



STAMSHAW NEWS

Issue 3
February 2023

Keeping Parents in Touch

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to the second half of our Spring term. We hope we shall enjoy some sunshine and lots of activities in the fresh air. This is an exciting and busy term for our children and we have many engaging topics for them to enjoy. Early Years children will be learning about growth and discovering the many changes in nature during the Spring. In Year 1, our topic is called 'Amazing Animals' and we will be finding out about animals in our country and in different climates around the world. Year 2 will be diving into the wonderful world of Roald Dahl and reading some of the many books he wrote. You can find out a little more about each of the topics in our newsletters on our website. March 3rd is World Book day and we will be celebrating our love of literature here in school. We shall also be welcoming Family Learning back to school for 6 weeks with parents and children from our Early Years Team. I look forward to many exciting days ahead, in the meantime, we hope you enjoy reading about our learning over the past few weeks.



We are absolutely delighted to announce that we have achieved an Artsmark GOLD award from the Arts Council, England.

In order to achieve our Artsmark Award, we made a commitment to develop our arts and culture provision to further embed a broad and balanced curriculum. We are thrilled that our school's fantastic Arts provision has been recognised by this prestigious organisation and we are so grateful for our dedicated and passionate team who ensure that Reading, Creative Writing, Drama, Music and Art are valued and prioritised. We know that the children's creative experiences here at Stamshaw will help them develop character and resilience, increase their knowledge, spark their curiosity and develop skills that will remain with them through to adult life.



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England

Early Years become Superheroes!

What a fantastic time we have had during our Superhero topic! Our topic began with a super rescue mission to save our class birds! The Evil Pea captured them, but through teamwork and determination we rescued them and caught the mischievous Evil Pea! We have thoroughly enjoyed the Supertato series of stories and learning how to create speech bubble writing and wanted posters. In Maths, we have been exploring shape, positional language and number. We have been creative and imaginative whilst making superhero crafts including our superhero city. We also learnt about the artist Kandinsky and created our own interpretation of his art. We have been thinking about our mood and feelings and how we can support one another to feel positive and happy, we call this our Zones of Regulation. Our super powers have also improved our phonics and reading which we love practising daily.

Our topic ended with a fantastic Superhero Day! We completed superhero training throughout the day which included action stations, yoga and mindfulness and making healthy snacks. By completing each mission, we became fully trained Superheroes! We also enjoyed making our Superhero Movie and felt proud when our parents came to watch our movie premiere. ***If you ever need help, just call on the amazing Early Years Superheroes!***



Wow, what a fantastic half term we have had in Year 1! We started our topic by going on a treasure hunt around the school trying to find the objects all of our fairy tale characters had left behind. We have loved listening to, acting out, reciting and retelling a range of traditional and fairy tale stories and have used these to inspire our own story writing and character descriptions. Our Science learning has focused on exploring suitable materials and their properties. We have used our understanding to design and build strong houses for the Three Little Pigs using a hair dryer for extra huff and puff to see if they would blow down! We also experimented to find out which materials we could use to make the best waterproof coat for the Gingerbread Man to keep him dry as he crossed the river. Our Design and Technology learning continued to follow a Gingerbread Man theme where we baked our very own healthy Gingerbread Men, created figures out of clay and even made our own Gingerbread moveable sliders to help him "Run, run as fast as he can!"

We loved getting dressed up to celebrate the end of our topic with our Fairy Tale Ball. We enjoyed a great time playing games and dancing the afternoon away!



We have had a wonderful half term in Year 2!

We launched our Space topic with a visit from the Science Dome, where we zoomed across space to visit Mars and see the other planets in the galaxy too.

We loved learning about the astronauts who have visited the moon and looked at life on board the

International Space Station. Our art work has been inspired by the planets and music. We listen to Holst's Mars and then drew what we thought it would be like on Mars. We created meteor shower pictures, wrote facts about the moon with a stamped crumpled moon and then designed and created our own Mars Rovers. The topic further inspired our creativity by inspiring our writing, as we met characters such as the Loon on the Moon and then created and wrote about our own aliens. In the words of the year 2 children it really was such an interesting topic.



Paddington Bear goes home with new goodies...
 You may not know this but Paddington Bear loves poems. Short ones, long ones, funny ones, rhyming ones - all kind of poems! So with this in mind, we decided to add a few new little treats to Paddington's bag.

