

# Headlines

Issue 7 - 09.12.22



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

This has been a very busy term and I am delighted the children, and parents, have been able to participate in a range of exciting activities. We have really enjoyed the start of our Christmas festivities and Winter activities this week.

It has been a pleasure to welcome parents into school; it was lovely to see so many of you at our Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert yesterday. I know the children were very proud to perform their festive songs to you all. We also saw some wonderful Christmas jumpers, with all donations going towards 'Save the Children Fund'. Again, thank you to all parents for supporting this very worthy cause.

Next week we have the much anticipated Infant Christmas Production of 2022 'Whoops-a-daisy' Angel on Tuesday 13th December at St. Peter's Church, Chertsey and on Wednesday 14th December we have our Christmas lunch and Pantomime. We are also expecting a very important visitor next week, with gifts for the children.

### STAFFING

I am sad to announce that Miss Mathers will be leaving Stepgates Community School at the end of this term, as she is leaving teaching and having a change of career. I am pleased to inform you that Mrs Conn, Deputy Headteacher, has very kindly agreed to move to Year 5 to be their class teacher, working with Ms Shand.

Miss Mathers has been a valued member of the staff team here at Stepgates since May 2014; we all wish her well and very best wishes for her future career.

I am sad to inform you that two highly valued members of support staff will also be leaving Stepgates at the end of this term. Mrs Evans, who has been part of the Stepgates team since January 2010, will be moving out of the area to start a new chapter in her life and Mrs Bartlett, who has been with us since September 2014, has secured a new role and we would like to congratulate her on her future career.

Miss Mathers, Mrs Evans and Mrs Bartlett will all be greatly missed by staff and children.

### REMINDER - INSET DAY TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY 2023

School will be closed on Tuesday, 3rd January for an INSET Day.

### FOSS COMMITTEE UPDATE

In the last issue of Headlines I announced Mrs Flynn will be stepping down as Chairman of FOSS. I am delighted to welcome our new Co Chairs - Miss Kat Savidge and Mrs Cat Counsell. Mrs Marita Hazeldene will remain as Treasurer and Mrs Sarah Fewell will remain as Secretary.

At Stepgates we are very lucky to have such a wonderful FOSS Team, who continue to work tirelessly organising the many events and activities for our children, including their very popular 'Elfridges' stall and the Chertsey Goose Fair. On behalf of the staff and children I would like to say a huge thank you for your dedication and commitment to Stepgates!

### 'STEPGATES SHINING STARS'

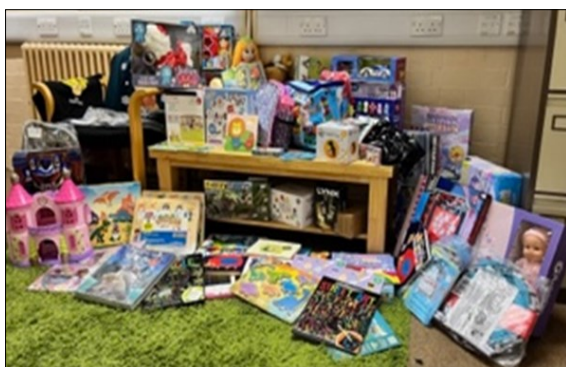
This term we have selected our 'Stepgates Shining Stars' for Design Technology (DT) and the children were presented their badges in assembly last Friday. Congratulations to the following children who are wearing their stars with pride. Mrs Muller has been working with the children on an exciting project:

Bradley and Lucia - Year 1  
Alfie P and Summer - Year 2  
Onur and Martha - Year 3  
Tristan and Victoria - Year 4  
Jayden and Elizabeth - Year 5  
Logan and Lola - Year 6

## MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER Cont'd...

As this will be the last issue of Headlines this year, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a peaceful Christmas holiday. I hope you and your families remain safe and well and I look forward to seeing the children on Wednesday, 4th January. Don't forget; there is a lot of useful information on our school website, including all newsletters for this academic year, latest news, upcoming events, INSET days, term dates, useful links and much more.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to the governors, staff and, of course, the children who continue to show their support, commitment and dedication to Stepgates. I would also like to say a huge thank you to all parents for your donations to The Salvation Army Christmas Gift Appeal. Your generosity has been overwhelming! As you will see from the photographs below, there will be many families within the community who will benefit from your incredible support.



