

"Pupils' personal development, behaviour and welfare is OUTSTANDING" (Ofsted, 2019)

Stanley Crook Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 3rd February 2023

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Headteacher's Notices

TEAM GB Athlete Visit—Mica McNeill

Children and staff enjoyed a fantastic afternoon on Tuesday, as we welcomed Team GB Bobsleigh athlete Mica McNeill. Mica visited school as part of our 'Sports for Champions' event to chat with the children about her career, how she became a Team GB Olympian and the importance of following your dreams, working hard and trying your best! We enjoyed a special assembly from Mica and found out about her biggest achievements in her career so far and the importance of nutrition and diet and then the children thoroughly enjoyed participating in a carousel of fitness activities lead by Mica. The children certainly enjoyed the activities and got fully involved! Mica was extremely impressed with the children's efforts, determination and levels of enthusiasm throughout the tough fitness challenge! In fact, Mica commented that our school was one of the very best she had ever visited!

Thank you to Mrs Graham for organising the visit of Mica and the fitness challenges—the afternoon was a great success.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to parents/ carers and the children for their efforts in raising such a fantastic amount in sponsorship for this event. In total, over £1000 has been raised for school funds! Great work, TEAM Stanley Crook!



Weekly School Values—Respect

In school this week, we have been focusing on the value, RESPECT.



This week, it was the turn of Mrs Graham to host our Monday morning 'Values Assembly' in which she provided the children with opportunities to discuss what respect is, why it is important and how we can demonstrate respect in our day-to-day lives. In each Team, the children have also been discussing about the importance of respect and why it is such an important value. The children have explored that respect cannot be learned, purchased or acquired—it can only be earned.

In each Team, one child received a nomination from their teachers. This nomination was based on a child who has best demonstrated respect in class during the week. The overall School Values Champion for 'Respect' was chosen as Henry! Well done to all children for demonstrating so many different acts of respect this week!

Parent Governor Vacancy

I would like to extend my warmest thanks to our three parent governor representatives, as their term of office ends.

Mr Hayman, Miss Lee and Mrs Gasper have provided our school, our children and the staff team with invaluable support and encouragement during their time as members of the governing body. Their dedication and commitment to the role of governor has ensured that they have played a key part in raising standards and in ensuring a high quality of education is delivered to all children in school.

The governing body now has three vacancies for the role of parent governor representative and I would like to extend an invite to all parents to consider whether they may be willing to offer their support to our school in the role of a parent governor. The term of office for parent governors is 4 years.

Any parent, or carer, of a registered pupil at the school at the time of election is eligible to stand for election as a Parent Governor (subject to certain exceptions, e.g. anyone employed at the school for more than 500 hours per annum is not eligible).

Appointment is subject to eligibility criteria and completion of a Disclosure & Barring Service check. All governors must also abide by our agreed Code of Conduct covering issues such as confidentiality, conflicts of interest and training requirements.

Thank you to those parents/ carers who have contacted me to express an interest in the role of parent governor. The final date for parents to express an interest in the role of parent governor is Monday 6th February at 12 noon. Parents/ carers who may be interested in the role can submit an expression of interest by emailing stanleycrook@durhamlearning.net.

Team Walliams Showcase Assembly—Thursday 16th February

To celebrate learning in class, pupils in Team Walliams will soon be hosting a special Learning Showcase assembly. During the showcase, pupils will share learning completed during this half-term from across a range of curriculum areas.

I would like to extend a special invite to parents/ carers and families of pupils in Team Walliams to come to school and share in this showcase and to celebrate the achievements of the pupils. Due to limited space, a maximum of two seats will be able to be reserved per family.

The event will begin at 9:15am on Thursday 16th February. Visitors are requested to arrive at school via the main entrance at 9:00am.

If you are able to attend the event, please contact the school office on 01388762858 or via School Office on Class Dojo.

Valentine's Day Disco—Wednesday 15th February

A reminder that school will be holding a special Valentine Disco, on Wednesday 15th February:

Teams Donaldson and Dahl—3.15 to 4.15pm

Team Cowell, Walliams and Morpurgo—4.30 to 5.30pm

Children in Teams Donaldson and Dahl should bring their outfits into school. Parents of children in Reception only can support their children to get ready, from 3.00pm, and are invited to accompany their child to the disco.

Children in Teams Cowell, Walliams and Morpurgo should return to school at 4.30pm. Please contact the school office if you have not already reserved a ticket for your child!

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:

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

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



Headteacher's T.E.A.M. of the Week

Team of the Week this week is...Team Cowell!

WOW! Well done, Team Cowell!

You are my Team of the Week this week, as I have been extremely impressed by your mature (but fun!) approach to learning and the huge amount of high quality work you have all completed!

In particular, I was very impressed by your excellent behaviour and focus when I visited your Team yesterday to help fix your board. You all were able to sit patiently and quietly as we tried to repair your board ready for your next lesson.

I have also been very impressed by the work you have completed in your English books linked to your core texts. The range and standard of work is excellent, as is the evidence it provides of the fantastic progress you are all making in your writing.

