

Headlines

Issue 4 - 25.10.24



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.

Thank you to all the children in Kites Class who were outstanding ambassadors for the school during our Prospective Parents Open Mornings which were held on Thursday 26th September, Wednesday 2nd October and Thursday 17th 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 6th November between 5pm and 7pm - Last tour 6:30pm - Places must be booked in advance).

I would also like to thank 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.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

I would like to say a huge thank you to all parents/carers for your generous donations of tins and non-perishables. These will be donated to St Peter's Church local charitable cause, which provides food packs together with help and support for many families in our local community.



Our Harvest celebrations have been a wonderful success this year. On Tuesday, 22nd 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.

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 4th November 2024.

Mrs T Ford, Headteacher

ATTENDANCE
Congratulations to Butterflies, Grasshoppers and Kites Classes for the best attendance in the last two weeks.

	7th-11th October	14th-18th October
WHOLE SCHOOL	96.5%	94.6%
Ladybirds	95.6%	92.4%
Butterflies	98.2%	96.8%
Grasshoppers	98.2%	96.4%
Falcons	95.0%	92.7%
Hawks	96.1%	93.9%
Owls	97.8%	92.2%
Kites	94.9%	97.6%

PROUD CORNER

Well done to:

- ◆ Dakota W, Yr 2 - Swimming Certificate
- ◆ Delylah S, Yr 1 - Book Bear
- ◆ Sebbie H, Yr 4 - Writing Bear
- ◆ Frankie M, Yr 3 - Man of the Match Medal
- ◆ Isla-Rose S, Yr 3 - Gymnastic Certificate
- ◆ Sebbie H, Yr 4 - Park Run Wrist Band
- ◆ Guilherme V - Yr 5 - Football Trophy
Player of the Match

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:

- * Stanley F, Year 6
- * Marley H, Year 2
- * Ezra A, Year 2

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 11th October 2024 it was Owls Class assembly. It was about the creation of the world. We acted out the story called 'In the Beginning'. There were 8 narrators who told the story whilst the rest of the class acted it out. There were also children holding props.

Our assembly was important because it teaches people about RE and the creation of the world, as believed by Christians.

We sang 'All Things Bright and Beautiful' and 'Who Put the Colours in the Rainbow?'
 It was really fun and exciting.

Written by Ellie and Anabella

HAWKS CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Friday 18th October, Hawks Class were excited to share their learning about volcanoes with their grown ups and the rest of the children at Stepgates. There were lots of interesting facts that we were excited to share, like the fact that Mount Vesuvius is the only volcano on Europe's mainland to have erupted in the last hundred years! We made volcano artwork inspired by our October artist of the month Steven McMennamy, which involved cutting out different images and putting them together. Our favourite part of the assembly was when we got to sing the Lava Song and we even got to make and wear our own Hawaiian Lei necklaces.

Written by all of the children in Hawks Class.

FOSS HALLOWEEN DISCO

A huge thank you to all those who helped with the Halloween Disco on Wednesday 23rd October, which was a huge success.

Well done and thank you to all involved!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

OPEN MORNINGS AND OPEN EVENING FOR PROSPECTIVE PARENTS

We welcome all prospective parents to visit our wonderful school.

Our Open Morning tours were held on:

Thursday 26th September - 9:30am
Wednesday 2nd October - 9:30am
Thursday 17th 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 6th 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) to book a space. (If emailing, please specify which date you would prefer and provide a contact telephone number).

All visits must be booked in advance

Is your child in Year 6?

If your child was born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 you will need to apply for a secondary school place **by 31st October 2024.**

Apply online at www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions

Is your child starting school in September 2025?

If your child was born between 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021 you will need to apply for a school place between **4th November 2024 and**

15th January 2025.

Apply online at www.surreycc.gov.uk/admissions

DATES - 2024/2025

UPCOMING EVENTS - AUTUMN TERM 2024

Mon 28th Oct to Fri 1st Nov	Half Term
Monday 4th November	Children return to school
Thursday 7th November	FOSS Break the Rules at Stepgates Day
Monday 11th November	Book Fair this week
Monday 11th November	Odd Socks Day
Tuesday 12th November	FOSS Happy Clothes Collection
Thursday 14th November	FOSS (Friends of Stepgates School) AGM 6pm
Friday 15th November	BBC Children in Need
Friday 15th November	Falcons Class Assembly (9:05am)
Tuesday 19th November	Year 6 Junior Citizen
Friday 22nd November	Butterflies Class Assembly (9:05am)
Friday 29th November	FOSS Mufti Day - Bottle donation to support the planned Stepgates stall at the Chertsey Goose Fair on Saturday 7th December
Monday 2nd December	INSET Day - School closed
Thursday 12th December	Christmas Jumper Day Key Stage 2 Christmas Concert
Tuesday 17th December	Infant Christmas Production at St Peter's Church
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Lunch followed by Pantomime
Friday 20th December	Last day of Autumn Term - Children finish at 1pm
Mon 23rd Dec to Fri 3rd Jan	Christmas Holidays

SPRING TERM 2025

Monday 6th January	Children return to school
Thursday 13th February	Children finish at normal time for half term
Friday 14th February	INSET Day - School closed
Mon 17th to Fri 21st Feb	Half Term
Monday 24th February	Children return to school
Friday 4th April	Last day of Spring Term - Children finish at 1pm
Mon 7th to Mon 21st April	Easter Holidays

SUMMER TERM 2025

Tuesday 22nd April	Children return to school
Monday 5th May	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Mon 12th - Thurs 15th May	SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) Week
Wednesday 21st May	Class Photographs
Thursday 22nd May	Sports Day (Weather Permitting)
Thursday 22nd May	Children finish at normal time for half term
Friday 23rd May	INSET Day - School closed
Mon 26th to Fri 30th May	Half Term
Monday 2nd June	Children return to school
Monday 9th June	INSET Day - School closed
Tuesday 1st July and Wednesday 2nd July	Secondary School Induction Days - (Please check with individual school for further details)
Tuesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

FOSS NEWS AND EVENTS



BREAK

THE

RULES

at Stepgates

Thursday 7th November 2024

RULE	COST
Wear your own shoes or trainers	50p
Wear your own top, football shirt or hoodie	50p
Wear your own trousers, skirt or shorts	50p
Wear your PJ's or onesie to school	£1
Bring a treat to eat in class (50g max, no nuts)	50p
Eat your dessert before your main at lunch	50p
Change your name for the day	30p
Funky hair, socks or hat	30p
Fill your water bottle with squash instead of water	30p



You may choose to break all the rules or just one. You decide! Please ensure your child has the exact money at morning drop off on Thursday 7th November

HAPPYSCHOOLBAG CLOTHES COLLECTION

HappySchoolBag is an organisation that helps raise funds for schools and other charities by collecting unwanted clothes.

If you have recently had a sort out, or are planning a 'clear out' over October half term, but have nowhere to take your unwanted clothes and items, look no further than here!

Please return filled bags to the collection point (school car park gates) on Tuesday 12th November between 8.00am and 9.00am and 3.00pm and 4.00pm.

Thank you for your support!



Next FOSS meeting (AGM)

Thursday 14th November 2024,
6.00pm, Shared Area @ Stepgates

Everyone and anyone welcome!