



# Stonegate C of E Primary School

## Love of Learning for Life

Dear Parents,

I hope that you have had a wonderful Easter break. This term there has already been a fantastic buzz around the school as children from all classes have started their new Geography and Science focused learning journeys. Pre-School and Reception are learning about 'Minibeasts', Year 1/2 are discovering what goes on 'In the Garden', Year 3/4 are travelling down a line of latitude through the Earth and Year 5/6 are following the journey found in Kensuke's Kingdom. I look forward to sharing these learning experiences with you all.

Mr Elms, Headteacher

### Ofsted

As you are all aware we had Ofsted last term and I am delighted to now be in a position to share the outcome. The school continues to be rated 'Good' but I believe that the report reflects the areas of even stronger practice which is seen throughout the school. I could not be more pleased at how the tireless work of the whole staff team and governors has been reflected by the inspector. We should be particularly pleased at these statements:

- Pupils feel happy and safe in the nurturing environment that leaders provide.
- Supportive relationships are a feature of this school. Pupils know they are valued.
- Leaders strive for pupils to develop a 'love of learning for life'. The school's values of 'friendship, trust, respect and courage' are lived by all.
- Leaders promote an inclusive culture. Pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), receive the help they need to learn well. Leaders' ambitious expectations for all pupils to achieve well are met.
- The addition of the pre-school has supported the successful transition of children into early years. Staff in early years model language well and guide children to build their learning through well-planned activities.
- Leaders have recently strengthened the early reading curriculum. Phonics teaching is structured effectively and all staff are well trained. There is a love of reading in the school.
- The arrangements for safeguarding are effective
- Pupils are proud to contribute to the life of the school.
- Pupils behave extremely well. Pupils work hard in their lessons and are polite and respectful.

### Pre-School Opening



We were delighted at the end of last term to have an official opening of our Pre-School and all of our EYFS areas. To mark the event, Janet Fairweather from the Flimwell Youth Trust (who kindly donated the money for this project) joined us to cut the ribbon and visit the children. Janet said that she was delighted that the Trust was able to support the education of local children for years to come.

The Pre-School continues to go from strength to strength and we are proud at the confidence, independence and joy for learning our youngest pupils display each day. Thank you to the whole teaching team involved. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Keeler, who from day one, has worked tirelessly in administering all areas of the Pre-School and ensuring children and their families have a positive first experience of our school and what we aim to achieve.

### Opening of the Outdoor Building

It was also particularly pleasing to be able to open the newest part of our learning provision. The outdoor learning space was funded by the Local Authority to provide the school with further learning spaces to support all of our children.

These spaces have already been put to good use. Mrs Mortimer has used the smaller room to teach her reading group and to hold SEN meetings and Mrs Bull has been able to split her class, with the Year 6's using the larger room to prepare for their National Curriculum Tests. Thank you to all of the staff and governors who have supported me in the development of this space.



### Safeguarding

Please could all parents remember to call or leave a telephone message with the School Office by 9.30am on each day of a child's absence. Can I also remind all parents about the strict 48-hour policy for children who are suffering with sickness bugs or diarrhea – full details can be found on the school's website.

### Final Thought

As we are focusing on the Core Value of Friendship this term, I would like you to think of these words by Ralph Waldo Emerson: 'The only way to have a friend is to be one.'

### Upcoming Events

#### Term 5 2022 – 2023

#### Monday 1<sup>st</sup> May

Bank Holiday - No School or Pre-School

#### Friday 5<sup>th</sup> May

#### 2.00 PTA Coronation Event

- Baking competition
- Dressing Up as a King, Queen or if you were going to meet the King.
- Art Competition
- Tea Party
- Games

Money raised will support the Pre-School.

#### Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May

Coronation Holiday - No School or Pre-School

#### Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May

Year 6 National Tests

Breakfast for Year 6 provided each day of the tests by Mrs Knight

#### Monday 15<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> May

Year 2 National Tests

#### Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May

3.15 – 5.00 PTA Movies in Snoozies

End of Term 5

### Reading Challenge

In the last newsletter we said that we had reached our target from the Ready, Steady, Read challenge.

During the Easter Holiday, the books ordered by each class have arrived from Usborne Publishing. Children are now enjoying these non-fiction books.



This term Mrs Hazeldine will be ordering further Big Cat books to support our Little Wandle Phonics Scheme.

Thank you to the PTA, the organisers of the Stonegate Spring Fair and News and Views for their generous donations.