



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

Stanley Crook Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 4th November 2022

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Headteacher's Notices

I would like to start by wishing all members of our school community a very warm welcome back to school, following the half-term break. I hope that everyone managed to enjoy some time to rest and relax with their children, family and friends.

The start of this half-term has continued on from last in that the children continue to amaze with their efforts and the positivity around school has been clear.

This half-term leads into the Christmas period and already each Team are making decisions regarding which Christmas production they will plan to share with parents/ carers in December. I always think that this half-term is one of the most enjoyable of the school year. Despite the cold weather and the ever darkening nights, the prospect of Christmas (and all of the celebrations, events and activities planned in school) ensures that these next seven weeks will be full of fun and enjoyment.

Details of the dates and organisation for the Christmas productions will be released soon. I am sure that—as with the performances last Christmas—that the productions this year will again be outstanding!

Start of the School Day

A reminder for parents/ carers that the school day begins at 8:45am. This year, the school day has been extended by 15 minutes per day in order to comply with the government white paper and new requirements for the length of the school week. Parents/ carers will have noticed that teachers are now ringing the bell at 8:40am, rather than 8:45am. This does not mean school starts at 8:40am. This is so that teachers and support staff can be out on the yard at 8:40am to welcome the children in their Teams, get the children settled and lined up, ready to enter school at 8:45am. Already this week, this new arrangement has enabled children to get into school quicker to start their school day and to begin their learning. Children should be on the yard, ready for the start of the school day no later than 8:40am. This enables them to be lined up, ready to enter school and be focused on their learning. Thank you for your support with this.

Attendance

The Department for Education's new statutory guidance on attendance (released in September 2022) places increased emphasis on Headteacher's not authorising term time holiday, except in the most exceptional of circumstances. Please continue to submit requests in the usual manner for consideration by completing a holiday request form (available from the school office). Thank you.

School attendance is strong. Since the start of the year, school attendance is 95.1%, which is higher than the average across County Durham schools. I do not need to emphasise to parents/ carers the importance of regular school attendance in ensuring that all children achieve their potential and are able to develop those key life skills and personal attributes needed to be successful.

School sets ambitious and high expectations for all children's school attendance, with the target being 98%. School classifies 'good' attendance as 95%, which is the minimum level set for all children.

The government deems attendance under 90% as 'persistent absence', as this level of attendance results in children missing a significant amount of schooling over the course of an academic year, leading to a significant negative impact on their achievement. Where attendance for a child begins to cause concern and/ or falls below 90%, school will initiate contact with families alerting them to these concerns and to offer support with any issues which may be causing low attendance.

Firework Safety Assembly

Massive thanks to the fire crew from Crook station for visiting school yesterday to deliver their assembly on firework safety and bonfire night! The involvement at school of all of the emergency services is vitally important in delivering key safety messages throughout the year. Another big thanks to Andy and the team for the time they provided the children so that each Team could also look around the fire engine, look at the equipment used and to ask questions!



School Values—COURAGE

This week's value in school has been courage and there have been many, many examples of children demonstrating courage in school this week! It is wonderful to see so many children challenging themselves in their learning and showing great courage to overcome challenges in order to achieve their goals!

Well done to Maisie for being awarded the School Value Champion award for Courage for this week. Maisie has consistently demonstrated outstanding courage in her school work this week, setting herself goals to achieve and working so very hard to achieve these!

Christmas Panto

Everyone in school is looking forward to the Christmas Panto at the Gala Theatre in Durham this Christmas. School will be visiting the Panto on Wednesday December 7th and I am sure everyone will have lots of fun!!! Please see Class Dojo for further information.

Sports Leaders

Congratulations to our Sports Leaders in Year 6 on completion of their leadership training to plan and deliver sports/ games at break time!

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 Morpurgo!

WOW! Well done, Team Morpurgo!

You have all had a fantastic week of learning in Team Morpurgo and have returned following the half-term break with a renewed desire to continue on your learning journey.

I continue to be impressed by your teamwork and how each of you, whether collectively or individually, are demonstrating positive attitudes to learning in your class.

It is clear that you are all making excellent progress in your learning and this is—in part—a direct result of how well you are working together as a T.E.A.M. and your CAN DO approach to challenges.

Remember T.E.A.M. = 'Together Everyone Achieves More'!

Well done, Team Morpurgo—You are all SUPERSTARS!!!

Be proud!

Mr C



Weekly T.E.A.M.

Attendance Champions

Team Donaldson	88.9%
Team Dahl	98.6%
Team Cowell	99.1%
Team Walliams	97.3%
Team Morpurgo	93.8%

Congratulations to

TEAM COWELL

This week's attendance trophy winners!



Children's Achievements in School!

Every week, one child is chosen as 'Headteacher's Star of the Week' and 'School Values 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'

Online Safety - TOP TIPS

- 1.If you are a parent of a child under the age of 13, it is illegal for them to have a Facebook profile or be on Instagram as the minimum age is 13 ([Social media | NSPCC](#))
- 2.Make sure your child uses their online privacy settings at all times to keep their personal information private
- 3.Make sure your child regularly changes their password and does not share this with friends
- 4.Make sure your child knows not to share personal information like their name, address, mobile number, email address online
- 5.Inform your child that they should not post anything online that they wouldn't want you to see. The Golden Rule is that if they wouldn't want their parents to see it, don't post it



SCHOOL
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