



STAMSHAW NEWS

Keeping Parents in Touch

Issue 3
April 2025



Dear Parents,

With the change of clocks last weekend, it is safe to say that Spring has finally arrived! Beautiful sunny weather this week has resulted in our spring bulbs peeping through the soil as we move into the month of April. I have thoroughly enjoyed seeing your incredible creative egg designs. They really are brilliant and have brought a smile to all our faces. Mr Wood even made nine 'eggceptional' and 'eggcellent' eggs in the shape of each of our class birds - see if you can spot them on display this Community Friday!

I had the privilege this week of watching our Rocksteady Bands perform with Callum, our Band Leader. They were remarkable, showing musical flair, expertise and such confidence. Well done everyone. Finally thank you to our incredible PTA **PATCH** for their very successful 'Superwoman Sale'. Our children loved shopping and choosing gifts for people who are important to them and I'm sure you enjoyed a special surprise when you received your gifts.

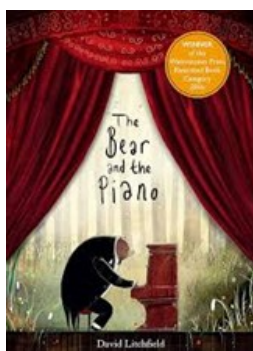
Thank you for all your continued support this term. We have a busy few weeks ahead when we return after the holidays, not least with our Phonics Screening and National Assessments so please keep reading with your children over the next two weeks and enjoy sharing stories and books together. Have a wonderful break and please enjoy eating lots of chocolate!

With warm wishes,

Mrs Cooper

World Book Day

On Thursday 6th March, we celebrated World Book Day. The children (and staff!) looked fantastic in their costumes as they took part in a whole day of activities to celebrate the wonder of books. Our special whole school book focus was 'The Bear and the Piano' by David Litchfield. An inspiring tale of a bear who finds fame and fortune as a concert pianist. The children enjoyed writing some thoughtful postcards to Bear, designing eye catching concert posters and composing 'Sounds of the Forest' using musical instruments. In the afternoon, a 'surprise teacher' arrived in classrooms for story time. A magical hush descended over the whole school as every child listened in wonder to the book their teacher had chosen for them. A special well done to all the children who completed the 'Paper Plate Character' project over half term. We were so impressed with your creativity!





EARLY YEARS

In Early Years we started our half term by welcoming in 10 chick eggs! All children enjoyed observing and discussing the process of the chicks hatching and carefully watching them grow. Across Early Years we made a 'Chick diary' to document their life-cycle and discuss how they had changed each day. We are happy to still be in contact with the owner of our chicks who have told us they are growing into healthy and happy Chickens. We enjoyed welcoming so many families into school to be part of our 'Easter Bonnet Workshop'.

The Easter Bonnets that were created were amazing and it was lovely to see the children happily parading around the playground. We have been incredibly proud of the self-belief and successful attitude to learning all children have shown this half term. We have been blown away by their independent writing and number knowledge, well done Early Years for continuing to shine like stars.



YEAR 1

This half term has been packed full of Amazing Animals in Year 1. It all started with a herd of animals stampeding across our school playground! If that wasn't exciting enough the Meerkats were lost and needed our help to get them safely back home. We got to work making posters full of helpful information to help locate them such as facts about their appearance, what they eat and where they live.

We were so enthusiastic to find out all this new information that it inspired us to research other animals too, such as; crocodiles, zebras, snakes, meerkats, penguins and giraffes! We have been very busy turning into animal experts in other areas of our learning too.

In Art we have been focusing on different animal patterns developing our understanding when sketching using lines, tone and shape. We even looked at the famous artist Vivienne Westwood and found out how animal patterns have inspired some of her fashion creations.



In Science, we have been learning about the features of Amphibians, Reptiles, Mammals, Birds and Fish. We have explored their different habitats and how they have adapted to suit their environment. We have also explored what animals eat, learning more about Carnivores, Omnivores and Herbivores. In Geography, we have been learning about the Equator and the 7 continents around the World.

We were so excited to see some of the animals we had been learning about when we visited Marwell Zoo. We got to see the tiger prowling quietly around, some cheeky monkeys swinging, penguins swimming and we even saw the tall giraffes using their long tongues to eat the leaves! It was so much fun!



YEAR 2

We have absolutely loved our work on Roald Dahl this half term! It all began with an inspiring visit from the Open Box Theatre Company where we delved into Roald Dahl's book, "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory". We pretended to be different characters from the story and explored the ways that Roald Dahl creates his characters. We loved creating our own versions of "George's Marvellous Medicine" for his mean Grandma. We wrote instructions about how to make the medicine and then wrote about the side-effects of the medicine on poor old Grandma. The children were inspired by their creations and really channelled their inner Roald Dahl. The writings were humorous and led to them creating adverts for their medicines. We also created our own versions of drawings characters from his books. A truly inspiring topic!





INFANT VOICES—YEAR 2

On Tuesday 4th March, Stamshaw Infant School hosted the joyful 'Infant Voices' festival alongside children from other schools. Our conductor, Emily, led us through some fun vocal warm ups before we sang the songs we had been practicing based on the theme: My Dream Job. We had a lot of fun and were so proud of all of our wonderful singers.



The Year 2 choir then went on to perform at the Showcase event on 26th March at the Portsmouth Guildhall, with choirs from 13 Portsmouth schools in attendance. The amazing professionalism, skill and enthusiasm from our children was recognized by festival organizer's and won us the much coveted 'solo spot'! Our performance of 'I wish I had a Gavel' was a triumph and it was a joy to see the children singing so confidently and with such enjoyment on the stage. Please keep your eye out for photos and footage from the event on the Portsmouth Music Hub website.



Red Nose Day

On Friday 21st March we held a fantastic Danceathon to raise money for Children in Need. It was a joy to see our children dancing, jumping, wiggling and moving throughout the day. The children learnt the important messages of kindness, compassion and thinking of others during their lessons.

The day raised an astonishing £2,200! We would like to thank every one of you for such an incredible achievement. You are truly an amazing community.



Computing Week

We had a wonderful time at the UTC during computing week. We were able to explore different technologies and try different approaches to coding. We created Lego models and then made them move and stop using sensors and a coding program. We then moved onto Spheres (ball robots) and had to guide them round obstacles and get them over ramps. This proved to be a tricky endeavour, but we still enjoyed ourselves. We moved onto the computing suite in the UTC and enjoyed using different programs to create pictures of houses. An inspiring day was had by all!





The last day of term will be
Friday 4th April 2025

You are welcome to collect your child after lunchtime registration on this day.

The gates will open at 1.00pm
We will of course keep those children who cannot be collected at this time until the usual time of 3.25pm—THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB.

MOMENTS MATTER—ATTENDANCE COUNTS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN

A good education is vital for children and young people and regular attendance at school is a key factor in opening up more opportunities in adult life. If your child develops a habit of regular school attendance, they'll have a positive attitude at school and beyond.

School is the best place for children and young people to enjoy developing independence, building friendships and learning with their friends. All Portsmouth schools are committed to enabling all children to develop the best versions of themselves as individuals, achieving the very best they can and learning how to develop the personal relationships and interests which will enable them to live rewarding lives.

As a parent or carer you have a hugely important role to play in your child's education. Your support is crucial to make sure they attend school regularly and to give them the positive encouragement they need. Your child's school will be keen to help you support your child in their learning. We strongly encourage you to ask questions and make sure you have the information you need from the school to help you do this as well as you can. Find out more <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/schools-learning-and-childcare/schools/school-attendance/>



MOMENTS MATTER—ATTENDANCE COUNTS SCHOOL ATTENDANCE CAMPAIGN

Notification of INSET Days

Friday 4th July 2025

Please be sure to make a note of these important dates in the school calendar. Thank you.

Monday 7th April—Monday 21st April
EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday 5th May 2025 **BANK HOLIDAY**

Tuesday 13th May—Class Photos

Monday 26th May—Friday 30th May 2025
HALF TERM

Thursday 5th June—Year 2 Education trip to Chichester Harbour

Monday 9th June
Phonics Screening Week—Year 1

Wednesday 11th June—EYs trip to Longdown activity Farm

Saturday 28th June—**STAMFEST!**

Friday 4th July 2025—**INSET DAY**

Tuesday 22nd July 2025
LAST DAY OF TERM

Gate will open at 1.00pm for collection



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<https://stamshawinfant.chimat.uk/>



Ring 023 9266 1192 by 9.30 or email
absence@stamshaw-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk



Please regularly check in to your Seesaw account for information or messages directly from your child's classroom—**All absences need to be sent by email or call the office**



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