Every class teacher will continue to choose a child to take home Paddington Bear each Friday. In Paddington's new bag, your child will find Paddington's favourite poetry book and a yummy hot chocolate to enjoy. We really hope you will enjoy snuggling up together, sharing poems aloud and sipping warm hot chocolate. We will of course continue to share your child's wonderfully written diary accounts and photographs which have been a delight to share and see so far. You may also like to share a picture of your weekend and holiday adventures with our special bears by tagging us on **Instagram @stamshaw_infants.**

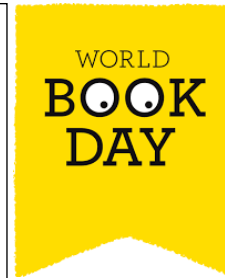
Happy reading and exploring!
"Paddington Bear has a habit of bringing people closer together."
 Michael Bond



NEWS FROM ROCKSTEADY

We are delighted to confirm that Callum will be able to return to teaching at your school from the week commencing Monday 27th February!

Callum is so looking forward to being back with us, and Rocksteady will be contacting parents to confirm this as well.



CHANGE OF DATE FOR WORLD BOOK DAY

We are very excited to be celebrating World Book day this year.

News from PATCH

We enjoyed a lovely evening of dancing and laughter at the Valentine's Ball organized by PATCH.

Our next PATCH event will be our Mother's Day sale on 13 March 2023.

So far Patch has raised an extraordinary amount of money supporting both Stamshaw Infant and Stamshaw Junior Schools.

We appreciate all their hard work.

YEAR 2 VISIT TO STAMSHAW JUNIOR SCHOOL

On Tuesday 21 March all of our Year 2 children will spend a fun filled morning at Stamshaw Junior in Year 3.

They will enjoy many activities and meet some of the teachers and Buddy the dog!

Please note that due to circumstances beyond our control we have had to move this date to **Wednesday 1 March 2023**. This date is different to the one originally set out in the letter.

Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book.

Remember to make sure that any 'Book in a Jar' creations are clearly labelled with the book that is being represented and your child's full name and class. All book jars need to be returned to class by Tuesday 28th February so they can be displayed and shared by everyone.

Nutmeg and Bramble have been joined by two friends, Luna and Myrtle. The children have really enjoyed lots of cuddles with them all. We have all been learning how to care for the Guinea pigs, feeding them, cleaning them and making sure they have lots of things to explore in their indoor woodland run!



Diary Dates



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

Mon 20 Feb - Yr 2 Infant Voices Music Festival
Wed 22 Feb - Whole School Open Box Theatre Show
(no charge to parents)

Wed 1 March - World Book Day - Children invited to come to school dressed as their favourite character from a book. *(please read letter sent home on 6.02.23 with all the information about World Book Day)*

Mon 6 March INSET DAY

Wed 8 March - Parents Evening 4-7
Thurs 9 March - Parents Evening 4-7
Mon 13 March - PATCH Mother's Day Sale
Tue 21 March - Yr 2 children to visit Stamshaw Jr
Mon 27 March - Easter Egg Decorating - letter to follow
Wed 29 March - EY Easter Craft Afternoon with parents
Friday 31 March - last day of term *Gates open at 1 pm*

Mon 3 Apr - Fri 14 Apr - EASTER HOLIDAY



Mon 17 April - Back to School Summer Term

Mon 1 May - Bank Holiday

Mon 8 May - Additional Bank Holiday to mark the occasion of the Coronation of HRH King Charles III

Mon 29 May - Fri 2 June HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Mon 26 June - INSET Day

Last day of term Fri 21 July 2023

Fri 21 July - Break Up for Summer Holidays

Mon 26 July - Fri 1 Sep SUMMER HOLIDAY

Mon 4 Sep 2023 - Back to School Autumn Term



Notification of INSET Days

Monday 6 March 2023

Monday 26 June 2023

Mon 8 May 2023



Additional Bank Holiday to mark the occasion of the Coronation of HRH King Charles III

Reporting an absence.



IMPORTANT - Please remember to contact the school office by 9.30 on the morning of any absences from school.

Importantly all absences must be followed up by a letter given to the school office within 5 working days. Without written confirmation of the absence, the absence will be recorded as unauthorised. Monitoring and improving School Attendance is high on the Government's agenda. Keeping us informed of any medical conditions or concerns helps us when we have to respond to the Local Authority absence monitoring.



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www.stamshawinfant.co.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



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