



Stonegate C of E Primary School

Love of Learning for Life

Dear Parents,

The last few weeks at school have been incredibly hot. I would like to thank you all for ensuring that the children have come to school prepared with sun hats, sun cream and plenty of water. It has been extremely fortuitous that our new building has meant that children are able to keep out of the sun and use the cooler rooms to build lego or create games, whilst also having the option to sit on the decking and talk to their friends. As always, we will keep a close eye on the weather and ensure the children's safety at all times.

Mr Elms, Headteacher

PSQM

I am delighted to announce the school is 1 of only 200 schools to be awarded the Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) in 2023. PSQM is the only national award scheme to develop and celebrate the quality of science teaching and learning in primary schools. To achieve this award, the school team have gone through a year-long process of initial audit, followed by action and evidenced-based reflection. The children of Stonegate demonstrate a real passion for science and it is fantastic that school has been recognised for the wide ranging teaching experiences we provide.



Safety in Action



Last week, the children from Year 6 took part in the district wide Safety in Action experience. As part of the event, the children's knowledge of how to stay safe around farms, roads, rails and in scenarios relating to electricity, fire and first aid emergencies were tested.

It was impressive at how the children worked as a team and applied their knowledge from the PSHE curriculum to successfully complete each activity, scoring an impressive 197 / 200. This week we were told that this score was the highest from all of the schools who took part in the event and that Stonegate will be awarded with a special certificate from the East Sussex Fire and Rescue team. Well done Year 6!

Battle Abbey

Last Wednesday, as part of our ongoing relationship with Battle Abbey, as group of year 5 girls were invited to a creative writers' day with author Philip Ardagh.

As part of this wonderful experience, the children learnt techniques to creative a story using the 7 seven strands of effective writing and were able to share their ideas with children from other settings. A great day!



Sharing special occasions



Thank you to the Pre-School and Reception Class teams for opening up their classrooms to the important figures in these children's lives. It was lovely to see how confident the children were in explaining their learning and their environment to these adults and how the adults in return showed how we are all big kids at heart. One parent reflected *"I wanted to express my gratitude to all for organising the father day activities this morning. Not only was it lovely to experience the environment that my child is growing and learning in. It was a pleasure to meet the team looking after them."*
A big thank you to the Fletcher family for donating the delicious food.

Staffing Update

As with all schools at this time of year there are some staff changes, Stonegate is no exception.

Firstly, due to his wife's first posting in the Church, Mr Butler our school caretaker, will be leaving us at the end of this school year. I am delighted to say that we have been able to recruit Mr Steve Rodrigues as our new caretaker and he is looking forward to meeting you all on Monday 17th July.

Secondly, after being part of the school's team for over 18 years as a parent, staff member, governor and as a Forest School lead, it is with sadness I tell you that Mrs Ritchie has decided this will be her last year at Stonegate. We are currently advertising for an equally passionate and committed person to join our wonderful Teaching Assistant team.

New Parent Governor

Congratulations to Mrs Victoria Fletcher who will be joining the Governing Body as a Parent Governor. The school team and governors are excited at the opportunity to work with her and use her experiences to support every child in the school.

Final Thought

This term we are focusing on our core value of courage. This week's quote comes from the book Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone by J.K. Rowling, "It takes a great deal of bravery to stand up to our enemies, but just as much to stand up to our friends."

Upcoming Events

Term 6 2022 – 2023

Tuesday 27th June

Year 5/6 Class Visit

Thursday 29th June

Year 6 Leavers' Diocesan Service

Friday 30th June

From 1.00pm - Sports Day

Friday 7th July

7.00pm – Summer Production

Monday 10th July

PS and Reception Class Visit to the beach

Monday 17th July

Whole School Animal Handling treat

Wednesday 19th July

2.00pm - Leavers' Service

Thursday 20th July

2.00pm - Final Assembly

Friday 21st July

Last Day of the School Year

Term Dates 2023 – 2024

Term 1

Monday 4th September – Friday 20th October
Inset Day – Friday 1st September

Term 2

Monday 30th October – Friday 15th December

Term 3

Wednesday 3rd January – Friday 9th February
Inset Day – Tuesday 2nd January

Term 4

Monday 19th February - Thursday 28th March

Term 5

Tuesday 16th April – Friday 24th May
Inset Day - Monday 15th April
Year 6 SATs – 13th – 16th May 2024

Term 6

Monday 3rd June – Friday 19th July
Inset Days - Monday 22nd + Tuesday 23rd July

Supporting our School

Just a few reminders to support our school and our community.

The school day officially starts at 8.45am (soft start 8.30am) and finishes at 3.15pm.

If your child is being picked up by someone new or different, then the Office must know in good time.

Lunches MUST be booked the night before your child has lunch.

Please remember to demonstrate safe driving and considerate parking at all times.