

February- 2026

STOKE HILL INFANT AND NURSERY



DATES

Mastering Number
Parent Workshops

2.30pm

2nd—YR

3rd—Y1

5th—Y2

5th—Volunteer
Training 9.15

6th—Willow cake
sale

9th—Olympian visit

10th—Safer Internet
Day

12th—PTFA Disco

13th—Break up for
half term

23rd—Return to
School

26th—Really Wild
Learning Workshop
for EYFS

26th/27th—Y2 trip to
Tiverton Museum

26th—Governors'
Meeting

27th—Oak cake sale

SPRING TERM

Dear Parents and Carers,

I'm amazed we haven't all been washed away with all the rain we've had during January and it doesn't look like it's stopping yet. It's important for the children to get fresh air so we try and get them outside for a bit, even when it's raining. Please continue to make sure your child has a coat everyday.

It has been wonderful to welcome so many adults into school as Secret Storytellers since term started. The children are so excited when they find out they have a secret storyteller coming and can't wait to find out who it is! Reading for pleasure is such an important part of our day at Stoke Hill and providing a variety of role models really helps promote this. If you haven't signed up yet, why not speak to your child's teacher and come and share your favourite picture book with the class?

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend the SEND information evening last week. You should have received a flyer detailing the new SEND and Inclusion team arrangements and an email from Mrs Hammerton-Jackson summarizing the meeting. I've included a copy of the flyer on p5.

Best wishes,

Claire McKimm, Head of School

Stars of the week



The following children have been their class's reader, role model or learner of the week during the last month:

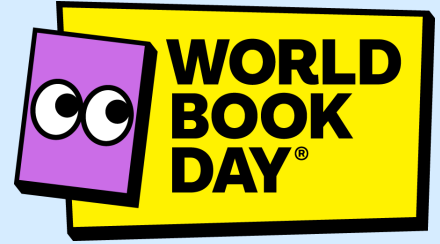
Readers of the week: Aria, Somaya, Eddie, Marwah (Bee), Alanna, Albert, Oakley, Eliana (Dragonfly), Jackson, Ibrahim, Josie, Amelia (Ladybird), Cosmo, Thea, Elodie, Grace (Beech), Lyla, Enoch, Riley, Olive (Oak), Marlow, Cody, Tsanda, April (Willow), Arlah, Oliver, Nik, Olivia (Chaffinch), Oliver, Fin, Zoja, Ben (Swift), Yiya, Reiza, Rufus, Devashrith (Woodpecker)

Role models of the week: Joshua, Harley, Oakley, Beau (Bee), Hannan, Polly, Naif, Jack H (Dragonfly), Eliza, Presley, Phoebe, Baran (Ladybird), Emily, Oberon, Harrison, Valentin (Beech), Layla, Arzo, Remy, Ammar (Oak), Aisana, Lakely, Ananya, TJ (Willow), Mateus, Percy, Lucy, Mateus (Chaffinch), Jonah, Naomi, Reuben, Isla (Swift), Leena, Shaika, Sophie, Joe (Woodpecker)

Learners of the week: Beau, Zoe, Roman, Abdul (Bee), Maddie, Laurie, Elia, Poppy (Dragonfly), Ahla, Polly, Philo, Davi (Ladybird), Avah, Valentin, Antonia, Mason (Beech), Ammar, Jerry, Ava, Pietro (Oak), Sudais, April, Connor, Ayyub (Willow), Elham, Mohammed, Eliza, Zaara (Chaffinch), Evie T, Leia, Willow, Elara (Swift), Daisy, Callum, Henrik, Ben (Woodpecker)

World Book Day

On Thursday 5th March we will be celebrating World Book Day. At Stoke Hill we place real importance on reading for pleasure and enjoy stories together every day. On World Book Day we will spend extra time enjoying and talking about books and would like to invite the children to come dressed up as a book character. We don't expect costumes to be bought and there are plenty of low/no cost ideas online, including at <https://www.worldbookday.com/families/>



Every child will bring home a £1 World Book Day token which can be swapped for a special World Book Day book, available at book shops and supermarkets.

Winter Illnesses and Attendance at School

Flu and other winter viruses are circulating in the community, and you will have seen in the media the pressure the health system is currently facing in managing demand.

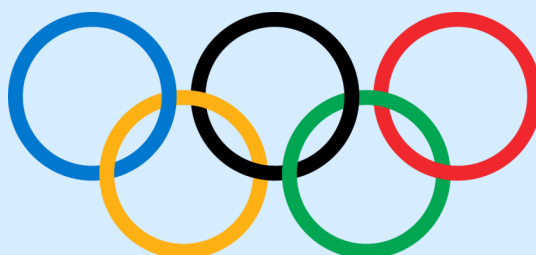
It is usually ok for children to come to school if they have minor coughs and cold and generally feel well in themselves and have no fever. There are however times when children are unwell and to ensure infections don't spread to others, it is important they stay at home for a short period of time. Some of these include:

- **Fever:** If your child has a high temperature, keep them at home until the fever has passed and they feel well.
- **Diarrhoea and/or Vomiting:** Children should stay home for **at least 48 hours after symptoms have stopped.**

For other infectious illnesses this website provides NHS guidelines: <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

Olympian Visit

We are excited to welcome Team GB Olympic Powerlifter Wesley McGuinness to school on Monday 9th February! The children will participate in a fitness challenge during the morning and then there will be a whole school assembly led by Wesley to answer questions and hand out prizes. Thank you to all families who have been raising sponsorship money for this event. The proceeds are shared between the school and the athlete and the school council have grand plans for the money raised. The deadline to bring back sponsorship money is Thursday 5th February.



