



Stokenham Area Primary School Newsletter 2025-26/26
Friday 27th March 2026

www.stokenhamprimaryschool.co.uk

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Dear Parents and Carers,

We are quickly moving towards the end of another term in this academic year. Next week is the last week before we break up for the Easter holidays on Thursday. We have thoroughly enjoyed this week and it has been full of wonderful events such as the Federation Cross Country Running Festival on Wednesday, our Minibeast Ball in Reception yesterday and today the grand unveiling of our Book Bungalow. Next week we round off the term with Parent Consultations and Tempest Photography. The weather is attempting to warm up but, in the meantime, please ensure your child have their coats for play time.

The Book Bungalow!

As the Chinese Proverb says “A book is like a garden, carried in the pocket”

“What could be better than curled up in a comfy chair reading a book – pure bliss”

“You can find magic wherever you look. Sit back and relax, all you need is a book.”

Our Book Bungalow is ready and the children had the grand unveiling this afternoon. This new Resources space will be valuable for our pupils to enjoy reading, take part in small group cooking and for our staff to use for training and PPA. Our Reading Ambassadors carried out the Ribbon cutting and all the children visited and enjoyed scrumptious biscuits, all hand-made and iced individually by our Reading Ambassadors.



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



Scholastic Book Fair

Reading and books is definitely a common thread at Stokenham and on Monday we had our scholastic book fair. Our Reading Ambassadors hosted the fair and money raised from the book purchases will help to buy books and literature for our Book Bungalow and library spaces. It was delightful to see and welcome grandparents who were able to pop in and share a story, tea and cake with their grandchildren.



KS2 Cross Country Festival at Malborough

On Wednesday afternoon, 50 of our children proudly represented our school at the Federation Cross Country running event held at Malborough Playing Fields. Despite the cold and blustery conditions, every pupil showed tremendous determination, effort, and team spirit, supporting one another brilliantly throughout the afternoon. The first race of the day was the Year 3 and 4 girls, and Stokenham got off to a brilliant start, scoring an impressive 38 points. This superb team performance was led by Ruby W, who set the tone for the whole afternoon with a fantastic win.

The Year 3 and 4 boys followed, then the Year 5 and 6 girls, with the Year 5 and 6 boys finishing the event. The final race gave us another standout moment as Harry M stormed to victory, winning by rather a long way and looking as though he could have carried on running well in to the evening! Throughout all races, our pupils demonstrated resilience, encouragement for their teammates, and a wonderful sporting attitude. We are delighted to announce that in the **overall team event, Stokenham finished joint first with Modbury**, with both schools scoring an impressive **85 points**. What a fantastic achievement—well done, everyone!

	Year 3 and 4 Girls		Year 3 and 4 Boys
1 st	Ruby W	6 th	Ben (Highest-placed Year 3 boy)
2 nd	Olivia	9 th	
5 th	Pollyanna		
6 th	Rose (Highest-placed year 3 girl)		
7 th	Emme		
8 th	Ruby T		
10 th	Chloe		
	Year 5 and 6 Girls		Year 5 and 6 Boys
3 rd	Jemima	1 st	Harry M
6 th	Matilda	5 th	Seb (highest-placed Year 5 boy)
7 th	Marlowe (highest-placed Year 5 girl)	8 th	Freddie H
9 th	Nelly	9 th	Blaise

Congratulations to every child who took part, your effort, determination, and brilliant team spirit made us incredibly proud. For many of you, this was your first Federation event, which makes your achievements even more special. Well done, Stokenham!



Reception Mini Beast Day

What a truly marvellous minibeast ball the Reception children had yesterday! They helped prepare a wonderful variety of minibeast-themed snacks at home and at school, and we are so grateful to the amazing Reception parents who put so much thought and effort into the dazzling costumes and tasty treats. Other activities throughout the day included a bug disco with dance ribbons and pompoms, minibeast hunts around the school grounds and insect-inspired crafts, maths, stories and songs. What a brilliant bug day to celebrate their topic!



Garden Club Poem

What a truly powerful poem our Garden Eco Club pupils have written. It reflects how important nature, fresh air and our mental wellbeing is.

Wild Writing

*Long branches swaying in the wind.
Green, green grass, wet, catching my feet.
Bright pink flowers awakening.
Last year's brown autumn leaves swaying on
the tree.
Bright red rhubarb sprouting out of the soil,
And the trees rustling and the birds singing
in the leaves.
I smell the pollen in the flowers.*

*Some flowers waving to the wind,
Bright green leaves rustle.
The light runs across my face
I feel the bench under my legs.
I feel calm and quiet,
I don't feel stressed any more.
Relaxed.
Calm.
Happy.*

Parent Consultation Appointments - Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st

Parent Consultations will take place on Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st March. Please remember to book your appointment via the Bromcom/MCAS system. **The system will close on Monday 30th at 00.30am.**

<https://docs.bromcom.com/knowledge-base/how-to-book-parents-evening-appointments-using-mcas/>

Tempest Photography – Monday 30th March

On Monday, our Year 6 and Reception classes will have their group photographs taken. We are also exploring the possibility of group photographs for all classes across the school. At this stage, this has not been confirmed with the photographers, and we will not know if it is possible until the day, as it will depend on timing. However, we wanted to give you advance notice so that all children are prepared for a potential class photograph, should time allow.

Date for your Diary

Coffee Afternoon with SENDCo & Strategic Lead for SEND – Tuesday 21st April 2026

Please come along to an informal catch up with the SENDCo - Miss Woollard and Mrs French to hear key updates, signposts to support and discuss how children with SEND are supported at Stokenham. All parents are very welcome to attend - Tuesday 21st April at 2.30pm in the hall.



