



Stone St Mary's C of E
Primary School
Newsletter number 5 -
January 2026



Head Teacher's Message

Welcome to the January's newsletter.

Welcome to 2026 unbelievably we only have 1 more week of Term 3!! There is lots of exciting learning going on and class worships so please keep an eye on the diary dates, so you do not miss anything.

As the weather is still cold and wet, please make sure your child brings in a coat with them everyday and if required gloves and hat.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Rolfe ☺

Young Voices at the O2

60 of our years 4, 5 & 6 choir members went to the young voices concert at the O2 in London on Friday 23rd January where they joined other schools in the country who took part in the largest children's choir in the world, there was lots of lovely singing, dancing and great fun was had by all who attended.



Silver Equalities Award



- ▶ Stone St Mary's Primary School has officially achieved the Silver Equalities Award 🏆 🌈
- ▶ This recognition celebrates the strong commitment we have shown to equality, diversity and inclusion across our whole school community. We're incredibly proud of the hard work that went into building our portfolio of evidence and of the inclusive values that our pupils, staff and families live out every day.
- ▶ A huge thank you to everyone who has supported this journey, this achievement truly reflects our shared commitment to ensuring every child feels valued, respected and able to thrive.
- ▶ We'll be proudly displaying our Silver Equalities Award and look forward to continuing this important work over the coming years.

Smartphone Free School

- ▶ As you are all aware our school is now a Smartphone Free School, please put your mobile phone away when you are on the school site, and greet your child when you collect them, we appreciate your continued support.
- ▶ No Child's Smartphones are to be brought into school - if child needs a phone, they must have a 'brick phone / dumbphone' which needs to be left with the class teacher.
- ▶ Thank you to everyone who attended the Smartphone Free childhood parent presentation on Thursday 15th January - We think you will agree the research surrounding a smartphone free childhood is overwhelming and we should try to stop our children going onto screens as much as we can to support their well-being.
- ▶ Our Agents for change attended the Smartphone Free meeting and then took part in a School worship to report back to their peers. They talked about how mobile phones can affect mental health, they talked about the pros and cons, for example the good impacted how they provide information and communication, but the cons are, how they can affect eyesight and less social skills. This has been linked in our school into the banning of smartphones in our school community and encouraging less use of smartphones for children.



Recent events

- ▶ Collective Worship - Congratulations to Otters, Ladybirds, Dolphins and Grasshoppers classes who have all performed their class worship. Well done to them all!

It is a great time for the children to be able to reflect on school values and visions and use different class messages to help them in life.

Also, a big thank you to all the Parents/ carers who attended and supported worships – the children love to see you watching them and seeing how proud you are of them!



Sports events

- ▶ On Monday 19th January eight of our year 5 and 6 children took part in the first set of matches in the Football League organised by Dartford District Schools FC. The team showed determination and passion throughout their matches, unfortunately they lost both games.



- ▶ On Wednesday 21st January, eight of our Year 5 and 6 children represented the school in the Trust basketball event. Well done to our pupils for finishing 5th out of 10 schools in this round of the trust games. The team showed great effort and determination, earning valuable points towards the final. Well done to all those who took part.



Future events

Parent Tea & Cake

- ▶ On Wednesday 11th February at 2.15pm we would like to invite you to attend our Parent Tea and Cake afternoon. This is an opportunity for you all to receive an update on our improvements which have happened in school and also to come along and ask any questions you may have and give us any feedback.

We appreciate your support and your attendance. We look forward to seeing you there!



Maths weeks

- ▶ Next week is Maths week, during the week children will be completing lots of exciting Maths learning such as:
- ▶ An exciting Maths workshop delivered from an outside agency.
- ▶ Maths leaders will lead activities in year groups that they have designed themselves!
- ▶ We will learn about diverse Mathematicians.
- ▶ Fluency bingo will happen daily where children will have the opportunity to win hundreds of house points for their basic Maths addition, subtraction, division or multiplication.
- ▶ They will make a product to sell at the end of the week to raise money for their chosen charities using Maths skills such as budgeting, weighing, measuring etc.
- ▶ Friday 13th February is Times Table Rockstar day where classes will play battles, have a times table scavenger hunt competition to win prizes. Children can come to school dressed as a rockstar or something linked to number on that day.
- ▶ Please bring cash to buy our products on Thursday (for Year 6) and Friday (for the rest of the school) you can visit different stalls, help us to raise money for our charities!



Attendance and Lates.

- ▶ If you need to report your child absent or your child needs to attend a medical appointment, please inform the office and provide proof of appointments.
- ▶ If your child is absent from school, **please make sure you telephone and speak with the office before 9.00am.** If we do not receive a reason for absence on the morning, then this will be recorded as unauthorised. **We are unable to accept emails for absence.**
- ▶ The gate closes at 8.55am, after this time you must press the buzzer at the main gate and your child needs to come through the school office, once your child is in the office you will not be able to take them any further.
- ▶ If your child arrives at **9am or after they are late**, Persistent lateness contributes to a loss in your child's education. So please ensure you are getting your children to school on time.
- ▶ Holiday's during term time will not be authorised, first time penalty notices will be issued for unauthorised absence with £160 per parent, per child paid with 28 days. Reduced to £80 if paid within 21 days. Penalty notices are issued per parent for each child that was absent.

Getting your child to school on time really matters		
If in a school year your child is late everyday	Your child would have lost approximately	Or they would have missed approximately
5 Minutes	3 days from school	16 lessons lost
10 Minutes	5 days from school	32 lessons lost
15 Minutes	8 days from school	48 lessons lost
20 Minutes	11 days from school	63 lessons lost
30 Minutes	16 days from school	95 lessons lost

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time	Who
09/02/2026	Maths week		
11/02/2026	Sharks - Class worship	9.15am	School hall
11/02/2026	Parent's Tea and Cake - School Improvement Update - General Questions & Answers	2.15pm	School hall
12/02/2026	Year 6 - Stalls raising money for their chosen charity	3pm	Year 6
13/02/2026	Dress up as Rock Star or something linked to a number		Whole School
13/02/2026	Stalls raising money for their chosen charities	3pm	Year R - Year 5
13/02/2026	Last day of term 3		
23/02/2026	First day of term 4		
02/03/2026	Last week of after school clubs		
02/03/2026	Book week		
04/03/2026	Dragonflies - Class worship	9.15am	School hall
05/03/2026	World book day - Dress-Up day		Whole school