

Headlines

Issue 13 - 24.03.23



MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of another busy term, I would like to extend my gratitude and thanks to all parents/carers, governors, FOSS (Friends of Stepgates Community School) and, of course, my wonderful staff who continue to show their support, commitment and dedication to Stepgates. Finally, I would like to thank the children! I am very pleased with their behaviour and attitudes to learning.

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended our Parent-Teacher Consultation Meetings which were held last week and very well attended. If you were not able to meet your child's class teacher please contact them to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. These meetings are a valued opportunity for you to celebrate your child's achievements and support their learning.

STAFFING

I am sad to announce that Mrs Ruby (Learning Support Assistant) will be leaving us at the end of this term. Mrs Ruby has been part of the Stepgates team since September 2014. Whilst we are very sad to be losing Mrs Ruby, we are delighted that she has secured a new, very exciting, role and would like to congratulate her on this wonderful opportunity.

Mrs Ruby is a highly valued member of staff and will be greatly missed by staff and children. We wish her well for the future.



COMIC RELIEF 'RED NOSE DAY'

Our school dog, Lolly, joined the children and staff of Stepgates Community School, to support Comic Relief 'Red Nose Day. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all parents who supported Red Nose Day. Your contributions towards this very worthy cause are much appreciated. We raised an amazing £215.60!

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES

Thank you to all parents who have completed and returned their questionnaire; I am delighted to say these have been very positive. Thank you! If you have not completed a questionnaire, I would be most grateful if you could complete one and return it to the school office. Your feedback is always valued.

As this will be the last issue of Headlines this term, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a restful Easter holiday. I hope you and your families remain safe and well.

Children finish at 1pm on Friday 31st March and I look forward to seeing you all again on Monday 17th April. We have many exciting events and activities planned for the Summer Term, including our Whole School Trip (Years R to 6) to Windsor Castle on Thursday 20th April. Our amazing FOSS Team are already thinking about the Black Cherry Fair and our very popular Summer Fair. Dates and details to follow after the Easter break.

Mrs T Ford
Headteacher

ATTENDANCE

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

	6th-10th March	13th-17th March
WHOLE SCHOOL	90.4%	92.6%
Ladybirds	95.6%	95.6%
Butterflies	83.4%	96.6%
Grasshoppers	89.1%	87.5%
Falcons	92.1%	96.1%
Hawks	92.1%	87.9%
Owls	95.2%	92.1%
Kites	85.3%	92.7%

PROUD CORNER



WELL DONE TO:



- ♦ **Alfie G**, Year R - Swimming Certificate
- ♦ **Dakota W**, Year R - Gymnastics Certificate
- ♦ **Isla-Rose S**, Year 1 - Gymnastics Certificate
- ♦ **Delilah S**, Year 1 - Gymnastics 'Star of the Week' Certificate
- ♦ **Erin B** and **Alannah B**, Year 5 - Participated at the 'Move It' Exhibition in London and took part in the Guinness World Records title for the largest tap dance lesson
- ♦ **Dance Crew** - Received medals for 2nd place at Dance Festival

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:

- * Frankie M, Year 1
- * All the children in Grasshoppers Class (Yr 2)
- * All the children in Butterflies Class (Yr 1)
- * George E, Year 2
- * Delilah S, Year 1
- * Reggie D-I, Year 3

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!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

REMINDER

THE MINI EGG CHOKING HAZARD PARENTS NEED TO BE AWARE OF THIS EASTER!

Parents are being reminded of the age warnings on chocolate treats such as Mini Eggs this Easter. While great attention is given to the risks involved with common foods such as grapes - and the need to chop them up correctly - families can sometimes be unaware of the dangers posed by seemingly harmless treats.

An anonymous mother decided to recall her harrowing ordeal, after her daughter tragically choked on the treat. Filled with milk chocolate and containing a crispy sugar shell, chocolate Mini Eggs are often a go-to sweet treat during the Easter season. However, the size of the chocolate pieces make them unsuitable for young children. A visible warning about this is clearly marked on some packets, stating that they are not suitable for children under the age of four. However, sadly Sophie the little girl who died was five, so care must be taken whatever the age of the child.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Thank you

We would like to say a very big thank you to everyone for their help and support with the Mother's Day Gift Shop, including all who helped with the wrapping behind the scenes and those who helped on the day.

We would also like to say a huge thank you to parents/carers for supporting this FOSS event.

FOSS

HEALTHY SNACKS

Please can I remind all parents/carers that we encourage our children to bring in healthy snacks for break time, for example a piece of fruit/raisins, definitely not chocolate or crisps.

The School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme (SFVS), is a Government funded programme that provides a free piece of fruit or veg to our KS1 and EYFS children each day.



Year 4 Residential Trip to Henley Fort



From the 8th to 10th March 2023, Hawks Class went on a residential trip to Henley Fort that lasted two nights and three days, to take part in some outdoor and woodland experience activities. The activities included orienteering, archery, bouldering and rock climbing, woodland survival skills, low ropes and team tasks.

The food was great! On our first day, we had Pasta Bolognese and for pudding we also had a yummy treat. It was freezing outside and we even saw some snow, but as long as we kept moving in the activities, we kept warm. My favourite activity was woodland survival because we got to eat popcorn and had our faces painted with charcoal. Whilst we made our dens, we found some garden gnomes and used them as decorations. At bedtime, we read stories but could hear the boys chit chatting in their yurt, but we eventually all got some sleep. The next evening, we got to watch a movie before bed and Miss Aira and Miss Bolton braided our hair. It was an amazing experience and I wish that I could go back there again!

Victoria Moreira, Year 4 (Hawks Class)



DATES - 2022/2023

UPCOMING EVENTS - SPRING TERM 2023

Thursday 30th March	FOSS Easter Disco - Infants 3:20-4:30pm Juniors 4:45-6pm
Friday 31st March	Last day of Spring term - Children finish at 1pm
Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April	Easter holidays



LAST DAY OF TERM

**SCHOOL WILL FINISH AT 1:00PM ON
FRIDAY 31ST MARCH**

**SCHOOL STARTS AGAIN ON
MONDAY 17TH APRIL 2023
DOORS OPEN AT 8:40AM**

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
Thursday 20th April	Whole School Trip - Years R to 6 to Windsor Castle
Thursday 27th April	FOSS Bag2School Collection
Monday 1st May	Bank Holiday - School closed
Monday 8th May	Bank Holiday to celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty King Charles III - School closed
Tues 9th - Fri 12th May	SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) Week
Tuesday 9th May	Book Fair this week
Thursday 25th May	Class Photos
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
Mon 5th - Fri 9th June	Year 6 (Kites) Residential trip
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)
Thursday 6th July	Year 6 (Kites) to Harry Potter Studios
Friday 21st July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

ADVERTISEMENTS

We are regularly asked if we can advertise a variety of external clubs, in the form of flyers/posters etc. The following page(s) contain advertisement requests we have received from external clubs.

Please note - The advertisements are provided for your information only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by Stepgates Community School of any of the products, services or opinions of the corporation or organisation or individual. Stepgates Community School bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site, or for that of subsequent links. Contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.

**HOME
START**

**Runnymede
& Woking**

Registered Charity No.
1128932

We support families with at least one child under 5 who may be struggling with the challenges of parenting; providing weekly volunteer visits to offer practical and emotional support and advice.



WE ARE SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

When you volunteer for Home-Start for just a couple of hours each week, you'll be a lifeline for a local family, helping them get back on their feet and develop the skills they need to cope.

Contact us for more information:

01483 740367 info@homestartraw.org

JOIN OUR TEAM!

www.homestartraw.org