**Mrs T Ford**  
**Headteacher**

**ATTENDANCE**  
Congratulations to Kites  
and Hawks Classes for the  
best attendance in the  
last two weeks.

	21st-25th Nov	28th Nov-2nd Dec
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>86.8%</b>	<b>86.0%</b>
Ladybirds	83.4%	85.3%
Butterflies	83.4%	82.5%
Grasshoppers	85.6%	80.0%
Falcons	89.7%	90.9%
Hawks	87.9%	92.1%
Owls	88.2%	88.5%
Kites	91.2%	82.4%

# PROUD CORNER

## Well done to:

- ♦ Kyffin Carpenter - Player of the Week at Football
- ♦ Tyler Clark - Star of the Week at Trampoline
- ♦ Jessica Hopkins - Star of the Week at Beam
- ♦ Oscar Woodward - Fusion Dance Well Done Certificate
- ♦ Max Pope - Spanish Amigos Certificate
- ♦ Olivia Larson - Cheerleading Competition
- ♦ Ellie Jeffries - Star of the Week at Gymnastics

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:

- \* Tyler Clark
- \* Thom-Jacob Adams
- \* Ruby Garland
- \* Max Tomlin
- \* George Every
- \* Matthew Finnerty

## Well Done!

**A very well done to all those children who received a Well Done Certificate for this half term.**

**Keep up the good work!**



### 'Elfridges' (Santa's Gift Stall)



A very big thank you to all the ladies from FOSS for organising Santa's Gift Stall - 'Elfridges' this week; once again, this was a huge success.

We would also like to say a very big thank you to parents for their contributions, enabling the children to buy their gifts. The money raised will be put towards the very many activities and resources FOSS contribute towards each year.

Thank you from all the staff and children at Stepgates Community School.

## ONLINE SAFETY

Christmas is the time of year when many of you may receive electronic items (tablets/mobile telephones etc) as gifts. Please be mindful of child safety and ensure child filters are in operation.



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### 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)

#### COMPOSER OF THE MONTH



#### BING CROSBY

(3 May 1903 - 14 October 1977)

Harry Lillis "Bing" Crosby Jr. was an American singer, comedian and actor. The first multimedia star, Crosby was a leader in record sales, radio ratings, and motion picture grosses from 1930 to 1954. He made over seventy feature films and recorded more than 1,600 different songs.

#### ARTIST OF THE MONTH



#### RAYMOND BRIGGS

(18 January 1934 – 9 August 2022 )

Raymond Redvers Briggs CBE (18 January 1934 – 9 August 2022) was an English (born in Wimbledon) illustrator, cartoonist, graphic novelist and author. Achieving critical and popular success among adults and children, he is best known in Britain for his 1978 story *The Snowman*, a book without words whose cartoon adaptation is televised and whose musical adaptation is staged every Christmas.

#### SUPPLIED BY MAURICE MANDRY

We grow a huge selection of freshly cut trees from our own farm in Ottershaw.

We also sell Tree stands,  
Logs & Christmas Wreaths.

**Open 26th November  
7.30am to 8pm**



**Maurice Mandry Ltd**  
sales@mauricemandry.com  
01932 - 873218

On the A320 by the ambulance Station at Ottershaw KT16 0PJ

Safe & friendly service - Cards accepted

## Thank you

Thank you to Maurice Mandry who has, once again, very kindly donated a Christmas tree to Stepgates Community School.

A huge thank you to Maurice, and to FOSS for decorating it - Our reception area looks amazing!

## **DATES - 2022/2023**

### **UPCOMING EVENTS - AUTUMN TERM 2022**

Tuesday 13th December	Infant Christmas Production (Please see letter dated 15.11.22 for further information / ticket arrangements)
Wednesday 14th December	Christmas Lunch followed by Pantomime
Friday 16th December	Last day of Autumn Term - Children finish at 1pm
Mon 19th Dec to Mon 2nd Jan 2023	Christmas Holidays

### **LAST DAY OF TERM**

**SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT 1:00PM ON FRIDAY 16TH DECEMBER**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!**



### **INSET DAY TUESDAY 3RD JANUARY 2023 - SCHOOL CLOSED**

**School starts again Wednesday 4th January 2023 at 8:50am**

### **Spring Term 2023**

Tuesday 3rd January	INSET Day - School closed
Wednesday 4th January	Children return to school
Friday 13th January	Ladybirds Class Assembly 9:05am
Friday 20th January	Falcons Class Assembly 9:05am
Friday 27th January	Owls Class Assembly 9:05am
Friday 3rd February	Butterflies Class Assembly 9:05am
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
Wed 8th to Fri 10th March	Year 4 Residential trip to Henley Fort
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
Monday 8th May	Extra Bank Holiday to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III - School closed
Tues 9th - Fri 12th May	SATs Week
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
Tuesday 27th June	Secondary Induction Day ) (Please check with individual
Wednesday 28th June	Secondary Induction Day ) school for further details)
Friday 21st July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm



# Christmas thank you

Dear parents, carers and friends,

We just wanted to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you all so very much for your continued support, particularly over this period where everyone is so busy and seems to have been troubled with illness! We know how crazy this month is at the best of times, so thank you for participating in everything that you did. We had a really fruitful fundraising effort this term - a combination of two record breaking events for us - the Disco, Goose Fair and possibly Elfridges when we add everything up! All down to you guys so thank you.

Looking forward to the new year and thinking up ideas of how we might be able to support the school using some of the funds we have raised.

Once again, have a peaceful, happy and healthy Christmas holidays.

## FOSS

Huge thanks to **Seymours** for the very generous donation towards the gifts from Father Christmas

  
**Seymours**