



Stockbridge

Primary and Pre-school



Newsletter 18

6 February 2026

Managing big emotions – a helpful hint

Last week we shared the 'nice and nice' choices. I hope you'd had a play with these and they've had some positive results. Sometimes though, you need to draw a line and make the right choice clear so this week, we're taking 'nice and not nice' as the theme. It's easier than it sounds, the trick is keeping calm when you're doing it!

Nice

So, you're on your way out the door on a morning and your child's refusing to turn off the television or won't brush their teeth or on an evening, won't go upstairs to get ready for bed.

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You've tried the 'nice & nice' eg. "you can turn the TV off or I can," and it's not making a difference. **STEP IT UP.**

Not nice

Try "the TV needs to be turned off now or you won't be able to use it when you come home tonight." Or "either it's finished now, or it will have to be done instead of going to the park." Or "your toys need to go away now or we won't be able to play with them before bed."

Parent teacher meetings

Thank you for such a great response to parent teacher meetings, almost every family has been seen or has an appointment to catch up with their child's class teacher.

These are important meetings as it's your time to formally catch up with your child's teacher whether face to face or virtually as well as ask questions about things related to school. During or after each meeting, a log is made by teachers for each child of what was discussed and I read every single one of them so that we can work together as a team to address issues raised.

Thank you also to those of you who have completed the parent questionnaire. For those of you who completed paper copies on Wednesday evening, I will be emailing you a link where you can leave comments which I know the paper form didn't allow for.

For those who haven't yet completed it, please complete it here – [Click here](#)

We really want to hear your voice!

This week we have had Hampshire's leading English Advisor visit school to go through our spelling, grammar and writing progress. Having undertaken a large sampling of writing books, I am really impressed by the efforts your children are putting into their content and handwriting particularly.

Mrs Jefferies
Headteacher



PEAS first drop-in session for parents is **THIS FRIDAY 6th FEB**
9.30am – 11.30am
Andover Community Engage,
15-17 Bridge St, Andover

Governors

Each Governor brings a certain set of skills to the table and this week, we're focusing on someone who has helped me to recruit most of our teaching and support team over the last 3 years.



Gemma Butler – Parent Governor

Gemma is mum to Charlie (Y2) and Harry (YR) and has been a governor for 3 years now.

An HR professional, she lends her skills to our recruitment and retention but also, because her children have come up through pre-school, is involved in monitoring the quality of our Early Years provision.

Gemma writes:

I settled in Longstock in 2013, having spent 4 years living and working in Zambia.

My background is Recruitment & HR which I bring to add to the Governing Body's strengths; I have been working with Mrs Jefferies on recent rounds of recruitment and am also safer recruitment trained to ensure we are keeping our children safe. I have recently completed a course in Understanding Children & Young People's Mental Health, which is a subject I am passionate about.

I'm mum to Charlie & Harry who both attend Stockbridge Primary & Pre-School. When I'm not running around after a 6 and 4 year old, I enjoy cooking, travelling & music.

Sports

Ava in Clatford had an exciting week in football. She played against a number of different teams at the Chelsea training ground in Cobham. Rather excitingly, her team Chelsea 1, won the overall tournament. Well done Ava!

Maxi in Mottisfont is incredibly proud of himself this week as he beat the fastest swimming speed at his swimming club in front crawl. Well done Maxi!

Harison in Clatford finished his swimming classes, and has now begun to learn how to be a rookie lifeguard. Well done Harison!

Alice (in Mottisfont) and the other netball team have been working really hard in their training practicing their catching skills ready for a friendly against Kings Somborne School after half term.

After half term, there lots of exciting opportunities to meet our cluster schools in sporting competitions. Letters for the Tag Rugby Competition, Outdoor Learning festival for Year 3 and Netball competition will be coming out shortly.

Safeguarding

ESPECIALLY FOR YEAR 5 & 6 PARENTS

Whilst you may be thinking ahead to secondary school choices, what phone to buy your child or setting up 11+ tuition, the most pressing issues for your soon-to-be secondary aged child are related to safeguarding.

