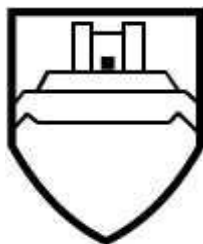


Stratford-sub-Castle CE VC
Primary School
Newsletter

Friday 11th September 2026



Life in all its fullness
John 10:10



Our theme for assembly this term is

Thankfulness

'Always be thankful.'

1 Thessalonians 5.16



I hope you are back in the swing of things! Although I enjoy the holidays, I always feel better when I am in a routine and back in school with everyone!

Again, a huge welcome to all our new families and I hope everyone is beginning to get used to our routines etc. It does take a whole year, as there are so many one-off events, so please do not hesitate to come and ask if you are not sure about anything. If you have a question, then someone else will too! Just ask!

The children have all settled well and have coped remarkably well in the autumnal weather. New friendships are being made, old ones rekindled and there has been lots of fantastic learning going on. Each class has a page on the school website which give information about all the learning that is happening this term. Please take a look at the 'Learning' tab where you'll find each class.

<https://stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk/>

These will all be up and running by the end of next week.

Individual and School Sibling Photographs

At this time of year, the individual and family portraits are taken (in time for Christmas). The class photos are taken in the summer. Please note, you are under no obligation to buy. All the children will have a photo taken individually (for school records).

In previous years, we have photographed all the in-school siblings together. However, I have been informed that some parents do not want this. So, if you have siblings in school and would like their photograph taken together, please can you complete the form by following the link. Please complete this by Tuesday 15th September. If you do not complete the form, then we will assume you do not want a sibling photograph taken. Unfortunately, we cannot take photographs with pre-school siblings.

[In School sibling photographs September 2026 – Fill in form](#)

SENDCO

Mrs Jodie Waters is our school SENDCO. She has dedicated SEND time on Thursdays so will try to respond to any concerns at this time. Her email address SENDCO@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk

If you would like to find out more about our SEND provision at Stratford, please take a look at the school's SEND website page.

<https://stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk/learning/send/>

Attendance

The children's attendance at Stratford has always been very good. Last year, 2025-2026 we had an average attendance of just below 96%. This again was above the national average.

In August 2024, the Department of Education brought in new statutory for attendance in schools and as a Local Authority school we are advised to follow them.

The major change was regarding term time holidays. The guidelines state that:

*Pupils should not be taken out of school during term time unless it is unavoidable. Generally, a need or desire for a holiday or other absence for the purpose of leisure and recreation would not constitute an exceptional circumstance. **The guidance is clear that headteachers should not be considering a holiday as an exceptional circumstance.***

Please see our school Attendance Policy attached to this letter for more information.

Children being picked up by other adults

To allow your child to be picked up by an adult, other than one with parental responsibility, (including when they might be having a playdate) please send an email to the school Office address with 'Going Home' in the subject box. This will then be passed on to the class teachers which will help with a smoother end of day.

Please remember to complete the forms below. These are for all children, not just our new ones.

[2026 2027 Walking out of School – Fill in form](#)

[2026 2027 Use of Photography/ Images Form – Fill in form](#)

Kind regards

Justine Watkins