



STANLEY CROOK PRIMARY SCHOOL

To try our best, to tell the truth, to look after each other and our community

## Stanley Crook Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 20th January 2017

Vol: 3 Issue: 3

### Headteacher's Notices

Thank you to the many parents/ carers who have returned their 'Parent Questionnaire' to school. Having reviewed all of your responses, I am extremely pleased by the positive comments and kind words which have been made about our school and our outstanding T.E.A.M., who strive each and every day to provide your children with the highest levels of educational provision. Over 65% of parents have returned questionnaires which is also extremely pleasing; I am passionate about developing parental engagement and involvement in our school and it's future development objectives. Any parents/ carers who have not yet returned their questionnaire, and would like to do so, please return it to school with your child or call into the school office where our school secretaries will be happy to collect it.

You may recall that our school is currently searching for a new Parent Governor to join our highly skilled and committed Governing Body. Four parents have expressed an interest in becoming a Parent Governor and as a result, a ballot of parents will be required in order to elect your chosen candidate. Details have been sent to the four candidates and I will be in touch with all parents/ carers soon regarding the ballot.

May I again take this opportunity to remind parents/ carers of our procedures for collecting pupils at the end of the school day. In order to safeguard your children against accidents, we have, for many years now, operated a 'one-way' system for cars parked along the lane to the rear of the school while parents wait to collect their children. This system has worked extremely well as all parents have agreed to abide by this organisation. Unfortunately, in recent weeks, it has been brought to my attention by several parents that some cars are parked at the top of the lane facing back towards the village. This causes a significant issue not only for other parents who are abiding with our 'one-way' system but also for the many parents and pupils who walk home. I would be grateful if ALL parents who are collecting their children in cars at the end of the school day follow our 'one-way' system in order to minimise disruption at the top of the lane, ensure the safety of ALL of our pupils and parents and to enable members of our local community sufficient access to their homes. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

Pupils who are participating in additional swimming tuition to support them in their efforts to confidently swim 25m, have made good progress since the start of these sessions at the start of term. It is vitally important that children are confident in the water—I am sure I do not need to remind anyone of the tragic events of a couple of years ago and, therefore, I am determined to provide all of our pupils with the necessary opportunities in order that they gain the skills required to swim with confidence. While our efforts in school with these additional sessions are effectively supporting our pupils, it is crucial for children to regularly attend their local leisure centre so that they are able to continue to develop their confidence and skill in the water. Information on swimming lessons at local leisure centres can be found online or by contacting our school office.

As part of our Religious Education and British Values curriculum, I had the pleasure of accompanying pupils from Team 5 to Gosforth Orthodox Synagogue yesterday. The visit provided pupils an opportunity to apply learning from class and to directly experience elements of Judaism. Many thanks to Mrs Vanderbilt for her informative workshops and warm welcome.

Thank you for your continued support

Mr D Christie—Headteacher

For the most up to date information about what is going on in our school including dates for your diaries, parental information and school performance information, please visit our website at:

<http://www.stanleycrook.durham.sch.uk>

Please scan your smartphone device over the QR code to be taken straight to our school website!



### Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Team 3 and Team 4 enjoyed a day of interactive workshops on Tuesday supporting their Topic work. Pupils have followed up these workshops today by designing and constructing models of volcanoes.

### Durham Islamic Society Visit (Team 3 and Team 4) - Wednesday 8th February

Team 3 and Team 4 are looking forward to their visit to the Durham Islamic Society on the 8th February to discover and explore elements of Islam and to develop their understanding and tolerance of different faiths and beliefs.

### 'Stanley Crook Does Strictly'- Friday 17th February

Pupils in all Teams have been working hard developing their dance routines in preparation for our 2nd annual 'Stanley Crook Does Strictly' competition. Team 1 were champions in 2016—who will lift the glitter ball trophy this year?

### Easter Celebration at The Church of St. Thomas - Wednesday 5th April

I am pleased to inform our school and wider community that we will be holding our Easter Celebration at The Church of St. Thomas. More details will follow.

### Children's Achievements in School

Every week, staff choose a pupil from each Team to be recognised for something special they have achieved during the week. This week's chosen children are:



**Congratulations to all of our pupils this week for their outstanding effort and hard work in our school!**

### Diary Dates:

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| 24.01.17 PDSA Workshops (Whole School)                    | 28.02.17 World Book Day (Whole School)                  |
| 01.02.17 Speak Out and Stay Safe NSPCC (Whole School)     | 1.03.17 'Sc-out-ed' Animals and their Habitats (Team 2) |
| 02.02.17 Evolution and Adaptation—Hancock Museum (Team 5) | 03.03.17 Talking Jesus (Year 2 and Year 6)              |
| 06.02.17 E-Safety Week in school (Whole School)           | 13.03.17 Carbon Reduction Project (Team 5)              |
| 08.02.17 Speak Out and Stay Safe Workshop (Team 5)        | 17.03.17 Saxon Workshop (Team 3 and Team 4)             |
| 08.02.17 Durham Islamic Society (Team 3 and Team 4)       | 20.03.17 Safety Carousel (Team 5)                       |
| 09.02.17 Chinese New Year Workshops (Whole School)        | 27.03.17 Wattle Fence Making (Team 3 and Team 4)        |
| 17.02.17 Stanley Crook Does Strictly (Whole School)       | 05.04.17 Easter Celebration (Whole School)              |
| 17.02.17 School closes for half-term holiday              | 07.04.17 Easter Break                                   |
|   | 24.04.17 School re-opens for teaching purposes          |

