

# Stonegate C of E Primary School

Love of Learning for Life



Dear Parents.

We have had a wonderful term developing our knowledge of animals and their habitats in Early Years and in Key Stages 1 and 2, how art is an important tool for learning about the past. I would like to thank every member of the staff team who have gone above and beyond to enable all learning opportunities inside and outside of school time to be as enriching as possible.

Mr Jonathan Elms, Headteacher

## Drusillas

Reception Class had a wonderful visit to Drusillas Park. As part of this visit, the children were given an informative talk from a keeper on the habitats, characteristics and habits of penguins before enabling them to see the resident penguins up close during their feed time. In addition to this, the children handled a snake and a chinchilla, as well as exploring the park and riding on the train. Our youngest pupils were incredibly focused, asked excellent questions and thoroughly made the most of this learning experience. An excellent day!



## Footballing Success



Congratulations to the Year 3/4 football team on their recent performance at the Uplands Festival. For many of the players this was their first ever experience of playing against other schools and they performed admirably.

During the afternoon, the team played 6 matches winning 2, drawing 1 and losing 3. This meant that they finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall. It was especially pleasing that their teamwork, sportsmanship and camaraderie was noticed by the Uplands team running the festival, and the team were awarded the Sportsmanship Award.

## Soft start

Our new morning routine has continued to be very successful and will continue in Term 4.

## Supporting with Anxiety

Thank you to the 20 parents who attended the parents' workshop on how to 'Support your child with Anxiety'. The feedback was that the session was extremely informative and parents are looking forward to discussing individual concerns with course leader Andrew in a 1:1 session.

## Change in our staffing team

To enable Miss Sanchez to fully focus on supporting the Year 1/2 children in the build-up to the Year 1 Phonics and the Year 2 SATs Tests, occurring in Term 5, Mr Elms, assisted by Mrs Mortimer, will be taking on the role of school SENCO from Term 4.

Appointments for advice or further information on Provision Maps can be made at Parent Consultation evenings or by emailing [head@stonegate.e-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@stonegate.e-sussex.sch.uk)

## Science Week 2023

Science has been an area where we have excellent successes and children have been excelling in choosing their own enquiries and enquiry methods. Examples of this success have been seen through: after school Science Enrichment Club, Gardening Group, Forest School, Eco Committee, organised scientific school visits and our yearly Science Weeks.

Between Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February, the School and Pre-School will be enjoying Science Week 2023. To enrich our focus on Working Scientifically, we will be inviting in Sublime Science, the outreach planetarium from Herstonceux Science Centre and the Fab Science forensic crime scene. We will be inviting parents to join us throughout the week and especially for our Science Fair on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February.



## Safeguarding our community – Parents / Class WhatsApp Groups

Class WhatsApp groups are a very useful and efficient way of communicating and sending messages which are relevant to the school and general school arrangements. As these groups are the responsibility of the group's administrator, we remind parents not to use Whatsapp:

- To air views / grievances regarding a teacher, child or parent in the class or school.
- As a political platform for airing opinions on current affairs.
- For private conversations with anyone else using the group.

All social media groups and posts should always respect the ethos, vision and values of our school.

## Final Thought

"The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you." Legendary American blues guitarist and singer B. B. King.

## Upcoming Events

### Term 3 2022 – 2023

#### Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February

Battle Abbey Students to visit Year 1/2

#### Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Last Day of Term 3

### Term 4 2022 – 2023

#### Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February

Inset Day for School and Pre-School

#### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> February

Start of Term 4

#### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> - Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February

#### Science Week

Friday - Science Fair in the Hall – 9.00am

#### Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February

Parent Consultations 3.30 – 6.30pm

#### Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> March

Church Easter Service – 2.00pm

#### Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

Open Afternoon PTA Easter Egg Hunt and Café and Grand Opening of the Pre-School and New Learning Space – from 2.00pm

#### Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

End of Term 4

## Community News

### New building

I am delighted to say that the construction of the new outdoor learning space will start during the February Half Term.

When the children return, the building works will be continuing by the adventure playground. For the children's safety a full risk assessment will be in place.

### Gardening 2023



A big thank you to Dale Hill Golf Club for donating £350 to restock our gardening equipment for the spring planting season. Mr and Mrs Mckenzie are looking forward to sharing their expertise to grow their final crop.

We are still searching for an equally committed person or people to learn the ropes, take on the role and support the children's ever-growing interest in gardening. Please let Miss Keeler know if you are interested.