



THE STRATFORD PRIMARY STANDARD



NOTES FROM THE DESK OF MISS PARTON

Happy New Year! As the cold weather settles in, we welcome our school community a warm and hearty welcome. What an amazing first week back. It is truly lovely to welcome all the children back to school for what is one of the shortest terms! We started the term with the theme of 'Small Change, Big Difference'. The children have been challenged to start making their bed each day, saying 'Good Morning' and considering a small change.

As we embrace the chill, our classrooms are buzzing with energy and enthusiasm. We have hit the ground running, and the curriculum is in full swing. In KS1, Reception children have been designing cakes in D&T and Year 1 have returned to school with their London projects which have wowed their teachers and peers! In KS2, Year 3 are developing their skills in touch typing as part of their ICT curriculum and Year 5 have started their explorations about space and gravity.

Keep an eye out on our social media pages; X & Instagram for news, children's learning and motivational upbeat ideas to help you through the winter months.

Dates for your diary

15

*January 15th is
the closing
date for
Reception
2024 places in
September.
Don't forget.*



15th January - Apply for Reception 2024 school place

19th January - Celebration Assembly

23rd January - Year 4 Shakespeare workshop

25th January - Year 4 residential to York

26th January - Celebration Assembly

2nd February - Celebration Assembly, 1st Parent Forum and FOSP disco

5th February - Y5 Stargazing in the forest

7th February - Y5/6 Athletics competition at Stratford School

8th February - Y4/5 Online Safety workshop (play in a day)

9th February - Celebration assembly and pancake races (2pm)

Break up for half term holidays -12th to 16th February

19th February - Staff Training Day

20th February - Back to school

STAY SAFE IN A DIGITAL WORLD



Be Proactive:

It's easier to address issues before they become actual problems. Here are top things you can do:

- **Block sites** - don't let your children stumble on violence or inappropriate content. Use Google Safesearch. Check your browsers use Google as a default search engine.
- **Use a VPN** - Protect your family's online privacy with a virtual private network. VPNs encrypt data and block strangers from knowing where you or your child is browsing from.
- **Use a firewall** - Prevent unauthorized connections to your computer and make sure that the firewall is working at all times.
- **Know who your child interacts with** - Be aware of who your children hang out with in person and online. Talk with your children about online relationships and 'netiquette.' Discuss issues such as cyber bullying and how in-person friendships may look a bit different in the digital world. Some could be more confident and meaner online, for example. Discuss strategies on how to deal with this.

SAFEGUARDING - EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

EACH WEEK WE WILL SHARE SAFEGUARDING MESSAGES HERE FOR YOU

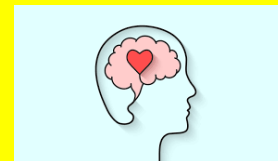
EVERY CHILD HAS THE RIGHT TO BE SAFE, HEALTHY AND WELL.

Make a Mental Health First Aid Kit

Sometimes things can be overwhelming, but making a first aid kit can help you to cope when things are tough. Your first aid kit is their to help make things easier.

It includes:

- Ways to distract yourself
- What you can do to relax or calm down
- Things that have helped you feel good in the past
- Who to talk to if you need support.



Everyone is different, so your first aid kit should be unique to you. Think about what's helped in the past or what you want to try. Follow this link to find some idea to help you in creating your mental health first aid kit.

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/mental-health-first-aid-kit/>

Reception



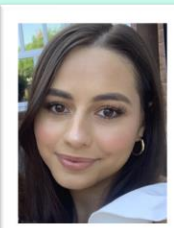
WANTED
 Do you have any invitations/writing paper/notelets?
 Reception class need them for their writing area.

Congratulations to Taisiia in Reception who has just welcomed a baby brother over the Christmas holidays. We can't wait to meet him.



Spotlight on our staff

Ten questions with Miss Hitchens



1. What is your role at Stratford upon Avon Primary? *I am the Reception teacher*
2. What made you want to be a teacher? *I want to inspire and support others. I love helping children feel confident and happy at school. I also enjoy seeing children make progress.*
3. What are you most proud of? *Becoming a teacher*
4. What are your favourite things to do in your spare time? *I like walking the dogs, reading books and going out for afternoon tea.*
5. Tell us your funniest joke! How does Darth Vader prefer his toast? *On the dark side – ha ha*
6. What was the last book you read? *Pumpkin Soup*
7. What advice would you give children today to help them prepare for the future? *Remember you are braver than you believe and smarter than you think.*
8. If you had a magic minibus that could take you anywhere in history where would you go and why? *I would go to see the dinosaurs that roamed the earth so I could tell Reception all the amazing things that happened all those years ago.*
9. Have you got a hidden talent? *When I was a child I used to have singing and piano lessons.*
10. Have you got any top tips for parents? *Show interest and support your child's goals, dreams and homework. It won't be forgotten.*