Child criminal or sexual exploitation & county lines drug exposure are key areas of concern in our local area.

The Ivison trust is running free webinars for parents so that you enter into secondary ages with your eyes open and a metaphorical toolkit to help you help your child.

In our experience, the families who think it won't happen to them are exactly the ones it happens to!

[Book a place here](#)



REGULAR UPDATES



Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

Reading

Getting to a library can be tricky what with weekend commitments for clubs, afterschool limited hours but getting our children reading....for free, is a gift we can easily give them through your phone or tablet. In fact, if you're offering a device for downtime, why not make it to read on rather than play games?



Search in the app store or android version of this for

Sora app

There are free audiobooks, magazines and ebooks on there – the possibilities for the children are endless!

When you've downloaded it, sign in using your child's school account:

First name.last name@stockbridgeschool.co.uk

They will either know their password or it will be in the back of their reading record. Any queries, please email Mrs Jefferies: headteacher@stockbridge.hants.sch.uk

What is your child learning...

...in WRITING?

S&W: This term we have been focusing on superhero themed books such as 'Super worm', 'Dan and Diesel' and 'A superhero like you' to name a few. We have been challenging ourselves to use finger spaces in our sentences and ending with a full stop. Next week in Drawing club we will be drawing pictures and writing sentences linked to the story 'Captain Green and the Plastic Scene'.

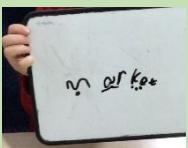
REDBRIDGE: In our first writing journey, we read the book 'Vlad and the Great Fire of London' and explored story mountains. We revisited punctuation rules and learnt how to use coordinating conjunctions to add extra information to our sentences. This week, we have begun our second journey during which we will focus on descriptive language.

HORSEBRIDGE: This term, the children have been writing diary entries from the perspective of William, a character from our book The Great Fire of London. They have learned the features of a diary and focused on using 'or' and 'but' conjunctions in year 2 and 'because and 'if' in Year 3. They have been writing in first person and writing descriptive sentences about what would be experienced in the great fire. We have begun our new journey writing a non-chronological report using third person.

MOTTISFONT: This term, children have been learning how to write narratives. Our first narrative was based on Sinbad the Sailor, and we are currently working on a narrative based on the wordless book Journey. A key focus has been the use of dialogue. We have revised correct dialogue punctuation and learning how dialogue can be used to show not tell a character's emotions. Next week, children will focus on writing action by using short sentences and powerful verbs to create tension.

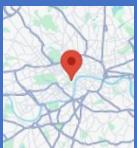
CLATFORD: In our first writing journey, the children revised our use of direct speech. We learnt how to use inverted commas correctly, what a reporting clauses was and where to place our punctuation. We then applied our learning to write a story of Aladdin from Jafar's point of view. In our second learning journey we have been studying Michael Rosen's poetry book 'On the Move' and have been investigating figurative language before writing a diary entry next week.

Year R

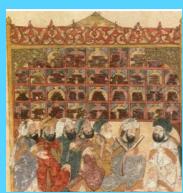


In Sprat and Winkle this week we have been learning all about longer words in our phonics lessons. We have learnt how many syllables there is in our names and used this to help us identify syllables in longer words. We have clapped out the syllables, segmented the sounds in the first syllable and write them down before doing the same for the second syllable. Our confidence is really growing!! Well done Sprat and Winkle class!

Lower School



In lower school the children have been comparing London and Stockbridge in Geography. We have been looking at human and physical features and seeing what is different about London's city landscape compared to rural villages like Stockbridge. In DT we have begun designing our own Tudor houses to make next week!



Upper School

In History, we have been researching famous scholars of the time period, learning that many of these people have impacted our lives. We created a hall of fame using our knowledge. In R.E we have continued our learning about Umma (community) and have enjoyed creating our own posters for groups that we participate in outside of school.

Clubhouse

This week in clubhouse was storytelling week! We have been discussing our favourite stories with each other and even role played some of our memorable parts in the story using the dressing up clothes. During this we thought very hard and tried to guess each other's stories.