You should all be very proud of your efforts! Keep up the great work!

Well done, Team Cowell!

Mr C



Weekly T.E.A.M.

Attendance Champions

Team Donaldson	99.3%
Team Dahl	98.6%
Team Cowell	95.7%
Team Walliams	87%
Team Morpurgo	94%

Congratulations to

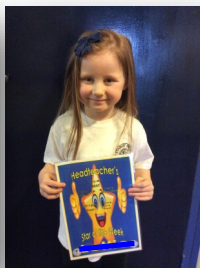
TEAM DONALDSON

This week's attendance trophy winners!



Children's Achievements in School!

Each week, one child is chosen as 'Headteacher's Star of the Week', 'School Values Champion' and 'Attendance Champion'. Staff also 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 for their effort and outstanding effort and hard work in our school!

'Together Everyone Achieves More'



TEAM DAHL - ATTENDANCE PARTY

Children in Team Dahl have enjoyed a fun day in school, as part of their Attendance Party celebrations!

Having won the most weekly attendance trophies in the Autumn term, Team Dahl have been rewarded with a fun day, including a bike/ scooter party and then a disco with party food this afternoon! Well done, TEAM DAHL!

Which TEAM will win the attendance trophy for the Spring term? Come on Team Donaldson, Team Cowell, Team Walliams and Team Morpurgo—you can do it!



SCHOOL
MEMBER



Tips for Encouraging Open Discussions about DIGITAL LIVES

The online world is an entirely familiar and commonplace part of life for today's children and young people, far more so than for previous generations. There are many positives to children being able to access online materials, so it's important not to demonise the internet, games and apps, and limit the benefit of their positive aspects. At the same time, we do have a responsibility to educate children about the hazards they may encounter online (just as we would about real-world dangers) so it's essential that we don't shy away from talking to them about the complex – and often sensitive – subject of what they do and what they see when they're online.

Here are some suggestions for kicking off conversations with your child about their digital life ...

MAKE YOUR INTEREST CLEAR

Showing enthusiasm when you broach the subject signals to your child that you're keen to learn about the positives of their online world. Most children enjoy educating adults and will happily chat about what they use the internet for, or what games and apps they're into and how these work. Asking to see their favourite games and apps in action could help you spot any aspects that may need your attention – such as chat functions which might require a settings adjustment to limit contact with strangers. Keep listening even if your child pauses for a long time: they could be considering how to phrase something specific, or they may be gauging your reaction.

BE OPEN AND HONEST, APPROPRIATE TO THEIR AGE

At various stages, children and young people become curious about puberty and how their body changes; about relationships; about how babies are made; and about sexual health. If your child knows that they can discuss these sensitive subjects with you, they tend to be less likely to go looking online for answers – which can often provide them with misleading information and, in some cases, lead to them consuming harmful content. Don't worry if you don't immediately know the answers to their questions – just find out for yourself and go back to them once you have the facts.

REMIND YOUR CHILD THEY CAN ALWAYS TALK TO YOU

In my role I work with many children and young people who admit being reluctant to tell a trusted adult about harmful content they've viewed online, in case it leads to having their devices confiscated. Emphasise to your child that you're always there to listen and help; reassure them that if they do view harmful content, then they are not to blame – but talking about it openly will help. Children shouldn't be expected to be resilient against abuse or feel that it's their job to prevent it.

KEEP TALKING!

The most valuable advice we can give is to keep talking with your child about their digital lives. You could try using everyday situations to ask questions about their online experiences.

DISCUSS THAT NOT EVERYTHING WE SEE ONLINE IS REAL

Here, you could give examples from your own digital life of the online world versus reality – for example, those Instagram posts which show the perfect house: spotlessly clean, never messy and immaculately decorated. Explain to your child that there are many other aspects of the online world which are also deliberately presented in an unrealistic way for effect – such as someone's relationship, their body, having perfect skin and so on.

TRY TO REMAIN CALM

As much as possible, try to stay calm even if your child tells you about an online experience that makes you feel angry or fearful. Our immediate emotions frequently influence the way we talk, so it's possible that your initial reaction as a parent or carer could deter a child from speaking openly about what they've seen. Give yourself time to consider the right approach, and perhaps speak with other family members or school staff while you are considering your next steps.

CREATE A 'FAMILY AGREEMENT'

Involving your whole household in coming up with a family agreement about device use can be immensely beneficial. You could discuss when (and for how long) it's OK to use phones, tablets, consoles and so on at home; what parental controls are for and why they're important; and why it's good to talk to each other about things we've seen or experienced online (both good and bad). Explaining your reasoning will help children to understand that, as trusted adults, we want to make sure they are well informed and kept safe. Allowing children to have their say when coming up with your family agreement also makes them far more likely to stick to it in the long term.

Meet Our Expert

Rebecca Jennings of RAISE (Raising Awareness in Sex Education) has almost 20 years' experience delivering relationships and sex education and training to schools, colleges and other education providers. A published author on the subject, she also advises the Department of Education on the staff-training element of the RSE curriculum.



National Online Safety®

#WakeUpWednesday



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