

# Headlines

Issue 4 - 20.10.23



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

It seems impossible that it is half term already - where do the weeks go?! It has been a great start to the new school year and I am delighted the children, and parents, have been able to participate in a range of exciting activities, including our Macmillan Coffee Morning, Jeans For Genes Day, 'Meet the Teacher' Meetings, 'Celebration of Pupils' Work' sessions for Years 1 - 6 and, of course, the FOSS Halloween Infant/Junior Disco on Wednesday, which was a huge success.

We already have many exciting events and activities planned after the half term break, including our Whole School Trip (Years R to 6) to see Shrek The Musical in Woking, on Wednesday 1st November. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing FOSS Team for their generous contribution towards this trip, which enabled us to reduce the cost to parents.

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.

I would also like to thank all the children in Kites Class who were outstanding ambassadors for the school during our Prospective Parents Open Mornings which were held on Thursday 28th September, Wednesday 4th October and Thursday 19th October. Our Year 6 children welcomed our visitors and conducted tours of the school. Once again, the feedback we received this year from prospective parents was very positive; they were very impressed with how well behaved, friendly and polite all the children were. Well done Kites! (We are also holding our Open Evening for prospective parents on Wednesday 8th November between 5pm and 7pm - Last tour 6:30pm - Places must be booked in advance).

### 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 donated to Runnymede Food Bank.



Our Harvest celebrations have been a wonderful success this year. On Tuesday, 17th October the whole school walked to St Peter's Church and performed their Harvest songs as part of the Service of Thanksgiving. I would also like to thank all parents/carers who offered their support on Tuesday.

### PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES

Parent Questionnaires will be sent home after half term. Your feedback is always valued and I would be most grateful if you could complete and return this to your child's class teacher.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to the parents, children, governors, FOSS (Friends of Stepgates School) and staff who continue to show their support, commitment and dedication to Stepgates.

I hope that you and your families are able to have a restful half term and I look forward to seeing you on Monday 30th October 2023.

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

## THIS YEAR WE ARE AIMING FOR WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ABOVE 95%

Congratulations to Hawks Class for the best attendance in the last two weeks.

	2nd-6th October	9th-13th October
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>95.3%</b>	<b>95.1%</b>
Ladybirds	97.0%	92.7%
Butterflies	95.6%	94.7%
Grasshoppers	91.9%	97.7%
Falcons	93.9%	89.3%
Hawks	98.8%	98.5%
Owls	94.9%	95.8%
Kites	94.7%	97.1%

# PROUD CORNER

## Well done to:

- Lara P, Reception - Gymnastic Certificate 'Star of the Week'
- Adam P, Year 4 - Ninja Knights Certificate 'Star of the Week'
- Dakota W, Year 1 - Swimming Certificate
- Erin B, Year 6 - Dance Certificate & Medal, Musical Theatre
- Alannah B, Year 6 - Dance Certificate & Shield Modern Jazz/ Ballet
- Archie L, Year 2 - Sports Club Medal
- Ellie J, Year 4 - Most Improved Player Shield for cricket; and Gymnastic Competition
- Oscar W, Year 4 - Maths & English Certificate
- Isla W, Year 5 - Maths & English Certificate
- Edward H, Year 5 - Rugby, All four rounds of rugby game

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:

- ♦ Bradley H, Year 6
- ♦ Chanel D, Year 6
- ♦ Charley M, Year 6
- ♦ Jayden P, Year 6
- ♦ Thom-Jacob A, Year 6
- ♦ Vivian L, Year 6
- ♦ Jessica H, Year 6
- ♦ Irete A, Year 2

## Well Done!

A very well done to all those children who received a Well Done Certificate today.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### Is your child in Year 6?

If your child was born between 1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013 you will need to apply for a secondary school place **by 31st October 2023**.

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

### Is your child starting school in September 2024?

If your child was born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 you will need to apply for a school place between **30th October 2023 and 15th January 2024**.

