



Stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 16

23 January 2026

Managing big emotions – a helpful hint

Following our PBS workshop on managing big emotions, they have helpfully provided a booklet with lots of strategies. Rather than overwhelm you all in one go, I thought we'd take one a week. This is the first and I'm starting with one that's possibly the hardest to change in the way WE speak to children.

“Thank you” OK, this is hard because we’re all taught to ask politely but sometimes, this doesn’t cut it!!

not

Holly refuses to put her toys away – say “Holly, toys in the box, thank you!”

Billy refuses to put his trousers on – say “Billy, trousers on, thank you!”

“Please”

Alfie is jumping up and down on the sofa – “Alfie, bottom on the sofa, thank you!”

Basically,” [Child’s name], {direct instruction for what you want to happen}, Thank you!”

Spectacular!

Last week, our eldest children travelled to the O2 arena in London to sing with over 8600 other children in the Young Voices choir. This is a VERY long day, returning just before midnight after 4hrs of rehearsals and a 2hr concert. ON the way, we stopped in Greenwich village for pizza and were lucky to have 3 of the suites in the O2 which has space to stretch out and relax in.

The children were absolutely impeccably behaved. They rallied around each other when energy flagged, sung and danced their hearts out and really lived our Stockbridge Standards of responsible, resilient and proud learners.

We couldn’t help but be proud either! We do this trip bi-annually as it’s very costly and takes a lot of rehearsal in school to reach the standard needed to sing 14 songs with no words and with so many others. A massive thank you to the parents who traipsed all the way there to support their children, to those who couldn’t make it but have most probably sung along with the words and of course, to our team who work well beyond their paid hours.

We even made it onto the evening news because we were in the arena for the ‘Wicked’ world record sing along, joining children all over the world to sing the Wicked medley. Well done children!

Mrs Jefferies
Headteacher

LAST CHANCE!

Anxiety – Fri 30th Jan 9am – 11am – THIS Friday!!
[**BOOK HERE**](#)

Governors

Our Vice Chair is one of you! Vicky Venables, mum to Iris (Y6) and Max (Y4) is a Local Authority Governor but also a parent. She has been a governor for the last 5 years and brings a wealth of skills to the table in financial management which is also her day job. By recruiting parents and community members with specialisms, we strengthen the oversight the Governors have of our school.

Vicky Venables – Vice Chair



I moved to the area ten years ago and I feel so lucky to be able to live and bring my children up in such a beautiful and community spirited place. My children (Iris in Yr 5 and Max in Yr 3) have had a very happy time at Stockbridge School and have seen the benefit of the school’s emphasis not only on the educational foundations of the curriculum, but also from the extra-curricular experiences on offer.

I joined as a Governor as I wanted to help support the school and offer financial advice where needed. I started my finance career with KPMG where I qualified as a CIPFA Chartered Accountant, specialising in public sector finances. I then moved into the public sector, working at Hampshire County Council where I served as Deputy CFO for Hampshire PCC. All my roles have focused on promoting sound financial management, delivering value for money and ensuring organisational objectives are delivered. I hope I can bring some of these skills to the Governing Body – especially important in these times of ever decreasing budgets and resources.

Sports

Dreaming of summer? Cricket has started for our local team, Broughton Cricket Club, who are now holding indoor practice at Danebury School.

Under 9s (school years 3-4).
Our sessions run on **Fridays** from 6:00pm to 7:00pm at **Danebury School**, moving to Broughton Sports Field for as nights get lighter.

For younger players, we will be relaunching AllStars cricket, which is aimed at 5-7 year olds. Details will be issued in the next month or so.



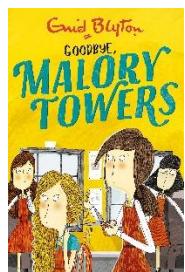
REGULAR UPDATES



Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

Reading

As well as being Vice Chair, Vicky Venables is also the English linked Governor with a real passion for reading. I thought we'd share her favourite reads for children and adults here:



Favourite childhood books: I loved Michael Morpurgo books as a child, as well as Enid Blyton's Malory Towers and St Clare's. I also devoured all the Point Crime and Point Horror books as a teenager, and still love a crime novel for a good page turner.

Favourite adult books: I have always loved Ian McEwan's books (Enduring Love is a particular fav), I have read all Elizabeth Strout's books and my current favourite is Kristin Hannah - The Great Alone is a particular highlight. I love these authors as they are incredible story tellers with a particular focus on family and the emotional connections and complexity of relationships.

What are your favourite childhood reads? Have you ever shared them with your child/ren?



Lost property

We held a huge amount of lost property at the end of last term which was distributed to various organisations at the end of term as notified.

We already have a lot gathering for this new term and an awful lot of it is unnamed and not claimed.

Does anyone have any one of 4 (yes 4!) cardigans, all labelled with a sticky label. size 26" belonging to Fox Morris?

Have either of Isla Standing's 2 cardigans made your way home to your house?

PLEASE RELABEL all shoes & clothing.

What is your child learning... ...in SPELLING

S&W: Tricky words – was, you, they, my, by, all, are, sure

Year 1: In Year 1 we have been applying the graphemes that we have learnt to our spelling work. We have also worked on the tricky words: Mr, Mrs, Ms, could, would, should, our, house & mouse.

Year 2: In Year 2 we have been exploring the question 'Why do I drop the e when I add the suffixes -ed, -ing, -er, -est and -y?'. We have been learning the spelling rules that correspond with this.

