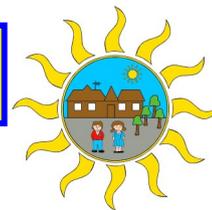


# Stedham Primary Newsletter 3



## 8 February 2018

Dear Parents,

You may have noticed that I have cut newsletters down to one a half term. This is because now we have the email and text services, more information is coming home through those channels, meaning there is less to include in a newsletter!

### OFSTED

Thank you again to everyone who has congratulated us on maintaining our 'Good' judgement. The bar had been raised since our 2014 inspection so it is a credit to all my staff that we managed to achieve this.

Between now and Easter, I will be drafting the new school improvement plan with the staff which will now include action points from the inspection.

### Absence

One of the key points for improvement from the OFSTED inspection was linked to our attendance levels which are too far below national levels. This is due in the main to unauthorised holiday. I know it is frustrating that school holidays mean higher prices but it is the law that your children are in school during term time.

It is the policy of this school to refer to the Local Authority if a family accrues 10+ half days of unauthorised absence within a 10 school week period. I will also have to make referrals to the PE:I team (what was the Educational Welfare Officers) for persistent absentees. I want to work with you all to improve this and I hope you understand the huge academic benefit for your child of being in school as much as possible—as the report states, absence impacts progress.

### Uniform

Thank you for continuing to ensure your child comes to school in correct uniform, although things have slipped a little. As a reminder, please ensure that you let us know if your child is not in correct uniform and how long you anticipate the situation going on for.

### Parents' Evenings

After half term we will be holding our second parent consultation meetings of the school year. We will again be using our new system to avoid running late; at the end of each 10 minute appointment, a bell will be rung to indicate that you need to end your conversation and leave the room. We do not intend this to seem rude, but we also know how frustrating it is when we are running very late.

We are also again asking that you **do not bring children with you unless you have absolutely no other option**. Now that we have After School Club, we have less space. ASC will be in Foxes Classroom during Tuesday and Thursday and Mr Noble will run his meetings from the hall. This time, Mrs Hines and Mrs Helas will also run their meetings in the hall. This means the waiting area for them will be the front reception area and for Mrs Dinnis-Searle and Mr Cella, the library, so we won't have room to accommodate an unofficial crèche in the library as we have done in the past. If you do bring your child(ren), please ensure they have something quiet to do while waiting outside the room when you are in your meeting.

As a reminder, due to less space being available, books/work will not be out to look at during these meetings as you can now do this at Welcome Wednesdays.

### National Online Safety Day

Tuesday was national online safety day—please ask your children about what they have learned in school. Online safety is an area that is of growing concern and we need to stay as up to date as possible. From now on, I will be trying to include key information on either online safety or safeguarding for you in each newsletter I write.

### Book Week

The week of 26 February to 2 March is our Book Week. On Friday 2 March, the children are invited to come to school dressed as a book character. On this day we will also be hosting Usborne Books. The books will be on

sale in the hall from 3pm. The children will be able to use their World Book Day £1 vouchers if they wish. There is also an opportunity to order from the full range of books online. Commission from sales will come back to the school in the form of much needed books for school.

During this week we are also running an **optional** sponsored read—all details of these Usborne events are in a separate letter which came home yesterday. We hope you will support this as it will enable us to obtain much needed new books for our library.

### **Paralympian Visit—non uniform day**

On Friday 23 February, we are being visited by Lizzie Williams who is a local paralympian. She will come to talk to the children about her career as a wheelchair racer and her hope to be in Team GB for the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. I thought it would be an idea to hold a non uniform day on this date to support Lizzie— **£1 minimum donation please.** Unlike the situation for able bodied athletes, there is little or no funding for paralympians to enable them to train and prepare and so many have to hold down jobs alongside their training. I know she would appreciate whatever we can give to support her dream to get to the Paralympics in 2020.

Have a good half term. Don't forget Monday 19 February is INSET Day so we will see you all on Tuesday 20 February. I will leave you with photos of Owls class making waves!

Regards

*Sally Dreckman*



### **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**12—16 February**—half term

**Monday 19 February**—INSET DAY

**Tuesday 20 February**—children back to school

**Tuesday 20 February**—Y3 Little Big Sing at MRC

**Friday 23 February**—non uniform day for Lizzie Williams

**Tuesday 27 February and Thursday 1**

**March**—parent consultations

**Friday 2 March**—Book Day Dressing Up and Usborne Sale at 3pm

**Monday 12 March**—Foxes' assembly to parents 3pm

**Tuesday 13 March**—Badgers' trip to the Watercress Line

**Thursday 15 March**—Governor Forum for Parents at 3.30pm

**Wednesday 21 March**— Rabbits' assembly to parents 3pm

**Monday 26 March**—SATs Meeting for Y6 and parents 3.30pm

**Wednesday 28 March**—Welcome Wednesday 3.15pm

**Thursday 29 March**—Easter Fair 3.30pm  
Break up for Easter Holidays.