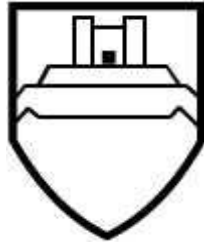


Stratford-sub-Castle CE VC
Primary School
Newsletter

Wednesday 15th January
2025



Life in all its fullness
John 10:10

READING AT STRATFORD



At Stratford-sub-Castle Primary School, reading is promoted as an intrinsic part of teaching and learning; it forms a pivotal part of our curriculum. We believe that learning to read and reading for pleasure transforms children's lives.

Reading is not just a good way to fill the time. It has important and far-reaching benefits which go beyond a love of a good book. When children and young people enjoy reading, they are more likely to create a habit and read more often which in turn will help to build vital reading skills and bring with it a wider range of benefits...

Reading for pleasure can help grow empathy

Enjoying books and discovering new perspectives within the pages of a story can be a great way to introduce children to a range of experiences and viewpoints. The more a child reads, the more likely they are to be exposed to new narratives which can help them develop empathy.

A love of reading can build a child's confidence

The National Literacy Trust's [recent reading for pleasure research](#) showed that 26.0% of children and young people who read in their free time at least once a month said it helps them to be confident.

Reading for enjoyment can spark imagination...

...and provide escape as well as inspire creativity. Even fantasy can still speak truth to a child about their place in this world.

Reading can expand horizons

A book can provide children with a way to discover new worlds, meet new people and learn about the past. Whether that's through non-fiction books and autobiographies, or books and magazines exploring historical events or figures.

Reading for pleasure can support your child's learning

Recent research also revealed that twice as many children and young people who enjoy reading in their free time have above average reading skills than children who don't enjoy

it (34.2% vs 15.7%) - reading skills which will support them in their school journeys and beyond.

At Stratford we believe passionately that reading is a vital life skill and we are committed to ensuring that all children become fluent readers as quickly as possible. Please read attached information that explains how we teach reading at Stratford and how you can support your child with reading at home.

What is my child learning this term?

Please have a look at our class pages on the school website. The teachers have worked hard to update these ready for this term. You can find out what your child will be learning, this term, and see learning from last term. You will find the class pages under the Learning tab.

Staffing

Unfortunately, Miss Smith is still unwell and will not be in school this week. Mrs Diserens will cover Owl Class until Thursday and Mrs Waters will cover them on Friday. I will keep you updated as I know more.

Attendance

Following a review of the registers we have noted that there are some children who are regularly late. Please may I remind you that the school gates open at 08:40 and school starts at 08:50. 08:50 is the time the register is taken and lessons start straight after this. If a child arrives late for school on a regular basis, learning really can suffer. This is for a number of reason but just on a time basis:

5 minutes every day	3 days
10 minutes every day	6.5 days
15 minutes every day	10 days
20 minutes every day	13 days
19 minutes every day	19 days

Parking

I understand how difficult it can be to park around school. When the school was built in 1840 there were not many cars on the road! However, it has been brought to my attention that people, especially when collecting at the end of the day, are parking on the double yellow lines at the corner of Mill Lane on both sides. There was very nearly an accident this week as someone turning into Mill Lane could not see the people crossing because of parked cars. We have many children who walk home on their own this way and it is dangerous if they cannot see around the corner to cross. There are also people parking in the bus stop and even on the zig-zags outside school. Please help us all keep our children safe by parking sensibly. I do have number plates of cars who regularly park on the corner but would rather give the chance to park elsewhere before 'naming and shaming'.

Please park sensibly, I would rather your child was slightly late or you were when collecting than someone getting hurt or an accident happening. Many thanks.

PE

PE lessons continue on Tuesdays and Thursdays. I would like to welcome Coach Connor back to Stratford. He will be working alongside Jack, our coach from last term while he gets back into the swing of things!

Y6 SATS Parent Workshop today

On Wednesday 15th January at 18:00, Mrs Wilson will hold a parent workshop about the Y6 SATS over Teams. If you haven't received the link please let Mrs Munt know in the office.

Parents consultation meeting with Brunel Academy Trust

A meeting will be held in the school hall on Tuesday 21st January at 6.00pm. This meeting will be attended by Jackie Fieldwick, CEO of BAT and some of her team. We would encourage you to attend if you have any questions, or simply want to learn more.

If you have any questions and are unable to attend the meeting please e-mail head@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk and Mrs Watkins will be happy to assist you.

If you would like to attend please can you email Mrs Munt, admin@stratford-sub-castle.wilts.sch.uk with Meeting with BAT in the subject bar. This will allow us to know how many people are going to attend for chairs.

Kindest regards

Justine Watkins

2024 -2025

TERM 3

EVENT	DATE
Teacher Development Day 4	Monday 06.01.25
No before/after school clubs <u>except</u> Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Tuesday 07.01.25
After school clubs commence	w/b Monday 13.01.25
Primary School Deadline for EYFS September 2025/2026 (www.wiltshire.gov.uk)	Wednesday 15.01.25
Y6 Parent Workshop – Year 6 SATS TEAMS meeting.	
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 10.02.25
ALL BREAK for HOLIDAY	Friday 14.02.25

TERM 4

ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Monday 24.02.25
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 24.02.25
Open Door afternoon. Come and look round the school and see displays, books and classrooms!	Tuesday 25.02.25 Thursday 27.02.25
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 03.03.25
National Offer Day: SECONDARY	Monday 03.03.25
Parents' Evenings (Online)	Wednesday 05.03.25 Thursday 06.03.25
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 31.03.25
School Easter Service in St. Lawrence Church: Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6.	Friday 04.04.25 @14.15

No Night Owls on Friday 4th April 2025

2024 -2025

TERM 5

EVENT	DATE
National Offer <u>Day</u> : PRIMARY	Wednesday 16.04.25
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Tuesday 22.04.25
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls.	w/b Tuesday 22.04.25
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 28.04.25
Key Stage 2 SATs Week/Assessment Week.	w/b Monday 12.05.25
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls.	w/b 19.05.25
Class Photographs	Wednesday 21.05.25
ALL BREAK for HOLIDAY	Friday 23.05.25

TERM 6

Teacher Development Day 5	Monday 02.06.25
ALL BACK TO SCHOOL	Tuesday 03.06.25
No clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Tuesday 03.06.25
Clubs commence	w/b Monday 09.06.25
Meeting for Parents of new intake September 2025	Wednesday 18.06.25
Induction Session 1: Year R September 2025	Wednesday 25.06.25
June Fayre	Friday 27.06.25
Induction Session 2: Year R September 2025	Wednesday 02.07.25
Induction Session 3: Year R September 2025	Wednesday 09.07.25
Sports day	Thursday 03.07.25
Reserve Sports Day	Thursday 10.07.25
No Clubs except Early Birds and Night Owls	w/b Monday 14/07/25
Family Open Evening – all welcome	Thursday 17.07.25
Leavers' Service in St Lawrence Church	Thursday 24.07.25 @ 13.30

No Night Owls on Thursday 24th July 2025