IN AND AROUND OUR COMMUNITY

junior parkrun

Free, weekly, timed, 2km for 4-14 year olds

Stratford-upon-Avon Rec juniors

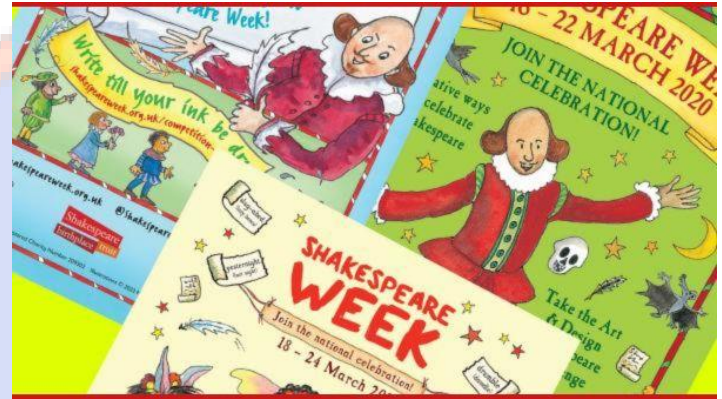
Every Sunday at 9am

Stratford-upon-Avon Rec (by the pavilion)

Run, walk, skip and/or volunteer! For more information

and to register, please visit:

<https://www.parkrun.org.uk/stratforduponavonrec-juniors/>



CALLING ALL ARTISTS!

To celebrate ten years of Shakespeare Week we are inviting children to enter a competition to design the official Shakespeare Week 2024 poster. The winning poster will be printed and displayed in venues across the UK from schools to libraries as well as at the Shakespeare family homes in Stratford-upon-Avon. It's easy to enter and open to all primary school-aged children. We can't wait to see the children's responses!

The closing date for entries is **Tuesday 23 January 2024.**

Follow the link in the picture above to find out more.


 King's High School
Open Evening
 Friday 26 January 2024
 4.30pm-7.30pm
 Book your place at
kingshighwarwick.co.uk/openevening
 For further information:
admissions@kingshighwarwick.co.uk
 or 01926 494485








Attendance, Houses & More



School council news

Well done to all those who took part in the competition to design a 'Stop it Please' poster. Everyone receives 10 dojos.

The council decided to choose a 1st, 2nd, 3rd from each Key Stage.

KS1

1st = Harper (Y2) 50 dojos

2nd = Dora (Y2) 30 dojos

3rd = Betsy (Y2) 15 dojos

KS2

1st = Lottie (Y5) 50 dojos

2nd = Sara (Y5) 30 dojos

3rd = Audrey (Y5) 15 dojos

The two winning designs will be made into professional posters to be displayed around the school.



This week's winners are:

Years 2 and 4 with 98%

Rest of school

Reception = 94%

Year One = 92%

Year Three = 88%

Year Five = 91%

Year Six = 97%

Whole school attendance for this week is:

97%

Arden =

Hathaway =

Hall =

Shakespeare =

No house points this week due to start of new term.



Lottie's



Harper's



FOSP - Friends of Stratford Primary News



VALENTINES DISCO



Friday 2nd
February 2024

KS1 17.30-18.30
KS2 19.00-20.00

Look out for booking forms
in book bags
£5 per child to include a valentines gift!





The Big Sleep Out 2024

Join us for our 9th annual sleep out, helping us raise awareness of the causes and effects of homelessness.

Friday 9th February 2024

Helping Hands
Community Project

Have you ever wondered what the causes and effects of homelessness are locally? Are you unsure of what you can do to help?

Experience what it's like to spend a night on the streets by joining us for our 9th BIG sleep out **Friday 9th February 2024**.

This event aims to give you an insight into homelessness, the factors that can cause it and the impact it can have on an individual living in such circumstances.

Helping Hands provides a safe space for vulnerable people in the local community.

The event is a chance to come together for a shared experience and hear from a range of speakers on various topics from several organisations and walks of life.

Your participation will help us to raise vital funds to keep our work going, supporting local people who are facing dire living conditions and circumstances.

Our very own Helping Hands food van will be on site, serving food and drinks throughout the evening, as well as breakfast in the morning.

You'll need to bring sleeping supplies, including materials to build your shelter for the night. We will also supply some cardboard and waterproof sheets for the night, but bringing plenty of your own supplies is recommended!

We ask you to book your place and buy a ticket to help cover the overheads of this event - including the food and drink.

Follow the link below to book

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-big-sleep-out-2024-tickets-7407306116?aff=arelexpr>

YEAR THREE

Year 3 have been familiarising themselves with Escape from Pompeii, using multiples of 10 and setting up the tank for the imminent arrival of their fish!

