



# STOCKHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL THURSDAY NEWSLETTER

Issue No: 657

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

This week I will be sending home a long term planner. Please put all the important dates on your calendar.

We have had a busy week of awards. Congratulations to Isabella and Max who were selected by the senior leadership team to be this year's Head Boy and Head Girl! Very well deserved.

We are excited to also announce our House captains for this year:

Liam – Snowy Owls (green)

Charlotte – Golden Eagles (yellow)

Annabelle – Kingfishers (blue)

Alexa – Falcons (red)



We also have some excellent Sports Council members supporting Mrs Peacock this year: Isabella W, George B, Zach, Elijah R, Lexi F, Leah, Stuart, Chester, Benjamin and Olivia.



Well done to this terms' ACE treat winners:

Foundation – Frankie and Noah

Year 1 – Lottie and Freddie

Year 2 – Finley and Isla

Year 3 –Kolby and Miley

Year 4 – Maisy and Joshua

Year 5 – Alfie and Will

Year 6 – Alise and Lucy



We are all very proud of your achievements.

### **Ultimate Frisbee competition**

Last week, nineteen Year 6 children took part in an Ultimate Frisbee competition at Millbrook school. The teams came 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>. Great effort! There were a few pro Frisbee players that we did not know about. Thank you to Snob and Lock for providing medals for the children.



### **GOLDEN TIME**

We have enjoyed our first golden time session of the year. Children took part in lots of activities across the school. These included: Soaring High collages, halloween craft, drama, sewing, halloween baking, cob web making, rounders, visiting the Wantage Library, a well-being walk to the park and stress ball making, sports coach games and knitting.

Each class will take it in turns to choose 1<sup>st</sup>, then 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> etc. This will ensure it is fair overall across the year. It would be lovely to have more parent/carers helpers to offer even more breadth to the afternoon. Our next golden time will be on 15<sup>th</sup> December 1.15-2.45pm. Here are a few photos from last week:





### **Parent/Carer teacher meetings**

After the half term break, all teachers will place a sign-up sheet on their classroom external door. Meetings will take place during the week starting 13<sup>th</sup> November. Please sign up to a 10 minute slot to come into school to discuss how your child is settling into their new classes. Please ring the office (after the 30<sup>th</sup> October) on 01235 764407 if you are unable to be on the school grounds to sign up, the office staff will try to book a convenient slot for you (where possible). If you have more than one child in school, please ensure you leave at least a 10 minute gap between appointment slots so that it allows you to get to the next classroom in good time. Please arrive before your child's time slot so that you can spend time looking through your child's work so far this year. There will also be a parent questionnaire to complete and a class dojo sign up letter for you to action so that we can start sharing all the photos and videos of all the exciting things happening in school this year!

### **Dates for your diary:**

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October** – End of term 3.10pm

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October** – INSET day.

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October** – Children return to school for term 2

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November** – Flu spray for all children (separate consent email has been sent)

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> November** – Year 1 trip to Wantage museum

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** – Anti-bullying week (more information to come soon from Miss Lovegrove and the anti-bullying ambassadors)  
**13<sup>th</sup> November week** – Teacher-parents/carers meetings  
**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November** – Children in Need day –led by our newly appointed school council members and Mr Burbank  
**Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November** – School photo day (individual portrait photos and siblings photos who attend Stockham school)  
**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December** – Non-school uniform day – bring in a luxury item for our Christmas hampers  
**Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December** – Whole school trip to the Pantomime in Swindon  
**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December** – Christmas dinner day and present room  
**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December** – School finishes at 12pm  
**Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024** – Children return for Term 3.

Many thanks,  
 Mrs Ruth Burbank

### **Class News**

- Year F** In Foundation this week, we have ended our theme 'Getting to Know You!' Firstly, we got ready for our trip to Wantage Museum by thinking about maps, the route we would walk to the Museum and what we might see in our local community on the way, we also thought about ways to stay safe during our trip. The children were super excited about the Museum trip and a great time was had by all on the day! Thank you again to all the parents and carers who gave up their time to support us during the trip, we couldn't do it without you.
- Year 1** This week in Year 1 we have been learning about our fifth and final sense, the sense of smell. We have learnt that molecules float through the air into our noses and that's how we smell different smells. We have continued ordering numbers in maths, and comparing them using different symbols.
- Year 2** This week Year 2 have produced some amazing pieces of writing about the Great Fire of London. We have discussed who we think was to blame for the fire and used adjectives and questions to strengthen our main points. We have also written letters to King Charles II to tell him what was wrong with the houses on Pudding Lane and what he could do to make them better. In music we have been learning a very catchy call and response song from Ghana called Che Che Kule, which is very similar to Heads, shoulders, knees and toes.
- Year 3** Year 3 have had a really busy last week of term! On Monday, we performed our final gymnastic sequences focusing on different ways of travelling and balancing. We had a fantastic Stone Age Day on Tuesday. Lots of children dressed up and there were some great costumes! We took part in lots of activities including: cave painting under our desks, throwing javelins pretending they were spears for hunting, lighting fires in forest school, making a model of a woolly mammoth and creating Stonehenge out of biscuits! We are also very excited because we have received letters from our new pen pals in Canada!
- Year 4** This week in Year 4 we have continued using the column method for subtraction. The children have worked really hard, practicing subtracting numbers that require multiple exchanges! On Tuesday we enjoyed a lovely brass concert from a couple of Year 6 children, it has inspired a couple of Year 4's to want to start playing an instrument. In computing we have been looking how we can create a piece of art work on the computer and comparing this with a paper version.

