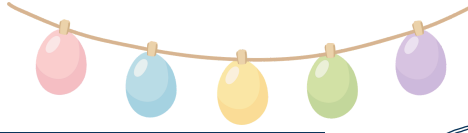




# NEWSLETTER



**MARCH  
2026**



**Stamshaw**  
Infant School  
"Helping stars to shine brightly"

## Message from Mrs Cooper

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this wonderful term, we wanted to take a moment to thank you for your continued support and kindness. It has been a joy to see the children learning, growing, and filling our classrooms with their enthusiasm every day.

We especially want to say a huge thank you for the beautifully decorated eggs you helped the children create. They brought so much colour, creativity and excitement to our displays. Every one of them was a delight! We would also like to say how lovely it was to see so many of you joining us for the Easter bonnet making and parade in Early Years. Your involvement and encouragement created such a warm, joyful atmosphere and it meant so much to the children to share this experience with you.

As we step into the Easter break, we are reminded that spring is a season of new beginnings and a time when the world feels full of possibility. The children have shown this beautifully in their resilience, curiosity, and joy throughout the term. Just as the days grow brighter, so too do their ideas, confidence and sense of wonder.

We hope you enjoy a lovely, restful time together with your children over the holiday. Don't forget that the clocks go forward this weekend, bringing a little more evening sunshine to enjoy.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter, filled with fun, laughter and special moments together.

With warmest wishes,

Mrs Cooper

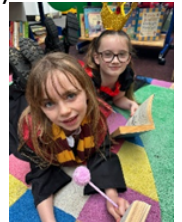


## World Book Day

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

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 'Book in a Jar' project over half term. We were so impressed with your creativity!



## Rocksteady Concert

Our KS1 children put on a fantastic Rocksteady concert this week, showcasing the musical skills they've been developing in their band sessions. The children performed with great confidence, enthusiasm and teamwork, and it was wonderful to see how much progress they have made.

From keeping a steady beat to playing as part of a group, every child shone on stage. A huge well done to all our young musicians for their hard work and thank you to Callum for his amazing direction.

We are incredibly proud of our mini rockers!





## From Egg to Chick: Our early years journey

This half term has been very egg-citing for Early Years as we have explored amazing animal life cycles. The children loved welcoming the chicks' eggs into school and observing their hatching journey. We were all very excited when the first egg hatched and our first baby chick was born. We were amazed that all 10 eggs hatched and we had 10 cheeping chicks in school. We have spent time discussing how to care for the chicks to keep them safe and warm. Linked to the life cycle of a chicken we have also explored the life cycle of a butterfly from the story 'The very hungry caterpillar'.

We have been very impressed with the children's improvement in their letter formations during our focus handwriting lessons. This has also had an impact on their writing in their literacy lessons and showing more independence with segmenting to spell.

Well done for another fantastic half term Early Years, we are all very proud!



## 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; Zebras, 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

### Roald Dahl Adventures!

Year 2 have had a wonderful time diving into our Roald Dahl topic this term. We stepped into the world of imagination with an energetic drama workshop with the Open Box Theatre Company, where the children brought some of Dahl's most colourful characters to life. Inspired by Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, we designed and created our own chocolate bars—complete with imaginative flavours and eye-catching wrappers!

In science, we explored plants and their life cycles, linking our learning to the magical gardens found in Dahl's stories. We also read George's Marvellous Medicine, which sparked plenty of excitement as the children mixed their own (safe!) potions, using their descriptive writing skills to bring them to life.

It's been a joyful, creative topic, and we're so proud of the enthusiasm and curiosity the children have shown throughout.





## Infant Voice's Showcase

On Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> February, Stamshaw Infant School hosted the joyful 'Infant Voices' festival alongside children from Kings Academy College Park. Our conductors led us through the songs we had been practising based on the theme: Bombay's Big Adventure. 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 17<sup>th</sup> March at the Portsmouth Guildhall, with choirs from a number of Portsmouth schools in attendance. We were dazzled by their confidence, stage presence and incredible singing. Please keep your eye out for photos and footage from the event on the Portsmouth Music Hub website.



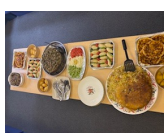
## Kurdish New Year

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, some children celebrated Nowrz at Stamshaw Infant School. This is Kurdish New Year.

The children were invited to wear traditional Kurdish dress, whichever area they celebrate Nowrz. Children brought in traditional Kurdish food for members of staff to try.

The children had a lovely day celebrating and it was lovely to learn about different cultures and traditions. Thank you.

Happy Nowrz to everyone!



## British Science Week

During the week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> March 2026, children across the school celebrated British Science Week. This year's theme, "Curiosity: What's your question?", inspired pupils to investigate ideas such as "Can you grow food on the moon?", "How do birds build their nests?", and "What is the best material for a hankie?". The children had great fun exploring these questions through hands-on activities.



## Important dates

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026**  
**LAST DAY OF TERM**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April - First day back to school

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**

## Red Nose Day

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March our wonderful children and families raised an amazing £178.44. We would like to thank every one of you!



## Polite Reminder

Polite reminder - Please could we remind you that wherever possible dogs should not be brought onto the school playground.

Thank you



## 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@stamshawinfant.chimat.uk](mailto:enquiries@stamshawinfant.chimat.uk)

### Absence from school

Either call the school on 92661192 or [absence@stamshawinfant.chimat.uk](mailto:absence@stamshawinfant.chimat.uk)

### Website

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