

STOKE HILL JUNIOR

SPRING TERM, ISSUE 37

April 2026

DATES

2nd April
Last day of term

20th April
Return to school

1st May
Learning Webs
sent home

1st May
8.55am 4DP Class
Assembly

4th May
May Bank Holiday
School Closed

5th May
2.45 Parent Pop In

7th May
Local Elections

8th May
8.55am 4T Class
Assembly

11th May
Year 6 National
Testing Week

15th
8.55am 4F Class
Assembly

Dear Parents and Carers

We are almost at the end of term and I look back with pride at the wonderful work the children have completed and the many events the children have taken part in. Overnight stays for the children in year 4 and 5 on visits, a brilliant show from year 3 and many children representing the school in off site activities are just a few of the highlights.

As a school we've worked hard on implementing new systems and processes, including mobile phones only being permitted for year 6 children, new collection arrangements from the playground for year 4 and 5 children and clarity around PE kit expectations. Thank you for embedding these into making Stoke Hill a happier and safer place for the children.

Whilst it's a time to reflect, it's also a time to look forward to the final term of the year. It feels like time is simply flying by and I hope that our year 6 children embrace the last months on their education journey with us and the other children work hard to be ready to move into their new classes.

There is always something going on and we will endeavor to remind you of events coming up, without bombarding you, but please do regularly check emails so that you don't miss anything.

For now though it's time for everyone to have a rest and enjoy the time away from school with our families and friends. I look forward to seeing all of the children back in school on Monday 20th April.

Have a lovely holiday
Jamie Sullivan
Head of School



School Champions

The following children received school awards in reading, writing or maths during the last month:

Kindness: Jimmy (4T), Jack (5B), Joseph (5G)

Writing: Joseph (3B), Harry (5J), Kenna (6G)

Maths: Zayan (6B), Jake (3B), Eina (3W)

Sustainability: Mia (6P), Herbie (6P), Blas (3B)



Year 3 Production

A couple of weeks ago the brilliant year 3 children produced two stunning performances of their show *Wiz Wham Alakazam*.

All of the children looked amazing in their costumes and delivered their lines with confidence and clarity. There were many smiles from the audience as the children sang lots of songs.

A big thank you to the whole year 3 team who worked so hard with the children to create this lovely experience. Year 5 will be next up and they certainly have a tough act to follow!



Supporting Mental Health at Stoke Hill

This month, we're focusing on simple ways families can nurture children's mental wellbeing. Small, everyday habits make a big difference. Try setting aside ten minutes each day for calm connection - reading together, chatting about the day, or enjoying a quiet activity. Encouraging children to name their feelings helps them build emotional awareness and resilience. You might ask, "What was something that made you feel proud today?" or "Was there a moment that felt tricky?"

Routine also supports a sense of safety. Keeping regular bedtimes, mealtimes, and screen free moments help children feel grounded. If your child seems worried, remind them that all feelings are valid and that talking about them is a strength.

For more ideas, these trusted websites offer excellent guidance:

- Yong Minds <https://www.youngminds.org.uk>
- NHS Every Mind Matters <https://www.nhs.uk/every-mind-matters>
- Place2Be <https://www.place2be.org.uk>

Year 4 Magdalen Farm Residential

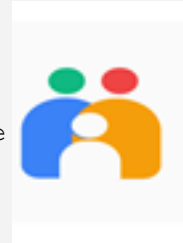
Last week our year 4 children spent two nights at Magdalen Farm in Chard as part of their residential. It's a super trip that links to so much that they have been learning about and for many it is their first time away from home. I'm always grateful to the staff that give their time to take the children on the trip and the hard work that goes in for months beforehand to ensure everything runs smoothly. I spoke to Maya and Aiden from 4DP 'My favourite part was the camp fire because everyone was joining in with the singing and we toasted apples with honey and cinnamon. I loved it all but feeding the pigs was great, they were a lot larger and heavier than me.'

The children are looking forward to sharing their experiences of the trip and many pictures at their assemblies next term, alongside all of their other learning from the year, so don't forget to check the dates.



School Office Notice

If you are eligible for free school meals and you do not wish your child to receive milk each day, please call the school office. We are left with an increasing amount of wastage at the end of the week and would like your support in reducing this.



Please remember that it is a parent's responsibility to report their child's absence each day. This is an important way that we all help to safeguard children and early communication can make this more efficient for our admin teams.

Polling Day Reminder

This is a reminder that on Thursday May 7th 2026 the Junior School has been chosen as a Polling Station for local residents to vote in this year's in local elections. We know that this will cause disruption to the school and it's families and continue to raise these with the local authority. This year we have been able to make the following arrangements for children.

Year 3—Eden Project school trip (final arrangements to follow)

Year 4+5— Home Learning (Children are not to attend school)

Year 6—Children come to school as normal



World Book Day 2026



Sustainability at Stoke Hill

Please take a moment to read through the piece below, written by the children who are part of our eco committee.

"Did you know that every 11 seconds a football pitch-sized part of the rainforest is destroyed?

At Stoke Hill, our aim is to do our part in reducing this and to look after our environment. Mr Poustie has brought together a Sustainability Committee made up of teachers, children, parents and governors who are working together to reduce our carbon footprint (less CO2!)

The end goal? Achieving the coveted Green Flag status – an award given to schools for outstanding sustainability measures.

So far, we have organised our wonderful Green Team and started discussing where we can make our lovely school grounds even greener! We've also hosted 2 hot chocolate sales to raise money to go towards working alongside the Devon Wildlife Trust. Because of this, our Wildlife Champions have been able to start an exciting project to make our school grounds even better for wildlife. This term, they are focusing on helping hedgehogs by creating wildflower areas, building bug hotels, and making bat and hedgehog boxes. They'll also be sharing what they learn with the whole school community.

Why we're writing this? We need you! If you feel like saving the planet is something that you would like to help us do, or even if you just fancy helping out now and then, please contact Mr Poustie through junior.admin@stokehill.devon.sch.uk to ask for more information.