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

## OPEN MORNING AND OPEN EVENING TOURS FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

**We welcome all prospective parents to visit our wonderful school.**

Our Open Morning tours were held on:

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> September - 9:30am

Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> October - 9:30am

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> October - 9:30am

**If you were unable to attend our Open Morning tours, but would like to visit Stepgates Community School, please contact the school office.**

## Our Open Evening tours will be held on:

**Wednesday 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 space. (Please provide a contact telephone number).

**All visits must be booked in advance**

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



### 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.

**FOSS BREAK THE RULES  
AT STEPGATES DAY  
WILL BE ON  
THURSDAY 9TH NOVEMBER**

**FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW AFTER  
HALF TERM**

**BREAK**  
— THE —  
**RULES**  
— at Stepgates —

**Next FOSS  
AGM meeting**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> November  
@ 6:00pm, Shared Area**

**Everyone and anyone welcome!**



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

### KITES CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October, Kites children presented the first class assembly for this academic year. As part of Black History Month, across the school, we have all been learning about Black History and Kites children thought it would be good to share some of this research. We focused on influential women in Black History such as; Mary Seacole, Florence Price, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Katherine Johnson and one group researched Martin Luther King Jr, as we wanted to understand more about his famous speech.

Entering the hall to Beyonce's *Freedom*, a group of children performed a short dance to represent slavery and oppression, followed by the whole class entering the hall with banners emblazoned with statements such as 'Black Lives Matter'. Sophie then gave part of Martin Luther King Junior's famous *I have a Dream* speech to put the assembly into context. It was so lovely that everyone had a part and that the facts presented during the assembly were all researched and selected by the children in Kites.

Mrs Brough would like to say a huge well done to Kites for putting together a wonderful assembly and thank you to everyone who came to support us.

## FOOTBALL MATCH REPORTS

*All reports have been written by the players*

### Stepgates Vs St Cuthberts

*2nd October 2023*

On Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, Stepgates Year 5 team played their first ever match against St Cuthberts. Teddy scored the first goal to open up the score to Stepgates but sadly, in the second half, we conceded a free kick to make the match 1-1. We had a good opportunity but sadly it hit the crossbar. The final score was 1-1 and it was a very close match.

Player of the match was Oliver.

### Stepgates Vs St Charles Borromeo

*11th October 2023*

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October, Stepgates Year 5 team played against St Charles Borromeo. They scored 3 goals in the first half to make one of their players get a hat trick. They then scored one more to make it 4-0 but then we scored the final goal to make the match 4-1. It was a tough game.

Player of the match was Freddie.

### Stepgates Vs St Charles Borromeo

*11th October 2023*

On Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> October, the Year 6 boys football team played St Charles Borromeo in an away game. They were 1-0 up from a lucky goal. In the second half Arthur scored a brilliant goal to make it 1-1. Then we started playing better and better. In the last kick of the game Oliver scored to make it 2-1 to us.

Player of the match was Owen.

## DATES - 2023/2024

### UPCOMING EVENTS - AUTUMN TERM 2023

Mon 23rd to Fri 27th October	Half Term
Monday 30th October	Children return to school
Monday 30th October	Pumpkin Carving Competition
Wednesday 1st November	Whole School Trip - 'Shrek The Musical'
Thursday 9th November	FOSS Break the Rules at Stepgates Day - <i>Further details to follow</i>
Friday 10th November	Owls Class Assembly 9:05am
Monday 13th November	Book Fair this week
Tuesday 14th November	Year 6 Junior Citizen
Friday 17th November	Hawks Class Assembly 9:05am
Friday 24th November	Falcons Class Assembly 9:05am
Friday 1st December	Grasshoppers Class Assembly 9:05am
Monday 4th December	INSET Day - School closed
Wednesday 13th December	Christmas Lunch followed by Pantomime
Friday 15th December	Last day of Autumn Term - Children finish at 1pm
Mon 18th Dec to Mon 1st Jan	Christmas Holidays

### SPRING TERM 2024

Tuesday 2nd January	Children return to school
Friday 9th February	Children finish at normal time for half term
Mon 12th to Fri 16th February	Half Term
Monday 19th February	Children return to school
Thursday 28th March	Last day of Spring Term - Children finish at 1pm
Fri 29th March to Fri 12th April	Easter Holidays

### SUMMER TERM 2024

Monday 15th April	Children return to school
Monday 6th May	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Mon 13th - Thurs 16th May	SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) Week
Friday 24th May	Sports Day (Weather Permitting)
Friday 24th May	Children finish at normal time for half term
Mon 27th May to Fri 31st May	Half Term
Monday 3rd June	Children return to school
Monday 10th June	INSET Day - School closed
Tuesday 2nd July and Wednesday 3rd July	Secondary School Induction Days - <b>(Please check with individual school for further details)</b>
Friday 19th July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm
Monday 22nd July and Tuesday 23rd July	INSET Days - School closed