School Office Notices and quick reminders

We are unable to authorise most absence requests, as per our policy, but please make sure that any S2 holiday request forms are handed to the office in good time so that they can be returned to you before the absence starts.

Please remember to update us of any contact detail changes asap.



Mental Health and Wellbeing—Children's Mental Health Week

Whether your new year resolutions are in the gym or in the bin- we might have something just right for you in terms of helping keep the whole family on track with our monthly mental health and well-being recommendations: Parenting Smart- Series of Short Videos and Help Cards. <https://parentingsmart.place2be.org.uk/>

My child is anxious 2 min video 8 min read Read now	Healthy habits for parenting 2 min video 6 min read Read now	My child says "I hate you!" 2 min video 5 min read Read now
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PTFA

Thank you to everyone who attended another fun quiz night on Friday. The competition was fierce but friendly—congratulations to the winning team!

Tickets are now available for the next event for the Infant school which is the Valentine's Disco. This event was greatly enjoyed by all who attended last year and it is set to be another fun-filled afternoon with a new DJ ready to host!

Community

A new Little Library is being installed by the Margaret Road entrance this week!

PTFA VALENTINE'S DISCO

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 12TH
INFANT SCHOOL HALL

RECEPTION AT 2.15 - 3PM
YEAR 1 AT 3.30 - 4.15PM
YEAR 2 AT 4.30 - 5.15PM

£3.50 PER TICKET*
(PUPIL GRANT - £1.50)

*PRICE INCLUDES DISCO, A DRINK, CRISPS, GLOW STICK AND TATTOOS
ACCOMPANYING ADULTS DO NOT NEED A TICKET

[BOOK TICKETS HERE](#)

Safer Internet Day—Top Tips from the Safer Internet Centre for Parents and Carers of 3-7 year olds

This Safer Internet Day, we are starting a conversation about how to use AI technology safely and responsibly. Whilst your 3 to 7 year old may not yet be ready to use the internet independently, use our top tips to start good online habits now that will help keep them safe in the future.

Enjoy going online together

Spending time online together with family is an important learning experience for the youngest internet users. Not only will you both enjoy the quality time together, but you can supervise their usage and guide them to make the safest choices.

Talk about their online experiences

Help give your child the words to explain what they're experiencing online by starting conversations about the internet and technology as early as possible. Talking regularly about what they love doing online, as well as any worries they may have, will help establish this habit and mean they're more likely to come to you for help as they get older.

Make use of settings and controls

Parental controls and other safety settings can help protect your child from online harms, including upsetting or inappropriate content. Think about how your child uses technology, for example if you have a smart TV or a voice assistant at home, and explore specific settings to support your household.

Introduce simple ideas about AI technology

You don't need to be a computing expert to start conversations at home about AI. Explaining that a voice assistant is a computer, not a person, or helping your child to understand that not everything they see online is real, is a good start. Encourage them to ask questions about the technology in their lives, and even if you don't know the answers, you can find them out together.

Make sure they know they can always come to you

The most important thing for your child to know is that you are always there to support them, online and offline. Encourage them to talk to you if anything they experience makes them feel worried or upset, and show them they can trust you to stay calm, listen and help make things better.

SEND and Inclusion at Stoke Hill

Our dedicated Inclusion Team supports teachers to meet every child's academic, social and emotional needs, helping to make our school a place where everyone can flourish.

Our Head of SEND and Inclusion leads the Inclusion Team to meet the needs of all children identified as having barriers to learning. We coordinate, monitor and review provision across both schools by working closely with the Senior Federation Leadership Team.

Our Family Support Worker and Assistant SENDCo complete the Inclusion Team as we work as one federation team to support you and your children throughout their time at Stoke Hill.

Our Assistant Heads of School are our SEND and Inclusion Leads in both the Infant and Junior School. They have the privilege of working closely with children, families and staff to make sure that all learners have the support they need to reach their full potential.

We know that parents and carers play a huge role in their child's journey, and we value working in partnership with you. If you ever have any concerns about your child's progress or wellbeing, the first person to speak to is your child's class teacher. They will listen carefully, offer support where needed, and keep you updated on any changes or next steps. If extra help is needed, the class teacher will involve the Inclusion Team so we can plan the right support together - always putting your child's needs at the centre of our decisions.

a place where
every child is
seen,
heard
& **celebrated.**

"Every child belongs,
every child matters."



Emily Hearle
Assistant Head of School and
SEND and Inclusion Leads



Sarah Padbury



Vicky Absalom



Ali King
Assistant
SENDCo



Jo McCarthy
Family Support
Worker

