

# Headlines

Issue 8 - 06.01.23



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year to you all and welcome back to a new term at Stepgates. I hope everyone enjoyed a happy and healthy Christmas. Thank you very much for all the good wishes, cards and presents given to myself and staff. The children have settled back into school quickly and we are all looking forward to an exciting term at Stepgates. You should all be receiving Curriculum Information for this half term and further information is available on the website for each class. This explains the children's learning for this term, regular events e.g. PE, homework expectations etc. and how you can support them at home.

### CLUBS

As a small school we are very lucky to be able to offer such a varied range of after school clubs and activities for the children. I would like to thank the teaching staff, the LSA's and the parents who give freely of their time to help ensure the continued success of our clubs programme. You might not be aware that staff and parents offer these clubs on a **voluntary basis** only and I am very grateful to them for their continued support, commitment and enthusiasm without which our selection of clubs would be much reduced. If there are any parents who would like to assist with a club, please contact the school office.

### ATTENDANCE

As you are aware this year we are aiming for whole school attendance above 95.0%. Unfortunately attendance for Autumn Term was 91.4%, well below our target. I understand childhood infections had an impact on attendance in Autumn Term but I know we can do better! Our Inclusion Officer continues to visit school to monitor children's attendance. Please ensure your child is in school every day unless they are really unwell and likely to be infectious.

Well done to the 36 children who achieved 100% attendance for the Autumn term.

You will be receiving a Red, Amber or Green Attendance letter for your child based on their attendance last term. Individual attendance for a child should be at least 95%; anything above this generates a 'Green' letter. Attendance below 90% generates a 'Red' letter as this is well below what is expected, and attendance between 90% and 95% generates an 'Amber' letter. These figures do not relate to whether the absences are authorised or not, they are based on overall attendance for the term.

Mrs T Ford  
Headteacher

**ATTENDANCE**  
Congratulations to  
Ladybirds and Butterflies  
Classes for the best  
attendance in the last two  
weeks.

	5th-9th December	12th-16th December
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>82.9%</b>	<b>85.8%</b>
Ladybirds	97.3%	87.2%
Butterflies	85.2%	91.3%
Grasshoppers	75.8%	78.4%
Falcons	82.6%	82.4%
Hawks	89.4%	86.7%
Owls	81.1%	86.1%
Kites	69.5%	87.9%

## 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)

# PROUD CORNER

## Well done to:

- ◆ Bella Colborne - Squad Place in Gymnastics
- ◆ Mr Todd's Football Club - All received medals
- ◆ Joey Domican - Swimming Certificate and Badge
- ◆ Bella Griffiths - Gym Certificate 'Star of the Week'
- ◆ Olivia Larson - Cheerleading Competition Medal
- ◆ Alannah Brough - Dance Trophy

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:

- \* Amelia Wallace x 2
- \* Charlie Clark
- \* Maisie-May Cork
- \* Arabella Marklew
- \* Lola Bobillier
- \* Subhan Khan
- \* Aleesha Ahmed
- \* Mason Bailey

## AUTUMN TERM GOVERNORS' ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

I am delighted to announce that the following children have been presented with Governors' Achievement Awards for their achievements last term:

### Infants

Khalisa Rehman  
Matthew Finnerty

### Juniors

Rosie Jackson  
Joey Domican

### Sporting Achievement Awards were presented to:

Bella Griffiths - For her continued skill and confidence within gymnastics  
Amelia Wallace - For her contributions and commitment in promoting girls football at Stepgates

### The Arts Awards were presented to:

Harry Atkinson - For his enthusiasm and confidence in contributing to the school nativity  
Nayeema Uddin - For her excellence in Art, showing a continued level of skill within her work

Congratulations to these children for their hard work and enthusiasm.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### Christmas Lunch and Pantomime

On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December the children enjoyed their Christmas lunch and were very excited to receive a visit from Father Christmas.

This was followed by a pantomime performed by Troubadour Productions, who presented their version of Cinderella, much to the delight of the children, who all had a fantastic time.

### COMPOSER OF THE MONTH



#### **Paul McCartney - Born: 1942**

Sir James Paul McCartney CH MBE is an English singer, songwriter, musician, and record and film producer who gained worldwide fame as co-lead vocalist and bassist for the Beatles. His song writing partnership with John Lennon remains the most successful in history.

### ARTIST OF THE MONTH



#### **Adonna Jantina Khare - Born: 1980**

Adonna Jantina Khare is an American artist from Burbank, California mainly focused on large-scale pencil drawings. She received her Masters of Fine Art from California State University Long Beach. Her work has been collected by prestigious public and private collections throughout the world. In 2012 she won the world's largest art competition ArtPrize, competing against over 1500 artists from all around the world.

# Thank you

A huge thank you to Aaron Cavaco's mother, for the very kind donation of bulbs for our school garden.

Our Value for this Half Term  
is:



## Compassion

## DATES - 2022/2023

### UPCOMING EVENTS - SPRING TERM 2023

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

**DURING MAY ASSESSMENTS FOR ALL CLASSES WILL TAKE PLACE  
NO AUTHORISED ABSENCES WILL BE GRANTED DURING THIS TIME**

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