

Headlines

Issue 11 - 07.03.25



MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome back to school. I hope you all had a restful half term. We have a very busy term ahead of us with many activities already in the diary.

It was a pleasure to welcome parents into school last week for our 'Celebration of Pupils Work' sessions; once again these were a huge success and very well attended. I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to look through your child's work and see their classroom/learning environment.

Thank you to all parents/carers who attended our Parent-Teacher Consultation Meetings held this week, which were also 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.

PRIDE

This half term's School Value is 'Pride'. The children will be focusing on taking pride in their appearance and the environment during assembly and in class. Please encourage them to think about things they can be proud of in themselves, their families and in our school or wider community.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Yesterday (Thursday 6th March) we celebrated World Book Day. The children enjoyed wearing their pyjamas and brought their favourite book into school. They all had a wonderful day of reading, exciting craft activities and drama opportunities, all based around their favourite characters. We were very lucky to receive a visit from a published author, who spent time with each class.

I would like to say a huge thank you to FOSS (Friends of Stepgates School), who very kindly sponsored materials for each child to make a spoon puppet of their favourite book character, as part of our celebrations.

GENTLE REMINDER

I have seen an increasing number of children bringing unhealthy drinks into school. I would like to remind parents/carers that squash/juice/fizzy drinks etc. are not permitted. Please ensure your child only has water in their bottle.

Mrs T Ford
Headteacher

ATTENDANCE

Congratulations to Owls and Kites Classes for the best attendance in the last two weeks

	10th-14th February	24th-28th February
WHOLE SCHOOL	94.9%	97.3%
Ladybirds	96.2%	96.7%
Butterflies	94.5%	97.4%
Grasshoppers	93.6%	97.3%
Falcons	96.0%	97.1%
Hawks	93.8%	95.3%
Owls	97.7%	98.2%
Kites	93.2%	99.4%

PROUD CORNER

Well done to:

- ♦ Isla-Rose S, Year 3 - Star of the Week and Bar Work Gym Certificates

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:

- * Adam P, Year 5
- * Guilherme V, Year 5

Emergency Contact Details

Please can you make sure that we have all your up to date telephone numbers and email addresses.

If we have the wrong details, we may not be able to contact you in an emergency.

The Value we are learning about this half term is...



Pride

ARTIST OF THE MONTH



Andy Goldsworthy, OBE

(Born 26th July 1956)

Art style: Sculpture

Andy Goldsworthy OBE is a British sculptor, photographer and environmentalist who produces site-specific sculptures and land art situated in natural and urban settings. He lives and works in Scotland.

COMPOSER OF THE MONTH



Louis Daniel Armstrong

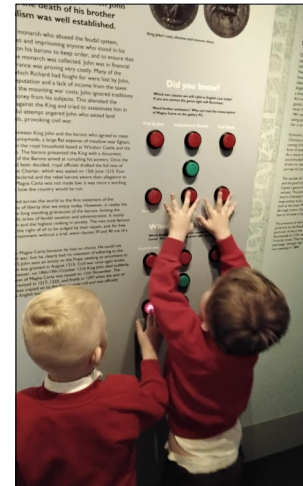
(4 August 1901 – 6 July 1971)

Musical Genre: Jazz

Louis Daniel Armstrong nicknamed "Satchmo", "Satch", and "Pops", was an American trumpeter, composer, vocalist, and actor who was among the most influential figures in jazz. His career spanned five decades, from the 1920s to the 1960s, and different eras in the history of jazz.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

LADYBIRDS CLASS TRIP TO CHERTSEY MUSEUM



Ladybirds had a wonderful excursion to Chertsey Museum to learn about the Olden Days, as part of their new topic. The children loved exploring the rooms, dressing up in vintage clothing, and interacting with toys and objects from the past. It was a lot of fun!

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fun



The pupils of Robins and Ladybirds classes enjoyed making pancakes on Tuesday, using measuring, literacy and communication skills.

They were delicious!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

Are you looking for a Nursery place for your child in September 2025?

We are now commencing the admission process for our Sunbeams Nursery for September 2025

If your child was born between 1st September 2022 and 31st August 2023

If your child is under three years of age, we offer EITHER five morning sessions (9:00am to 12:00 noon) OR five afternoon sessions (12:30pm to 3:30pm). You may choose less than five sessions but we would recommend you choose at least two sessions per week.

For eligible parents we offer four 'Free Early Education for Two year olds' (FEET) places, for which a copy letter proving eligibility from Surrey County Council needs to be provided to secure this place.

(For eligibility please see: <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/childcare-professionals/providing-free-early-education/providing-free-early-education-for-two-year-olds#>)

If your child was born between 1st September 2021 and 31st August 2022

We offer 15 hour funded places on a two and a half day split; either Monday full day, Tuesday full day and Wednesday morning OR Wednesday afternoon, Thursday full day and Friday full day.

For eligible parents we offer 30 hour free childcare places, for which a code from HMRC's Childcare Choices Website needs to be provided to secure this place. For eligibility please see:

<https://www.childcarechoices.gov.uk/>

For further information and/or an Application Form, please contact:

Mrs M Fernandez
Business Manager
Telephone: 01932 563022
Email: admin@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk

DATES - 2024/2025

UPCOMING EVENTS - SPRING TERM 2025

Wednesday 12th March	FOSS Teddy/Uniform Sale (After school)
Friday 14th March	Butterflies Class Assembly (9:05am)
Friday 21st March	Owls Class Assembly (9:05am)
Monday 24th March	Book Fair this week
Mon 24th & Wed 26th March	FOSS Mother's Day Gift Shop
Wednesday 26th March	FOSS Spring Disco
Wed 2nd to Fri 4th April	Year 4 Residential Trip
Friday 4th April	Last day of Spring Term - Children finish at 1pm
Friday 4th April	FOSS Sweet Sale (After School)
Mon 7th to Mon 21st April	Easter Holidays

SUMMER TERM 2025

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

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
Mon 2nd to Fri 6th June	Year 6 Residential Trip
Monday 9th June	INSET Day - School closed
Thursday 26th June	Year 6 trip to Harry Potter Studios
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



Please see below for a variety of FOSS events, including the FOSS Spring Disco (for Years R-6).

£1 PER ITEM

TEDDY SALE

WED 12TH MARCH
PLAYGROUND
FROM 3.10PM

£1 PER ITEM

SECOND HAND UNIFORM SALE

WED 12TH MARCH
PLAYGROUND
FROM 3.10PM

SPRING DISCO

WEDNESDAY 26th March
Infants 3:20 - 4:30
Juniors 4:45 - 6:00
Ticket Price: £5*

*Price includes	Entrance, bag of sweets, popcorn, drink and glitter tattoo/face paint.
Sibling discount	£9.50 for two siblings; £14 for 3 siblings.

Tickets will be sold on 21st and 24th March in the playground after school. Alternatively, please hand money to reception.

FOSS MOTHER'S DAY GIFT SHOP - £3.50 PER GIFT

MONDAY 24TH & WEDNESDAY 26TH MARCH DURING SCHOOL HOURS

A selection of gifts will be available for your child to purchase as a Mother's Day gift for that special person in their life.

(For further details, please see flyer sent home on Thursday 6th March 2025)