

# NEWSLETTER

Stamshaw  
Infant School  
"Helping stars to shine brightly"

DECEMBER  
2025

## Message from Mrs Cooper

Hello Everyone!

We have all enjoyed a wonderful few weeks here at Stamshaw. An Infant school at Christmas really is the most magical place and we have been thrilled to share so many treasured moments with you, our fantastic families.

Our 'Christmas Around the World' event allowed us a brilliant opportunity to celebrate

Christmas in different countries and we loved hearing about the many traditions worldwide.

There wasn't a dry eye in the house for each of our Nativity performances both in school and at our local Church. Your children were exceptional and treated us to such special and joyous moments. Hearing their beautiful voices, watching their happy faces and seeing their confidence, joy and kindness has been a delight and we hope that you will remember these days for a very long time. They truly were shining stars and we loved every moment!

We hope that wherever you will be this holiday, you can enjoy the special warmth of family and friends, laughter and love. As a little bear named Winnie the Pooh once said ... 'Christmas is a together sort of holiday – that's my favourite kind!'

With warmest of wishes,  
Mrs Cooper

'May you never be too grown up to search the skies on Christmas Eve...' x

## Goodbye Mrs Glover

On Friday we will be saying a "big farewell" to Mrs Glover.

I am sure you will join me in thanking her for her unwavering support, dedication and friendship over the years. We wish her every happiness as she begins this exciting new chapter and remain so very grateful for everything she has contributed to our school.

## Elfridges

Elfridges was a wonderful Christmas shopping experience for our children! They enjoyed thoughtfully selecting gifts for their loved ones. Thank you for supporting this event and to the fantastic PATCH for their organisation of this annual tradition! All funds raised will support our Stamshaw Schools.

## Rocksteady Christmas Performance

Well done to all our children who performed in the Rocksteady Christmas Concert. The children dazzled us with their professionalism, musicianship and teamwork.

## Children in Need

We raised a fabulous amount of money for this year's Children in Need.

**£313.34**

Thank you for your incredible generosity.



## Guildhall Visit

Some of our Year 2 children visited the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress in the Guildhall. They were given a tour of the Lord Mayor's Chambers, the Banqueting Suite, the Lord Mayor's office and learnt about the historic Civic Silver. It was a very interesting and exciting visit!



## Year 1

### A sparkly Early Years Update

We have enjoyed lots of celebrations and sparkly fun activities in Early Years this half term. We began our celebrations by celebrating Fireworks and Remembrance Day by creating firework paintings, silhouette soldiers and making a handprint poppy wreath. Once the month of December came we began our festive fun across Early Years. The children enjoyed writing their letters to Santa and meeting Postman Jack who came to collect them for Santa. We even received a letter back from Santa to say he has read all our letters!

Finally, we want to say a huge and sparkly well done to all our children in Early Years for three magically performed Nativities! We were so proud of their acting, singing and festive smiles. We hope you all enjoyed watching too and feeling the Christmas magic.

We wish all our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



### Tennis Mentoring

In Autumn Term Year Two have been fortunate to be the first year group to take part in The Tim Henman Inclusive activity Programme, enabling them to have weekly coaching sessions with coaches from the Portsmouth Tennis Centre.

As part of this programme the Year Two classes were excited to receive a visit from the Paralympian Louise Hunt. Louise shared with the children her experiences of travelling all over the world to represent Great Britain in Wheelchair Tennis and the children had great fun taking part in tennis drills to show off the skills they had already learnt!

Year One look forward to honing their skills from the Portsmouth Tennis Centre coaches in the Spring Term and Early Years will be able to practice their skills in the Summer Term!

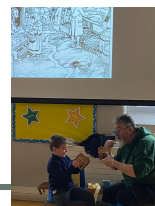


Wow, what a busy, fun-filled half term it has been in Year 1! We began by learning all about Guy Fawkes and the importance of Remembrance. We made some beautiful pieces of poppy artwork including clay poppies and a poppy painting inspired by the artist Georgia O'Keeffe.

We were excited to travel all around the United Kingdom when our friend Paddington came to visit! He told us all about the famous landmarks, flowers, flags and traditional foods of Scotland, England, Northern Ireland and Wales. We learnt about materials and their properties in Science, how to recognise and celebrate our own and others character strengths in our My Happy Mind learning, how to create digital artwork in ICT and all about the History of the teddy bear!

We enjoyed having our very own teddies visit us in school too and these helped to inspire some of our wonderful writing. In Math's we have focused on addition and subtraction and learning about 2D and 3D shapes.

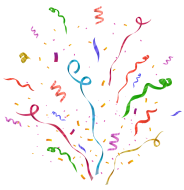
We celebrated the end of term with our fabulous Christmas Nativity! We are so proud of all the children who worked so hard to learn their lines, songs and actions for our performance of 'Everyone Loves a Baby!' We hope you enjoyed watching us too!



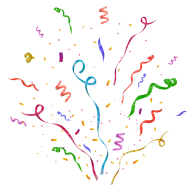
## Year 2

Year 2 have had a wonderful half term, working hard, learning lots and enjoying a wide variety of learning opportunities. We started our topic with a visit from Open Box Theatre Company, where we learned many different facts about the Great Fire of London. We learned about how the fire started and made many discoveries about the houses at the time. We also learned about how we know about this historic event, discovering the diary of Samuel Pepys and all his insights into the fire. We have been creative, experimenting with colour mixing, creating beautiful pieces of art work of the London skyline in 1666. We made models of Pudding Lane, where the fire started, and then watched as we (carefully) burned the model. The topic really captured the children's curiosity and now we are looking forward to our next topic on Space!

# Our School Council



We are thrilled to introduce this years School Council



## Important dates

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> December  
Christmas Dinner

**Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December**  
**LAST DAY OF TERM - Parents are welcome to collect from 1pm**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025—Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026  
CHRISTMAS HALF TERM

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026—INSET DAY**

Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> January - Back to school

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February—Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February  
HALF TERM

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March—Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April  
EASTER HALF TERM

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026—BANK HOLIDAY

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026—INSET DAY

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May—Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May  
HALF TERM

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2026—INSET DAY

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> July 2026 - PATCH Stamshaw  
Summer Fete

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026  
LAST DAY OF TERM  
Parents are welcome to collect from 1pm

## Polite Reminder

At Stamshaw Infant School we are a nut free school. Please make sure your child's packed lunches are free of all nut products.



## Our School day

Our school gates open at 8.40am and will be closed at 8.50am everyday. The register will be taken in class at 8.45am.

All children should aim to be in school by 8.45am every day.

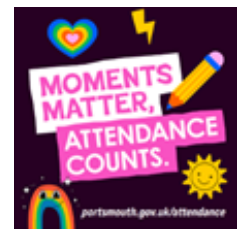
Children arriving after 8.55am will need to report to the school office and will be recorded as late for school.

Any children who arrive after 8.55am will be recorded as late after the registration closed.

The late attendance marks do affect your child's overall attendance score.

If your child is unfortunately feeling unwell, we ask that you kindly let the school office know before 9.30am on the day of absence. You can either call the office, leave a voicemail on the answering machine or email us on [absence@stamshaw-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:absence@stamshaw-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk)

### Attendance Ladder



## Contact Info

### Telephone

02392 661192

### Email

[enquiries@stamshaw-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@stamshaw-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk)

### Absence from school

Either call the school on 92661192 or [absence@stamshaw-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk](mailto:absence@stamshaw-inf.portsmouth.sch.uk)

### Website

[www.stamshawinfant.chimat.uk](http://www.stamshawinfant.chimat.uk)