

SATURDAY 15TH MARCH 9.30am – 11.30am

- Dig out 3 of the beds on the playground, we're going to make some digging and sand pits.
- Strim and tidy forest school
- Replant hanging baskets
- Plant some grasses and lavender ready for summer
- Tidy the polytunnel
- Trim the buddleja in the chicken coop and ready it for chicks!
- Re-establish fire pit circles in forest school
- Tidy forest school tools and log store.

Wellbeing update

We had a fantastic week just before half term for Children's Mental Health week. Thank you to everyone who popped in to school at the end of the day to see the *Know Yourself, Grow Yourself* artwork. We've been overhearing lots of conversations about how everyone is feeling and it's great to hear even the youngest of our children put this into words. The next step is learning what to do to help ourselves when we are feeling a particular way.

This week, Mrs Cooper has been out on some training and is now a Mental Health First Aid Youth Champion. We're developing a bank of resources to support children, families and staff with their mental health. We know it is not easy, but you are not alone. If you need to chat please do reach out.



Music

Congratulations to Charlie Parker who achieved a merit pass on his grade 1 guitar lesson in the holidays!

It is time for a new Musician of the Half Term! This time we have chosen Imagine Dragons. We have chosen a band this time and are hoping it might inspire some musicians to get together ahead of the Talent Show. We'll be focusing on the musical dimension of structure. This means we're thinking about how a piece of music is put together. Are there verses or choruses that get stuck in our heads?

IMAGINE DRAGONS

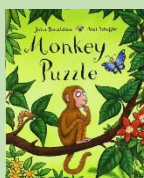


REGULAR



UPDATES

Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school



Year R

We have started our new topic of life cycles with a bang! We have been doing a lovely book for Drawing Club this week- Monkey Puzzle, with the children drawing some really imaginative monkey detectors! In Maths we have been looking at time. The children ordered some pictures from the past; luckily they put Mrs Thomson being born after the dinosaurs!



Lower School

We've started this half term with a bang by jumping into our topic 'How does your garden grow?' In Science we have been planting, sorting and labelling different plants. Our books 'The Year of Nature Poems' and 'Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain' link into this by writing about the nature around us.

Upper School

This week we have launched into our learning about Ancient Egypt. The children have created a timeline of the main events and enjoyed taking part in Egypt's got talent. In Maths we have been learning about decimals and applying them to real life problems. We are excited to dive into our Science related to the Egyptians.

Sports

It was great to get our netball club up and running this week with Miss Morris at the helm and Mrs Pawsey joining them next week. Children were very excited to get going!

In outside of school sports, Mila in Year 2 achieved her yellow and white stripe belt in judo and proceeded to show me her moves on her mum – impressive!! I wouldn't mess with her!

Jack continued with his skiing success whilst in Austria over the holidays, earning him medals for coming fourth and first in a race against his brothers and other children in the ski school.

Maxi and Ben in year 3 have also had success in their skiing, achieving badges in their skiing schools learning new skills and challenging themselves.

Diary Dates Spring term 2024-25

These are diary dates for parents for the next fortnight until the next newsletter is out.

Our website is also updated with all of these new dates and will now be up to date as we've bravely moved to an online diary for all staff!

Date	Who does it apply to?	Time	Notes
FEBRUARY			
Fri 28th	All parents	7.00pm-11.00pm	FOSS Quiz Night – All parents and friends welcome
March			
Mon 3rd	Year 5/6	10.00am-12.00pm	Year 5/6 Tag Rugby – Letters have gone out.
Tues 4th	S&W	9.00am-2.00pm	Year R Hilliers Garden trip.
Fri 7th	All	2.00pm-3.00pm	World Book Day – Author Andy Hussey coming into school.
	All	2.00pm-3.30pm	Second hand book sale.
Mon 10th	Year 6	8.50am-5.00pm	House of Parliament trip – meet at Andover train station for 8.50am
Tues 11th	All	1.15pm	Skipathon.
Fri 14th	All	8.50am-3.15pm	Red Nose Day – Break the Rules
Sat 15th	All	9.30am-11.30am	Grounds working party.
Mon 17 th – Fri 20 th	All	8.50am-3.15pm	Stockbridge has talent – Talent show.
Tues 18th	Year 5/6	4.00pm-5.30pm	Netball Tournament – letters to follow
Wed 26th	Year 3	9.30am-11.30	Outdoor Learning Festival – West Tytherley – letters to follow
Fri 28th	All	1.30pm-3.30pm	Mother's Day Shop