



Stonegate C of E Primary School

Love of Learning for Life

Despite the wet and windy start, it has been a wonderfully productive start to the term and I have seen every child fully immersed in developing and then applying their knowledge as a historian. As always, I would like to thank the whole of the Stonegate community for their continued support of our school.

Making a difference



As a whole school community, we were captivated by Sofia's appearance on the BBC Breakfast Programme to discuss her work with Lego.

Sofia described her experience – "It was really exciting, just getting a reply to my letter from Lego. I was really nervous and surprised when we received the call to go to Manchester. It was very nerve-wracking being on the television but I really enjoyed it – it was a fun experience. I had no clue about Lego's big launch, I could see a big bag but had no clue what was in it."

"I was really excited and proud of myself to know that I had influenced a new character [Autumn] who will be available worldwide from January 2023."

Sofia's experience can also be found in the latest edition of The Week Junior – we are so proud of her!

Wonderful learning this term

This term every child is being encouraged to think like, and be, a historian. Their enquiry questions are:

- Pre-School – Traditional Tales – Would you climb up the beanstalk?
- Reception – Traditional Tales – Was the big bad wolf really bad?
- Year 1/2 – How do we know that the Great Fire of London happened?
- Year 3/4 – How have Roman inventions shaped the modern world?
- Year 5/6 – World War 2 – Does adversity make us stronger?



Remembrance

This week every child has been thinking about the significance of Remembrance. Children have been supporting the Royal British Legion through the buying and selling of Poppies. Today, we held a whole school service in the School Hall where we had a moment to think about those who have been injured or killed in battles. I was impressed, as always, with the children's reflectiveness and thoughtfulness.



Balance Bikeability



This week, children from Reception Class have been developing their confidence using balance bikes. As part of this 4 day course, they have learnt how to glide, how to steer and most importantly how to stop.

The 2 ESCC instructors could not sing the praises of this group of children any higher and said that their enthusiasm, courage and smiles brightened up a gloomy, wet week. The children received their certificates in today's Worship.

Gardening

We would like to pass on a big thank you to Spear and Jackson for their donation of 2 Tiny Traditional Spades. I know for a fact that this will really help our wonderfully dedicated team of Year 1/2 gardeners with their winter work on the school's growing beds.

As always we are thankful to Mr and Mrs McKenzie for coordinating gardening.



Safeguarding

Please remember that parents MUST tell us (email or morning clipboard) if somebody different is picking your child up at the end of the day. If we have not had this communication we will hold your child at school until you have given us verbal permission and we know that it is safe for them to leave school.

Attendance

As you are all aware, the staff, leadership team and governors continue to focus on ensuring that Stonegate reaches an attendance percentage of above 97. I am pleased to say that, despite a few Covid 19 cases and a number of flu-like colds, for Terms 1 the attendance for the whole school stood at **96.18%**. This is a very good achievement. We will be reviewing attendance during this term, sending letters to and offering support for families where attendance may have fallen below 90%.

Please could I also remind all families the school day starts at 8.45am.

Looking good

Thank you to all parents for enabling every child to look super smart in their winter uniforms. As the weather is beginning to get colder, please remember a suitable coat.

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 2 2022 – 2023

Wednesdays throughout Term 2
KS2 Swimming

Monday 14th November

Maths Week Starts – Reception to Year 6
Odd Socks Day – Anti Bullying Week

Thursday 17th November

Sponsored Walk – 1pm (Parents Welcome)

Monday 5th December

Open Morning for Prospective Parents

Thursday 8th December

Reception and Year 1/2 Nativity - 9.30am

Friday 9th December

Children's Christmas Shopping Event - am

Monday 12th December

Key Stage 2 Choir Performance - 6.00pm

Tuesday 13th December

Pre-School Christmas Performance – 9.00am
Christmas Dinner

Thursday 15th December

School Visit to the Pantomime (Not PS)

Friday 16th December

Crib Service in the Church – 7.00pm

Friday 16th December

Term 2 Ends

Term 3 2022 – 2023

Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Inset Day for Pre-School and School

Wednesday 4th January 2023

First Day of Term 3

PTA News



Quiz Night

From 7pm on **Saturday 19th November** the PTA will be hosting a Music themed Quiz Night. I am reliably informed that it won't just be for music buffs and will be lots of fun. As always there will be hot food and a bar.

Firework Clear Up

Thank you to all of the parents who braved the rain to clear up after the Wadhurst Fireworks. The Warriors were delighted!

School Council

To support the school's RSHE focus on Anti Bullying, the School Council have arranged 2 events for next week.

- 1) Odd Socks Day – Monday 14th November
- 2) Poster Competition

More details on separate letter.