Some of us made our own story books using our imagination to recreate or make up our own story.

You may have seen our new LSA based in Sprat and Winkle at clubhouse, Miss Futcher.

Miss Futcher will be running clubhouse bringing more exciting activities for your children to take part in.

It's winter Olympic week next week!

This will involve the children having a go at different types of sports such as Kurling. We will be creating our own mini snowballs and discovering hidden objects in frozen ice.

Activities this week
are specific to each
day!



Spring 1 week 6: 9th - 13th February '26

Monday 9th Feb	Tuesday 10th Feb	Wednesday 11th Feb	Thursday 12th Feb	Friday 13th Feb
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Snacks	Fresh fruit is readily available plus a selection from toast to crumpets to rice cakes and more!
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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 <u>KitCamp</u> , or on the playground.
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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.
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Supper	Savoury Croissants Loved by all children, they'll make their own croissants with crudites & salad	Chicken & noodles Requested by children, shredded hoisin chicken, noodles and stirfry with bean sprouts	Chicken and leek pie Homemade pie with mash and green veggies	Quesadillas Mexican quesadillas (stuffed with veggies & cheese in Mexican lightly spiced sauce), nacho crisps and veggie rice	Toasties Baked bean, ham or cheese (or maybe all 3!) toastie Salad platter
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Themes this half term:

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

Diary Dates Spring 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
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
Wed 25 th	Year 4	8pm virtually	Tile Barn briefing for parents
Fri 27 th	All Group TBC	9.30am – 11.30am 1pm	PEAS Parent support gp at Andover Community Engage Group of children go to Andover Library with Mrs Jefferies
MARCH			
Mon 2 nd - Fri 6 th	All	2.30pm	Whole school TALENT SHOW WEEK
Tues 3 rd	Team Y5/6	10am – 12noon	TAG Rugby competition – held here.
Fri 6 th	All	All day	Denim for dementia day
Mon 9 th	Year 5/6 & Year 2/3	All day and until May	2 student teachers working in Horsebridge and Clatford
Wed 11 th	Librarians	Pm	Visit Calmore Junior School to refresh our library (letter to follow)
Thurs 12 th	Mums	12noon	Mother's Day lunch
Fri 13 th	All	2pm	Mother's Day shop on playground for all children
Wed 18 th	Team Y5/6	4pm	Netball tournament at Danebury
Fri 20 th	All	9.30am – 11.30am All day	PEAS Parent support gp at Andover Community Engage RED NOSE DAY – Task master and a Tour de Farce!
Sat 21 st	All	9am – 11am	Grounds working party
Wed 25 th	Year 3 (8 chilr) All	9.30am – 11.30am 1.45pm	Year 3 outdoor learning festival @ West Tytherley Easter Egg hunt for whole school
Thurs 26 th	Year R	All day	Hilliers trip
Thurs 26 th - Fri 27 th	Year 4	By 10.30am until 2pm	Tile Barn residential
Fri 27 th	All	3.15pm	Last day of Spring term.
APRIL			
Mon 13 th	All Upper School	8.50am All day	Back to school for Summer 1 term Trip to Lockerley Farm for lambing
Tues 14 th	New Year R for Sept 26	All day	Notification day for places
Fri 17 th	All	9.30am – 11.30am	PEAS Parent support gp at Andover Community Engage
Mon 20 th	All	3.15pm	All clubs begin for the summer term this week
Wed 22 nd	Upper School	All day	Trip to Watercress line
Thurs 23 rd	Year 2 team	4pm	Tri golf tournament
Mon 27 th	Parents	Daytime	Parent teacher meetings (optional)
Wed 29 th	Parents	3.30pm – 6.30pm	Parent teacher meetings (optional)
MAY			
Fri 1 ST	All	9.30am – 11.30am	PEAS Parent support gp at Andover Community Engage
JUNE			
Fri 5 th	All	9.30am – 11.30am	PEAS Parent support gp at Andover Community Engage
JULY			
Fri 10 th	All	9.30am – 11.30am	PEAS Parent support gp at Andover Community Engage

