

Stedham Primary Newsletter



Dec 2022

What a cracker of a term we have had here at Stedham Primary! It is a privilege to be with your children, particularly at this time of the year as they shine brightly, both in the classroom and during the plethora of activities they have taken part in. Never has this been more evident than during last week's 'Stedham's Got Talent' where we were treated to a host of acts, for some this came naturally, for others they really had to push themselves and manage their nerves to perform and it was lovely to see how much EVERYONE enjoyed.

This has been a busy half term with lots going on including a hockey tournament at MRC, the successful Rotary Music Festival, bulb planting with our local community, our Remembrance service, forest school, UK Parliament Week, designing Cauliflower Christmas cards, Christmas lunch and the very successful Christmas Fair organised by FOSS. More FOSS news later!



I hope your children will enjoy time over the holidays to rest, enjoy family time and recharge their batteries ready to come back in the New Year. Next term we will hit the ground running with another action-packed term with highlights which include World Book Day, an Easter Egg Hunt organised by FOSS (Date tbc) and more enrichment opportunities with MRC which we have enjoyed this term.

A huge thank you to all the parents who have responded to the parent questionnaire recently sent out. This feedback is really helpful for us to plan for our future and I am delighted that the results of the survey are largely very complimentary with 100% of those who have responded so far saying that they would recommend our school to others. There is still time to complete the survey, which will close on Friday morning. [Click here](#) to complete the survey.

All that remains is for me to wish you all a Happy Christmas, I hope you enjoy the short festive treat we've put together for you. [Click here](#)

Best wishes *Malcolm Meaby*

Dates for your diary

Further dates can be found on the website

INSET	Tues 3 rd Jan
Term starts	Wed 4 th Jan
Clubs start	Mon 9 th Jan
Rabbits Meet the teacher	Monday 9 th Jan
Hedgehogs Meet the teacher	Tuesday 10 th Jan
Foxes Meet the teacher	Wednesday 11 th Jan
Energy Saving Week	Mon 17 th Jan
Quad Athletics MRC	Fri 20 th Jan
RSPB's Big School Birdwatch	Fri 27 th Jan
Cross Country MRC	Fri 3 rd Feb
Safer Internet Day	Tues 7 th Feb
Half Term	w/c 13 Feb
World Book Day	Thurs 2 nd March
Tag Rugby MRC	Fri 3 rd March
Netball MRC	Fri 24 th March
End of Term	Fri 31 st March

House Update: Congratulations to Trundle house who were the 'House Champions' of Autumn 2022. It was a hard fought battle as Trundle and Beacon house swapped being house leaders most weeks. Looking forward to see who will reign supreme in the Spring term. Good luck all!



Class updates

Rabbits Class

We have really enjoyed our topic of 'Do Dragons Exist?' and we can all say, with some confidence that yes, dragons *do* exist, just not the fire-breathing type. This was very reassuring to many of the children in the class. Talking of dragons, we have all loved getting involved in our key text for this topic- The Dragon Machine and have enjoyed writing about George and his amazing plan to help save the dragons. In History, we have looked at and built our own castles and have learned lots about the amazing defences that castles had. We learnt that many castles were built high up on hills or mountains so as to give a good view for the defenders. Talking of hills, in Geography, we have been learning about the different geological features around the world. We created a small model out of clay to show what these features look like- I'm sure these precious ornaments now take up the pride of place on your mantelpiece alongside the beautiful, junk modelled, Chinese dragon mask.

We just wanted to add our thanks to all you parents for your continued support and continual donations of junk modelling materials, both of which are gratefully received.

Hedgehogs Class

This term our focus has been on History, studying World War II. In Literacy, we have read the classic Narnia novel, 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe'. This story has brought to the fore many issues confronted by children during the Second World War like rationing and being an evacuee. Some children experienced Turkish Delight for the first time and then used the experience to write a poem. Children made lifelike models of Spitfire aircraft used during the Battle of Britain. Remembrance Day took on new meaning for children this year as they understood the importance of remembering those soldiers who died to protect us.

This term we were lucky to have Forest School on Wednesday afternoons. Even though it was cold and sometimes very wet, we did manage to have hot chocolate with biscuits and even marshmallows toasted on the fire. Grateful thank you to Mrs Harris, who is a master fire-maker. We learned a great deal spending time in the forest and were able to let our imaginations run wild, inventing interesting games and dramas. Next term, we look forward to having music lessons where we will learn the ukulele.

Foxes Class

This half term in Foxes has been a busy one. If seven weeks of fractions isn't enough to tire a class out, we don't know what is! We have been studying 'Beowulf' - the oldest poem known in English (Anglo-Saxon) literature, from which the children have written some wonderful descriptive paragraphs of its dramatic events. Further mythological learning has been in Guided Reading, where we have explored Greek gods and goddesses. In Art, we have studied the illustrator Victoria Topping to recreate our own God or Goddess in her distinctive style. However, according to the pupils, the highlight of this half term has been creating their amazing stalls for the Christmas Fair. They worked so hard to think of fun and rewarding games on a budget, and raised over £100 for the school as a result of their efforts.



FOSS news

Our FOSS team have been extremely busy this term with their incredible efforts raising funds for charitable organisations and our school. Their Macmillan coffee morning and cake sale raised £134, our book fair generated £190 for the school to spend on books for the library. The monthly cake raffle initiative has made £60 so far. The wreath-making event, which was very well supported by both parents and staff, raised nearly £350 and produced some works of art, as illustrated. The Christmas fair, which was a huge success, raised a whopping £400 in raffle ticket sales alone.

The tireless work by the FOSS team has meant that they have been able to make a major contribution to both music lessons and the pantomime this term as well as other initiatives and equipment that enhance the children's life at Stedham Primary. Whilst we are so grateful for their unrelenting support, without your contributions none of their efforts would come-off, so many thanks to all who have baked cakes, attended wreath making sessions, brought in bottles and chocolate and bought raffle tickets.



Lunch:

The new lunch ordering system seems to be getting the thumbs up from the children as they enjoy food ordered by their parents who are familiar with their likes and dislikes. Please try to order (via www.parentpay.com) at least two weeks ahead in order to avoid missing the cut-off set by Chartwells. Thursday 15th at midnight is the cut-off for the first two weeks back after the holiday.

