Stockbridge Primary and Pre-school

Newsletter 7 — 6 November 2026

Lovely lunchtimes

In line with our school vision of being forward thinking and outward looking, on our INSET day back in September, I challenged staff to forensically analyse aspects of our day and provision that were working well and ones that weren't so that we can keep.

Lunchtimes were a common thought that could we do better? Staff noticed that children, the older ones in particular, eat so quickly we don't think they taste their food! There is little conversation at the table and the buddy system wasn't working as well as we would like. So….we thought long and hard about how to improve this and have made changes this half term which we will run for the 7 weeks to see if they make a difference. I am delighted to say that if this week is anything to go by, lunch is much calmer and more pleasant. So…what have we changed?

- Each family has a 15min hall slot. This rotates on a daily basis so each family goes 'first' at least once a week. Children stay seated in the hall even if they've finished their meal and engage in conversation.
- There are therefore only 36 children in the hall at any one time.
- Children have a 'munch and natter' conversation starter on the board – a quote, a question, a problem to solve and this has prompted real conversation this week.
- The adults in the hall sit with the children and join in the natter.
- If they haven't finished eating at the end of 15mins, they move to the 'finishing up' table where they can continue at their leisure – this is usually only a handful of children and usually only pudding is left.

We'll update you on progress later this term.

Mrs Emma Jefferies
Headteacher

Photo permissions

Many of you will remember last year I shared that a Hampshire school had had images of its children taken from its website and altered using AI. We therefore made the decision to remove all front facing images of children from our website and online posts.

As a result of the changing world of IT capability, I would like to ask you all to relook at the permissions you give us as a school to use images of your child/ren and update them. To help with this, a separate permission form will come home Monday, via paper copy. Please return by next Friday.
If you do not return the slip by this date, we will assume the permissions you grant us will remain unchanged from ones you previously signed.

Benedict's Law - allergy

Many of you will have heard in the news that there was a new law in September around dealing with allergies in schools, this is called 'Benedict's Law'.

This means that we now hold lots of spare auto adrenalin injectors (AAI's) also called Epipens or Jext pens. Children who have known allergies usually already have their own set of AAIs however, school is now obliged to hold their own stock in case of emergency.

These are located in the medical room, on the red hook just inside the front door, in the minibus and also in pre-school. Staff have all received training on allergies and anaphylaxis and volunteers are being brief over the next week or so.

Calpol & Piriteze

As a general rule, in school we can only administer medicines if they are prescribed to be taken 4 times a day – we realise that you can't physically fit this in when we have your child for the majority of the day!
That said, if you have administered Calpol before school and feel that another dose would be useful to keep a headache or tummy ache at bay during the day, please send your child in with Calpol from home and sign a form with the school office when bringing this in. Our school supplies are for emergencies only. The same applies to the school supply of Piriteze.

New faces around school

You may have noticed some new adult faces in school this week and this is some key staff changes that will affect all children. We are holding out for news on the arrival of Mrs Hughes' baby – her due date is 12th November but we were all convinced baby Hughes would make an early appearance! I'll let you know when she arrives. Also, Mrs White had already resigned, to leave in December but was able to leave earlier so will not return after half term. Mrs White taught across the school covering our PPA and subject leader release time so all children know of her and were taught by her at some point so her replacement affects all children.

Mrs Luke – Mottisfont

We have welcomed Mrs Luke's calm expertise with open arms as she takes over from Mrs Hughes in Mottisfont. The classroom is already an oasis of peace and purposefulness and Mrs Luke is using her huge experience to get learning going after the half term. She has held many senior leadership roles in the past and been in education more years than she cares to remember!

Miss Williams – Monday & Tuesday in Horsebridge + PPA cover

Miss William's move back to Hampshire from Dorset has worked in our favour and she brings a huge energy and passion for education to our Horsebridge class and the role of PPA cover across the school. This role takes a special someone and she has already proved her worth by working hard in a very short time to get up to speed with our Stockbridge ways and get to know all children.

REGULAR  UPDATES

Keeping you up to date with regular goings on in school

Relationships & PSHE

We follow the Jigsaw scheme of work for relationships and PSHE and this term, our whole school focus is on 'Celebrating Difference'. Obviously, we look at this through age-appropriate lenses and each child will receive at least 6hrs of learning. We teach this in separate year groups so years 2 and 5 are pulled together so that their learning is completely age appropriate. We thought it would be helpful to give you an oversight of what your child will be learning this term.

Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Children Will learn: • What they are good at and understand that everyone is good at different things. • The ways in which we are individually special. • How each of our families are unique and similar. • Why our homes are special to us. • How to be a kind friend. • How to stand up for ourselves when someone does or says something unkind.	Children will learn about: • Similarities between myself and others in my class. • Differences between myself and people in my class . • Bullying and how it might feel. • Who to talk too if I need help. • Strategies to make friends.	Children will learn about: • About assumptions (stereotypes). • The assumptions people sometimes make about boys and girls. • Why bullying happens. • The difference between right and wrong. • How to look after myself.	Children will learn: • Everybody's family is different and important to them • Know differences and conflicts can occur in families and friendships • What bullying is and our part in it • How our actions can influence the outcome of bullying • Recognise that some words are used in hurtful ways • Identify times when their actions have affected Someone's feelings and the consequences

Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Children will learn: I understand that, sometimes, we make assumptions based on what people look like I understand what influences me to make assumptions based on how people look I know that sometimes bullying is hard to spot and I know what to do if I think it is going on but I'm not sure I can tell you why witnesses sometimes join in with bullying and sometimes don't tell I can identify what is special about me and value the ways in which I am unique	Children will learn: I understand that cultural differences sometimes cause conflict I understand what racism is I understand how rumour-spreading and name-calling can be bullying behaviours I can explain the difference between direct and indirect types of bullying I can compare my life with people in the developing world I can understand a different culture from my own	Children will learn: • There are different perceptions of what normal means. • To understand that being difference could affect someone's life. • Explain some fo the ways in which one person or a group can have power over another. • Know some reasons why people use bullying behaviours. • Give examples of people with disabilities who lead amaxing lives.

Diary Dates Autumn term 2026-27

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
NOVEMBER			
Tues 10th	Years 4-6	9.30am	INFilm showing of Wonka at the Town Hall
Wed 11th	S&W - CFD	8.40am – 6.40pm	Parent meetings – MFT will have meetings at the end of November. Please book via School Cloud
Wed 11th	Whole school	10.45am	Whole school at War memorial to commemorate Remembrance Day
Fri 13th	Whole school	All	Children in Need – dress with spots
Sun 12th	Year 6	9.30am	Remembrance Sunday service in church – year 6 reading
Wed 18th	Years R-3	1.30pm	Road Safety live presentation
Thurs 19th	All	9am	Church assembly at St Peter's
Fri 20th	All	All	Time to shine day – dress in something bright! Road safety awareness
Mon 23rd	All	All	Bags2school
Tues 24th	Upper Sch	All day	Mayflower Theatre visit – Letters to follow
Fri 27th	All	Lunchtime	Stir up Sunday lunch – TBC
Thurs 3rd	All	9am	Church assembly at St Peter's
Fri 4th	All	3.15pm	Carols around the tree for all and then year 3/4 opening Christmas lights on the High Street – tractor parade at 4pm from outside school
Sat 5th	All	Am	Christmas tree sale/collection from St Peter's (FOSS run)
Tues 8th	Year R	Am	Party at The Grosvenor linked to topic – letters to follow
Wed 9th	Guitar players	9.15am	Guitar concert
Fri 11th	Years R-2	6pm	Nativity in the church
Tues 15th	All	Lunchtime	Whole school Christmas lunch
Thurs 17th	All	All day	Visit to the Christmas play at The Watermill, Newbury – packed lunch there
Fri 18th	All	1pm	End of school term.

From time to time we send home information about local clubs which may be of interest to families. We are in no way endorsing these clubs and urge parents to carry out their own safeguarding checks:

- Are the staff qualified to teach what they're teaching?
- Are they DBS (police) checked?
- What's the safeguarding policies for the organisation?
- How will they keep my child safe, engaged and manage unwanted behaviours in a way I am comfortable with?

Might be some questions to ask before enrolling!



Sport update

MASSIVE congratulations to Helena in Year 5 who took part in her very first National level trampolining competition last weekend. She took first place with a brilliant gold medal and then placed 13th in the doubles mini trampoline event.

It looked very bouncy and very high – she has nerves of steel!

Congratulations to Esme in Year 6 for being awarded the worker of the week at her netball group before half term. She was recognized for her outstanding dedication, teamwork and effort on the court!