- Year 5** The final week of term 1 has been a busy one for Year 5 as we have continued with our swimming lessons, with everyone showing such improvement from the first lesson last week. The children really enjoyed the challenge of applying their swimming to real-life scenarios surrounding water safety and learning basic lifesaving skills. Back in the classroom, we have been using our mathematical knowledge of addition and subtraction to work out some tricky word problems, testing our learning powers to the full! In English, we have continued to write our character description of the explorer from our class book, The Explorer. The children all worked hard to craft their writing using lots of expanded noun phrases, fronted adverbials, similes and metaphors to really bring the character to life on the page. We have continued to think about our South America topic while reading the book, particularly issues of deforestation and human interaction with the rainforest.
- Year 6** Year 6 have been really busy this week finishing off our writing based on The Ways of the Wolf. We have been writing our own information text based on our imaginary predator. We have had to think carefully about how the animal is adapted to its environment, what prey it eats and how it hunts. We have had to try hard to use the features of the original text. We have also been working really hard this week completing some assessments to help show what we need to concentrate on next in maths, reading and grammar lessons. As artists we have really enjoyed our final piece project this week: making our North American inspired totem poles. We have learnt how to make a base structure using card and newspaper, how to papier mache carefully and then add a final painted layer. We are all really proud of our final outcomes.

### Soaring High

This week the following children have earned "Soaring High":

- Year F** Harley - You have been working away like a superstar this week! We have all noticed just how much you have been persevering when learning your letter sounds and with your letter formation too, you should be very proud of the progress you are making - well done.  
Ella-Rose - You are always such a kind and caring member of our class. We often see you go out of your way to help others and you are a great role-model to all of us, thank you!
- Year 1** Bella and Jessica for soaring high this week in P.E, Coach Dec was particularly impressed with how hard you listened and engaged in gym and commented on both of your learning attitudes in P.E. Well done to you both, keep it up!
- Year 2** Kyla for showing lots of enthusiasm when learning about the Great Fire of London. You have remembered lots of important facts.  
Harley A for working really hard on your presentation in all tasks. You have taken lots of pride in your work this term.
- Year 3** Rosie L - for a great Stone Age picture. You thought really carefully about your work and tried hard to make it as realistic as possible.  
Erick - for taking a more active part in lessons this week. It has been great to see you contributing your ideas more.
- Year 4** All of Year 4 for a brilliant first term. We have been so proud of how you all have settled in and are becoming independent learners. Well done!
- Year 5** Freddie for a fantastic character description of the explorer. You really took on board everything from the lessons building up to writing the piece, which resulted in a really vibrant description of our focus character using lots of literary devices. Well done Freddie!  
Jasmine for amazing progress during swimming lessons over the past two weeks. The development of your swimming skills since last Monday has been brilliant, and we could all see how proud you were when you walked up to the deep end for the first time to swim your 25m independently. Well done, Jasmine!

**Year 6** Abigail for a really carefully constructed and painted totem pole. You followed your plan really carefully and persevered independently to complete your cardboard structure. You then put so much attention to detail into the papier mache and painted layer. Well done, Abigail.  
Harry H for some carefully considered writing this week about your imaginary predator. You were able to successfully use the features of the original text in your writing and this helped you to create detailed and informative fact pages about your creature. Well done, Harry.

Well done everyone!

### **Tidy Tiger**

This week Tidy Tiger goes to Val for having the tidiest room. Well done!

### **Second-hand uniform**

**Good quality, second-hand uniform is available from Friends of Stockham with all money raised coming directly to school. For information on availability of items, please see this facebook group or email [friendsofstockham@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofstockham@gmail.com).**

**<https://www.facebook.com/Friends-of-Stockham-School-Second-hand-uniform-sale-103641978169121>**

### **School Uniform**

If you need new uniform please order online or by telephone. The website is [pmgschoolwear.co.uk](http://pmgschoolwear.co.uk) and the order line is 0800 4046644.

Book bags and PE bags are also available to be purchased from [pmgschoolwear](http://pmgschoolwear.co.uk).