Safeguarding

Please see below a brief outline of Safeguarding reminders to ensure that our children are safe in our school.

- School starts at 9.00am. The gates are open from 8.50am until 9.00am.
- If you are late for the morning drop off – once given access to the school through the gate, please come to the main reception area. We ask that parents do not wander around the school grounds.
- **Parents are not to walk** through the double wooden doors in the main Reception area without a member of staff being made aware.
- If you are collecting your child early from school – please inform the school via email or a telephone call. A member of staff will collect your child for you.
- If your child is going home with someone that is not their parent – please inform both teaching staff and the Administration staff. We will not take messages your child.
- If your child is on a school trip such as the netball tournament etc, it is imperative that we know of their transport arrangements. Again – please inform the admin staff of any arrangements
- **Please do not hold** the school gate back against the magnet at the end of the day when you collect your child/children. The gates will open at 3.15pm approx.

Oh Dear - They are back!



Please could we request that you are all EXTRA vigilant this weekend, and into next week, about hair hygiene? We have had several reports that **head-lice have made a comeback** Please wash your child's hair thoroughly, comb through with conditioner and if necessary, use a specialist shampoo for the treatment of head-lice. Thank You

IMPORTANT REMINDER!

School Dinner Payments

Just a quick reminder regarding school dinner payments. As you are aware all school meals **must be paid for in advance** and a debt should not accumulate.

We never wish for a child to go without lunch, but if your child requires a school meal your account must be in credit. If your account is not in credit, it will incur a debt which must be paid soonest. We do not wish to seem heavy handed. However, chasing dinner money payments is embarrassing for both parties and is something we wish to avoid.

As a reminder, a report is sent to Devon County Council with details of any outstanding debts which are then dealt with by DCC. We do not like sending this report.

You can check your child's account regularly. School dinner accounts can be topped up weekly, monthly or termly. If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

We have to unfortunately increase the price of school meals. A school dinner will now cost £2.75 per day. This equates to £13.75 per week or £66.00 for the first half of the Summer Term. The increase will take affect after the Easter Break

Pupil Attendance

Below is a table showing the attendance figures at school, for each class since September 2025. Our achievement of **95.7%** is just below the national average. The DfE and Devon County Council have a guide line that school attendance should equate to 97.0%. We do have a bit of work to do but we thank all our parents for your continued support.

Attendance Data

Autumn Term 2025 and Spring Term 2026 to date
03 September 2025 to 27 March 2026

Class	%
Reception	95.8
Year 1	95.2
Year 2	97.0
Year 3	96.6
Year 4	95.9
Year 5	95.6
Year 6	93.9
Whole School	95.7

As part of DfE School Attendance monitoring – we have an obligation to publish weekly attendance data to our parents. It is really important that we accurately record our attendance data, as part of the DfE directive. If your child is absent, please telephone the school or email Mrs Lewis at stokenham@southhamsfederation.org.uk thank you.

Merry-Go-Round News

We have had a busy week of listening and recall games in the setting and at Forest School. We unleashed our baking skills to bake some delicious biscuits. This week we welcomed a new adventurer to our MGR, they are settling in so well!"



Have a lovely relaxing weekend.

Remember that the clocks move forward this weekend

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

With best Wishes

T. Coulthard

Tess Coulthard
Executive Headteacher



The Week Ahead

Monday 30 th March	Tempest Photography – See Above Parent Consultations - See Above
Tuesday 31 st March	Parent Consultations – See Above
Wednesday 1 st April	After School Laura Darvell Ecotherapy Club
Thursday 2 nd April	Alan Inglis-Faulkner Drum lessons After School Football with Stokenham Explorers Last Day of Spring Term
Friday 3 rd April	Good Friday

Dates for your Diary

Day & Date	Times	Year	Event
Monday 20 April	AM	All	First Day of Summer Term After School Choir Restarts
Tuesday 21 April	PM	All	SEND Coffee, Meet and Presentation - See Above
Wednesday 22 April		6	Sailing in Salcombe – Letters sent out Laura Darvell restarts Eco Therapy After School SATs Club restarts
Friday 24 April			Monica Chapman restarts Music Lessons
Tuesday 28 April			KS2 Football Tournament - TBC
Wednesday 29 April		6	Sailing in Salcombe – Letters sent out
Thursday 30 April			Alan Inglis-Faulkner – Drums restarts
Monday 4 May		All	Bank Holiday – No School
Tuesday 5 May	All Day	3	Residential Day – second letter sent out
Monday 11 to Fri 15 May	All Day	6	SATS Week
Monday 11 to Fri 15 May	All Day	5	Bikeability Week
Tuesday 19 May	PM	6	KCC Presentation to Year 6 pupils & parents
Mon 25 to Fri 29 May		All	HALF TERM
Friday 29 May		4 & 6	Deadline for Residential Payments to be completed
Wed 17 to Thurs 18 June	All Day	4	Residential – letter sent out
Mon 22 to Wed 24 June	All day	6	Residential – letter sent out
Wednesday 1 July	PM		Cross Country/Netball – to be confirmed
Thursday 2 July	All Day	6	KCC Induction Day – to be confirmed
Wednesday 8 July	PM		Swimming Gala – to be confirmed
Friday 10 July	PM	All	PTFA Fair
Wednesday 15 July	PM		Rounders Tournament – to be confirmed
Friday 17 July		All	Last Day of Summer Term