

# Headlines

Issue 4 - 21.10.22



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

It seems impossible that it is half term already - where do the weeks go?! Whilst it has been a great start to the new school year we are all, of course, deeply saddened following the tragic loss of Kellie Arslan last weekend. Kellie was a lovely lady, who volunteered many hours of her time and energy to the children of Stepgates Community School, as well as keeping the WhatsApp groups up to date with upcoming events at Stepgates. It goes without saying she will be deeply missed.

On behalf of the governors and staff at Stepgates and, I am sure, the wider community, I would like to express our sincere condolences, love and affection to Leksiy, Onur, Emrah and their family at this incredibly sad time. Our thoughts are with them all, and we are all here to support them as much as we can.

### HARVEST FESTIVAL

I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents/carers for your generous donations of tins and non-perishables which will be shared between the Salvation Army and the Friends St Peter's Church. Thank you, too, to all those parents/carers who offered their support on Tuesday. (Please see page 3 for further information regarding our Harvest Festival).

I would also like to thank all the children in Kites Class who were outstanding ambassadors for the school during our Prospective Parents Open Morning held on Thursday 13th October. Our Year 6 children welcomed our visitors and conducted tours of the school. The feedback we received was very positive, the parents were very impressed with how well behaved, friendly and polite all the children were. Well done Kites! (We are also holding two further Open Mornings on Tuesday 1st and Thursday 3rd November as well as our Open Evening for prospective parents on Tuesday 8th November between 5pm and 7pm (Last tour 6:30pm) - Please see Page 4 for further details as places must be booked in advance).

Finally, I would like to say thank you to the parents, children, governors, FOSS team and staff who continue to show their support, commitment and dedication to Stepgates. This has enabled the children, and parents, to participate in a range of exciting activities, including our Macmillan Coffee Morning, Jeans for Genes Day, 'Meet the Teacher' Meetings, Parent-Teacher Consultations and, of course, the FOSS Halloween Disco yesterday, which was a huge success.

### CHRISTMAS CARD REMINDER

Just to remind all parents/carers that the Christmas card designs sent home this week have a very quick order deadline. Orders must be placed by **Monday 24th October**.

I hope that you and your families are able to have a restful half term and I look forward to seeing you on Monday 31st October 2022.

Mrs T Ford  
Headteacher

### ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Falcons and Owls Classes for the best attendance in the last two weeks.

	3rd-7th October	10th-14th October
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>93.9%</b>	<b>94.4%</b>
Ladybirds	89.1%	93.4%
Butterflies	97.4%	94.8%
Grasshoppers	93.4%	93.4%
Falcons	98.5%	95.2%
Hawks	94.9%	93.0%
Owls	94.9%	96.4%
Kites	89.4%	94.9%

# PROUD CORNER

## Well done to:

- ♦ Jayden Painter - Student of the Month Medal and Certificate
- ♦ Nordine Azouaou - Football Medal
- ♦ Sebbie Hearne - Beavers Enrolment Certificate, Jumper and Scarf
- ♦ Ellie Jeffries - Street Dance Certificate for hard work
- ♦ Tyler Clark - Gymnastics Certificate
- ♦ Bella Griffiths - Gymnastics Certificate
- ♦ Mrs Curtis - Volunteer of the Year

Thank you for sharing your success with the children at our Whole School Assembly.

## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Well done to the following children who have been presented with Headteacher Awards:

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| * Alannah Brough        | * Jennafer Homer       |
| * Ava Gray              | * Harrison Milton      |
| * Sophie Nelson         | * Brooke Haden         |
| * Alfie Selway x 2      | * Leo Flynn            |
| * George Every          | * Khalisa Rehman       |
| * Aleesha Ahmed         | * Bradley Finnerty     |
| * Lola Bobillier        | * Lucia Griggs-Stevens |
| * Amelia Wallace        |                        |
| * Ollie Boulton         |                        |
| * Arabella Marklew      |                        |
| * Poppy Beresford       |                        |
| * Erin Boulton          |                        |
| * Riley Wilkinson-Kelly |                        |

## KITES CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, Kites Class performed their assembly about World War Two. Our assembly was based on six categories: How WW2 started, countries involved, how Britain prepared for the war, the evacuation, food rationing, Dig for Victory and the Land Army. We carried out our own research in groups and chose the most interesting facts to share, before deciding who would say each part. Mrs Brough then helped us get this in order and we rehearsed in our groups and as a class. After a lot of practice, we performed in front of our parents and the rest of the school, starting by singing *The White Cliffs of Dover*, (sung acapella) as we entered the hall to dim blue lighting. We also had a whole class sing-a-long and dance to *The Lambeth Walk*, then ended with *We'll Meet again*. It turned out to be great! Everyone in Kites really enjoyed performing it to everyone.

