

# Stedham School News



Autumn 2022

**Since the start of term, our feet have not touched the ground! The children have enjoyed lots of different fun and exciting events and have made a really positive start to the new academic year.**

The new members of staff have already had a positive impact on the school and have given the Stedham team a fantastic injection of enthusiasm and energy. Mrs Rudolph, already known to the school, has quickly got established as the Foxes class teacher. Miss Claire Murphy, our Special Educational Needs Coordinator, has loved getting to know the children and has been busy developing interventions and support for some of our children. Alison Harris, and her dog Pippen, have enjoyed three 'taster days' leading Forest School – she looks forward to continuing our Forest School provision for the remainder of the year. Zannie Priest has hit the ground running in the office and has quickly become an important member of our team.



Stedham School community is benefitting from our daily Early Morning Club as well as our two after school clubs that give children further enriching experiences with sport and games. These clubs will be continuing next half term with a further lunchtime club to give your children a richer variety of activities.

We have spent a lot of time in assemblies and in class revisiting our core values. They now are a focus point for our Star Awards which are shared in every Celebration assembly. Please join us in celebrating your child's efforts.



## Dates for your diary

Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> October	INSET Day
24 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Half term holiday
1 November	Individual photographs
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Rotary Music Festival at MRC
Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Day
14 <sup>th</sup> -18 <sup>th</sup> November	Book Fair
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Stedham Open Day
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 24 <sup>th</sup> November	Parents Evening
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Non school uniform day (donation of a bottle for tombola)
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> December	Non school uniform day (donation of Christmas chocolates)
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas fair
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Theatre trip – Wizard of Oz
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> December	Carols around the tree before term ends

I hope that your children have shared our new theme for houses. Each house has been renamed after some famous hills that can be found along the South Downs: Bignor, Trundle, Butser and Beacon. The children helped choose the new theme which we are all delighted about. In case you've heard the rumour about a future house challenge..,it is true! We would like to challenge each child to climb their hill with all pupils from their house. We will share more on this next term.



Although the school is currently experiencing a delightful autumnal fall that blankets the school in a variety of red, brown and yellow leaves; the school hasn't looked as good for a long time. The hut has been given a new coat of paint, moss and leaves have been cleared from the path running alongside the school, gutters have been cleared, an outdoor seating area has been added just outside the hut and the EYFS area has greatly been improved. Many thanks to all those parents and staff who helped make this happen.

Having recently had new boilers fitted at school, we are looking forward to all areas of the school being toasty warm throughout the winter. We now just have the task of managing the energy bills!

With the hall being painted over the half term and new toilets being installed over Christmas, the school has much to look forward to. Further future developments include new windows and doors being fitted with a chance of solar panels also being added.

Stedham School is enjoying a really positive period. The children are benefitting from the small class sizes and the extra adult attention that comes with it. This will mean that progress for our pupils will accelerate considerably. We look forward to sharing your children's work as well as their learning journey in the November parent's evenings.

We are incredibly excited about the many events leading up to Christmas and look forward to sharing these special moments with you.

Yours sincerely

Malcolm Meaby  
Headteacher

# Loving learning

## *Rabbits Class*

Rabbits class have enjoyed following the Yeti's footprints in the forest, receiving a letter from the Yeti and they have even had a visit from the Yeti himself!

## *Hedgehogs Class*

Hedgehogs class have enjoyed studying chocolate in science; learning about the changing state from solid to liquid. They particularly enjoyed dipping melted chocolate in strawberries and bananas, yummy!



## *Foxes Class*

Foxes class have been learning about World War II this term, including composing letters to penpals and experiencing an air raid siren during a visit from a local war veteran.

They have also been studying Picasso and we have enjoyed the colourful images in the corridor, some of which are illustrated above.

## *Phonics Bug Club!*

Don't forget to access Phonics Bug Club, to support your child with reading at home. Further reading is available if you log on and access the Phonics Bug Club E-Books.

## *Times Table Rockstars and Numbots!*

We also have access to TTRockstars and Numbots, so the children can practice their times tables and number bonds.



## FOSS news

### FOSS UPDATES

As well as the Panto on 13th December, FOSS are organising a monthly cake draw, a Christmas wreath making workshop and a Christmas Fair on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> December.

FOSS recently organised a fantastic MacMillan Coffee Morning. Sadly, there were only a handful of our Stedham neighbours who dropped in; but their loss was our gain, as the children and parents delighted in the freshly made scones and cakes. The school raised an amazing £133.38. Well done all!



The school has just purchased £170 worth of wonderful new books. This was made possible from funds raised after last year's Scholastic Book Fair. Don't forget that our next Book Fair is just around the corner (14<sup>th</sup> – 18th November), – see you there!

## Further school news/updates:

### BREAKFAST CLUB/AFTER SCHOOL CLUB UPDATES:

Early morning club – Mrs Sates runs early morning club in Hedgehogs classroom every morning from 08:00am until 08:45am.

Aspire after school club runs on a Tuesday after school. Contact [info@aspirecoaching.org.uk](mailto:info@aspirecoaching.org.uk) for further information and to book directly.

Mr Meaby runs his multisport club after school until 5pm on a Wednesday. Please sign up for the second half of term via the My Child At School App.

### HOUSEKEEPING

All parents should now be accessing the My Child At School App which is how the school will communicate and take cashless payments going forward. Please pop into the office if you are experiencing problems with the App.

We are changing the way parents order lunch after half term. Parents will order directly for their child, selecting from a menu, even if your child is on Free School Meals. This means that your child should always get their choice of meal. More details to follow shortly.

### TRIPS THIS TERM

For those parents who have not already paid for their child to go on the whole school trip to the theatre to see the Wizard of Oz, we politely ask that you settle your balance now so we can gauge numbers for the day. Unusually, we have taken the decision not to organise an additional whole school trip this term; we appreciate that many parents will struggle to afford such an event in the current financial climate. However, we are currently making plans for a trip next term, which will involve all children. Watch this space for more information but as always, we will endeavour to make it accessible for all ages, educational and affordable.



## EXTRA CURRICULAR EVENTS

Congratulations to our Stedham football team who took part in the first MRC Sports Partnership tournament last week. They played incredibly well and showed great commitment and team spirit.



Stedham school is proud to share that we are now offering private tuition in piano, drums, singing and guitar. In addition, we are incredibly lucky to have West Sussex Music deliver, specialist music sessions to each class. Currently Rabbits are enjoying weekly music sessions. Hedgehogs and Foxes will receive their sessions in the Spring and Summer terms.

All pupils came together as a whole school last week for a morning of art. The children created Christmas cards and winter scene cards. They loved this creative session and were proud of their finished work.

We hope all parents remembered to make their order of Christmas cards on the Cauliflower Cards website. We can't wait to see the art work printed on to real Christmas cards.



### Topic – Is conflict necessary?

The children have thoroughly enjoyed their topic this term with highlights that include John Hill's stories of attending Stedham Primary during the war. The children have learnt about rationing, evacuees and many more facts about WW2 and other conflicts.

## READING AT STEDHAM:

The children are making a great response to our new Reading Records. The incentive of ten house points for every 'Reading Rocket certificate' earned has spurred the children to greater reading at home. Thanks to the parents for your support with this and for completing entries in the Reading Records. Let's hope that this enthusiasm continues and helps our pupils develop a love of reading throughout the school.