Year 3: In Year 3 we are focusing on plurals. We have learned the -s plural (the most common plural) and -es plural (for words ending in sh, ch, x, ss, s, z) and understanding that if a word ends in a y we must change it to an i before adding es.

Year 4: In Year 4 we have been focusing on getting our focus 5 correct in our English work. We have also been focusing on the use of apostrophes when the word is plural.

Year 5: In Year 5 we have been practicing spelling words off of the Year 5 and 6 spelling list. This is when practicing in spelling and in ANY of our written work. We have also been working on using the correct homophone in our written work.

Year 6: In Year 6 we have been recapping spelling, punctuation and grammar in preparation for the SATs.



Year R

This week Sprat and Winkle class had an exciting delivery of some safe saws and perforator tools from the brand MakeDo to help them be more creative and independent when junk modelling with cardboard. They had a blast exploring the tools and how to use them effectively. We also learnt how to plan what we want to build using a template and then practiced bringing our ideas to life.



Lower School

This week, Redbridge and Horsebridge enjoyed a fact-filled trip to the Tudor House in Southampton. We enjoyed a guided tour of the house and learnt about its connections to the Great Fire of London. We also had a chance to explore artefacts from the time and learnt all about what they were used for.

Narratives

Upper School

This week we have been finalising our narratives. Clatford have written a narrative based on Aladdin and Mottisfont have written a narrative on Sinbad the Sailor. We have all been working on showing not telling. Year 5 and 6 had a fabulous time at Young voices.

Clubhouse

Week 5 plan is below for next week so that you can book ahead. We know that the booking system closes at a tricky time and we are trying to resolve this but for now, if you need your child booked into any sessions next week and haven't done so already, please email Miss Lawler:

adminoffice@stockbridge.hants.sch.uk

Last week was National birdwatch week and children make prototypes of bird boxes and spent time investigating which birds use our grounds.

This week we've gone international and we've taken France as our inspiration. Children have been learning some French songs in addition to those they learn in school. They'll also be trying out traditional French recipes for crepes and croque monsieur, making a teddy passport and recreating art by famous French artists Matisse and Monet!



Activities this week can be completed at any point.



The Clubhouse

Spring 1 week 5: 2nd - 6th February 2026

Monday 2 nd Feb	Tuesday 3 rd Feb	Wednesday 4 th Feb	Thursday 5 th Feb	Friday 6 th Feb
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Snacks

Fresh fruit is readily available plus a selection from toast to crumpets to rice cakes and more!

Outdoor play

We are blessed with waterproofs and huge space – outdoor play is downtime after the school day for about 45mins. It might be on the field, in the polytunnel, in forest school, with ~~KitCamp~~, or on the playground.

Homework

Each night, we will read with the youngest children and support Years 2-6 with their homework whether it be spellings, reading or times tables rock stars. Years 4-6 topic homework still needs to be completed at home with you.

Main activity This week's theme is 'Children in need'

We're authors

Creating our own books to share with friends.

Dress up and role play

New dress up clothes linked to books and a chance to act out our favourite stories

Picture book day

Exploring our large collection of picture books and creating art in the style of illustrators Lauren Child & Eric Carle

Book in a box

Shoeboxes ahoy for this as we create a mini scene from our favourite books in a box.

Drawing

Drawing our favourite characters to decorate our library display.

Supper

Noodles (meat free Monday)

Stir fry veg, salmon & hoisin sauce with wholewheat noodles

Chicken & chorizo jambalaya

Succulent chicken pieces and chorizo cubes in a mild spicy rice.

Meatballs

Homemade meatballs with lean 5% beef mince. Tomato sauce & fusilli plus garlic bread & salad.

Spuds & sauce

Jacket potatoes with either beans, chilli (meat) or veggie chilli filling

Pizza

Make your own toppings from pepperoni, pineapple, ham, peppers, mushrooms Salad platter

Themes this half term:

Week 1 5 th - 9 th Jan	Week 2 12 th - 16 th Jan	Week 3 19 th - 23 rd Jan	Week 4 26 th - 30 th Jan	Week 5 2 nd - 6 th Feb	Week 6 9 th - 13 th Feb
New Year traditions around the world	All about me	Birdwatch week	French theme week	National storytelling week	Winter Olympics

Diary Dates Autumn term 2025-26

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!

INSET dates for 2025-26 are:

Monday 23rd February

Tuesday 24th February

Monday 15th June

These are days when staff are undertaking training and children are not in school.

Breakfast club nor Clubhouse run on these dates either.

Date	Who does it apply to?	Time	Notes
JANUARY			
Friday 16 th	All	9.00-11.00pm	Big Emotions Workshop for Parents – Please book via the link
Tues 20 th	YR & Y6	9.00am	Height and Weight checks with School Nurse
	KS1	9.00am-3.00pm	KS1 trip to Tudor House, Southampton – letters sent out today
Thurs 22 nd	Y5 & Y6	10.00am-Midnight	Young Voices – letter to follow
Fri 30 th	All	9.00-11.00pm	Anxiety Workshop for Parents – Please book via the link
FEBRUARY			
Tues 10 th	All	8.00-9.00pm	FOSS AGM (Virtual)
Mon 16 th	All		HALF TERM
Mon 16th – Fri 20th – HALF TERM			
Mon 23 rd	All	All day	INSET Day
Tues 24 th	All	All day	INSET Day