We would like to thank everyone who was able to come and watch for all their support.

**By Daniel and Rosie  
(Kites Class)**

## Well Done!

**A very well done to all those children who received a Well Done Certificate today.  
Keep up the good work!**

## OWLS CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October, Owls Class performed their class assembly in front of the whole school. This was based on the Vikings and we had a chant, which went like this:

*Everywhere we go  
People want to know  
Who we are  
Where we come from  
So we tell them  
We are the Vikings  
The Vikings from Scandinavia  
And then we fight them  
And steal all their money*

We have all enjoyed learning about the Vikings and hope you know a little more about them too.

Thank you to everyone who came to see our assembly.

**By Erin & Leksiy  
(Owls Class)**

# PROUD CORNER



Our Harvest celebrations have been a wonderful success this year! Thank you to the kind generosity of our community, we have collected a huge amount of tins and non-perishables to be shared between the Salvation Army and the Friends of St Peters Church. The children have so enjoyed watching our display grow!

Ian from the Salvation Army came to school and gave an assembly, teaching the children about the meaning of Harvest, and how it is important to be thankful at this time of year. We completed our Harvest festivities with the whole school walking to the Church and performing their Harvest songs as part of the service of thanks giving.

Thank you again to all those who were able to support.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



Bring your carved pumpkins into school with a £1 entry fee and we will award a prize for the Best Carved Pumpkin

Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October

### PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

Pumpkins can be collected at the end of the school day to take home



### PUMPKIN CARVING COMPETITION

Judging for the Pumpkin Carving Competition will take place during the school day.

Please bring your carved pumpkins to the school hall before school. These can be collected at the end of the day to take home.



## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

### **Is your child in Year 6?**

If your child was born between 1st September 2011 and 31st August 2012 you will need to apply for a secondary school place by **31st October 2022**.

Apply online at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions)

### **Is your child starting school in September 2023?**

If your child was born between 1st September 2018 and 31st August 2019 you will need to apply for a school place between 31st October 2022 and 15th January 2023.

Apply online at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions)

## **OPEN MORNINGS AND OPEN EVENING FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS**

We are excited to invite all prospective parents to visit our wonderful school. Our Open Morning and Open Evening tours will be held on the following dates:

### **Open Mornings**

**Thursday 13th October - 9:30am**

**Tuesday 1st November - 9:30am**

**Thursday 3rd November - 9:30am**

### **Open Evening**

**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> November**

**Between 5pm and 7pm (Last tour: 6:30pm)**

Please contact the school office either by telephone (01932 563022) or email ([events@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:events@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk)) to book a slot, specifying which day and time.

**All visits must be booked in advance**

## DATES - 2022/2023

### UPCOMING EVENTS - AUTUMN TERM 2022

Mon 24th to Friday 28th October	Half Term
Monday 31st October	Children return to school FOSS Pumpkin Carving Competition
Friday 4th November	Hawks Class Assembly 9:05am
Wednesday 9th November	Year 6 Junior Citizen
Thursday 10th November	FOSS Break the Rules at Stepgates Day
Friday 11th November	Grasshoppers Class Assembly 9:05am
Mon 14th to Fri 18th November	Book Fair
Friday 18th November	Falcons Class Assembly 9:05am
Tuesday 22nd November	Flu Vaccinations - Years R-6
Friday 25th November	Butterflies Class Assembly 9:05am
Mon 28th Nov to Fri 2nd Dec	Christmas toy and book donations for Salvation Army Christmas Gift Appeal
Tuesday 29th November	FOSS Bag2School Collection
Monday 5th December	INSET Day - School Closed
Friday 16th December	Last day of Autumn Term - Children finish at 1pm
Mon 19th Dec to Mon 2nd Jan 2023	Christmas Holidays

### Spring Term 2023

Tuesday 3rd January	INSET Day - School closed
Wednesday 4th January	Children return to school
Friday 10th February	Children finish at normal time for half term
Monday 13th to Friday 17th February	Half Term
Monday 20th February	Children return to school
Friday 31st March	Last day of Spring term - Children finish at 1pm
Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April	Easter holidays

### Summer Term 2023

Monday 17th April	Children return to school
Monday 1st May	Bank Holiday - School closed
Friday 26th May	Children finish at normal time for half term
Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June	Half Term
Monday 5th June	Children return to school
Monday 12th June	INSET Day - School closed
Friday 21st July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm