

# Headlines

Issue 16 - 13.06.25



## MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a busy start to this half term. Our Year 6 children had a wonderful time on their residential trip to the Isle of Wight last week, as you will see from the lovely photographs on Page 3 of this newsletter.

A huge amount of time and energy is going into preparations for our FOSS Summer Fair on Friday 20th June. The Summer Fair will be open to the public from 3:00-5:30pm; pick up from school will be normal time, after which we hope you can join us on the Stepgates field. All parents, carers and friends are warmly invited to attend these events, to help us in raising funds to support the 'extras' that make a difference for our children in school.

I know the ladies from our FOSS Team would be very grateful if any parents/carers could spare some time to help on the day; even just 30 minutes would be very much appreciated to help set up/clear up and anything else in between. Please contact the School Office if you think you can help in any way. I would like to say a huge thank you in advance to our wonderful FOSS Team and all parents/carers for any contribution you are able to make to assist.

### THANK YOU

I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Jodie Flynn for giving up her time to demonstrate to staff and children, 'Blue Peter style', how to build props for the Black Cherry Fair Parade on Saturday 12th July. This year the theme is Classic Cartoons and with this in mind FOSS have decided to go with the Flintstones.



Our Sunbeams Nursery Team and children have already made a fantastic start!

### CELEBRATION OF WORK OPEN EVENING

You are warmly invited to our Open Evening on Thursday 17th July between 3:30-5:00pm, when you will have an opportunity to discuss your child's report, see some of the work the children have completed this year, as well as saying 'Goodbye' to this year's teacher and 'Hello' to their new teachers.

There will also be an opportunity for parents in Years R to 6 to attend our very popular 'Celebration of Pupils Work' sessions, which will take place during the week beginning 7th July. As you know these are designed to give an opportunity to look through your child's work and see their classroom and learning environment. Further details, including the date and time, will be sent separately. Please can you confirm with the class teacher if you plan on attending.

### SENSORY GARDEN

I am delighted to announce the completion of our new Sensory Garden. This is a wonderful addition to Stepgates Community School and is already being well used by the children.



Finally, I must say a huge thank you to all parents/carers for the 'bottle' donations to support the Tombola Stall at the Summer Fair. Your continued generosity is very much appreciated.

**Mrs T Ford**  
Headteacher

**ATTENDANCE**

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

	19th-23rd May	2nd-6th June
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>93.4%</b>	<b>94.9%</b>
Ladybirds	93.9%	94.2%
Butterflies	96.0%	92.9%
Grasshoppers	90.6%	94.8%
Falcons	95.2%	95.9%
Hawks	91.8%	90.3%
Owls	95.5%	97.0%
Kites	90.5%	98.8%

# PROUD CORNER

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



**Integrity**

**Well done to:**

- ◆ Dexter S, Year 3 - Football Trophy
- ◆ Freddie J-E, Year 3 - Football Trophy

Thank you for sharing your success with the children at our Whole School Assembly.

## FALCONS CLASS TRIP TO HASLEMERE MUSEUM



The children in Falcons Class have time travelled back in time to finish their exploration of Ancient Egypt with a bang. We were then privileged to visit Haslemere Museum where we could showcase our Egyptian knowledge, learn even more amazing facts, and all the children mummified their own toy to take home.

Our assembly today has shown everything the children have learnt and how inspired they have been by the topic. We hope it was enjoyed by all, even though we did mummify one of the children!

The children have said that 'this is the best History topic ever!'

## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

Well done to the following children who have been presented with Headteacher Awards:

- \* Blake G, Year 1

## YEAR 6 RESIDENTIAL TO THE ISLE OF WIGHT



We did five activities a day and had three cooked meals a day. Some activities were thrilling and some were adventurous. In the end, it was definitely worth it. Now I can say I had the best adventure ever.

**Dylan - Year 6**

The food was 5 stars. Probably everyone thought so as well. There were endless and non-stop fun activities to experience like climbing, sensory trail and other amazing stuff. I highly recommend going.

**Teddy - Year 6**



We all had so much fun and will miss PGL for the rest of our lives. We have so many memories in five days that we will never forget. We were all sad to leave on Friday, but so happy to see our families.

**Summer - Year 6**

## YEAR 6 ACTIVITY WEEK

From Monday 2nd June to Friday 6th June, the Kites 'Stay at home' group had an activity week while the other children were on residential.

We had a busy week doing lots of fun activities. We bought ingredients to make pizza toppings and went to St. Peter's Church to learn all about the history of the church, then did some bell-ringing.

We also had a movie afternoon, painted Warhammer figures, played football and visited the park.

We had a great time!

**John - Year 6**

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

## ARTIST OF THE MONTH

### WILLIAM MORRIS

(24 March 1834 – 3 October 1896)



William Morris was a British textile designer, poet, artist, fantasy writer, architectural conservationist, printer, translator and socialist activist associated with the British Arts and Crafts Movement. He was a major contributor to the revival of traditional British textile arts and methods of production.

He was the son of a wealthy business man, who was originally going to become a priest but decided to devote his life to art instead. His career in designing started when he decorated his own house in London.

He is very famous for his wallpaper designs. He created some beautiful designs, the likes of which had never been used before. In fact, wallpaper before his day was quite plain.

## COMPOSER OF THE MONTH

### Abba

(Active from: 1972)



ABBA are a Swedish pop group formed in Stockholm in 1972 by Agnetha Fältskog, Björn Ulvaeus, Benny Andersson, and Anni-Frid Lyngstad. The group's name is an acronym of the first letters of their first names arranged as a palindrome.

One of the most popular and successful musical groups of all time, they became one of the best-selling music acts in the history of popular music, topping the charts worldwide from 1974 to 1983, and in 2021.

## DATES - SUMMER TERM 2025

Wednesday 18th June	Year 6 (Kites) to Guildford Cathedral
Friday 20th June	Year 4 (Hawks) Class assembly 9:05am
Friday 20th June	FOSS Summer Fair
Wednesday 25th June	FOSS Break the Rules Day
Thursday 26th June	Year 4 (Hawks) trip to Chertsey Museum
Thursday 26th June	Year 6 (Kites) trip to Harry Potter Studios
Friday 27th June	Year 5 (Owls) Class Assembly 9:05am
Tuesday 1st July and Wednesday 2nd July	Secondary School Induction Days - <b>(Please check with individual school for further details)</b>
Friday 4th July	Year 1 (Butterflies) Class Assembly 9:05am
Monday 7th July	Year R (Ladybirds) trip to Wellington Country Park
Week beginning Monday 7th July	Celebration of Pupils Work sessions this week (Further details including date and time will be sent separately).
Tuesday 8th July	Year 1 (Butterflies) trip to Chertsey Museum
Saturday 12th July	Black Cherry Fair
Monday 14th July	Year 5 (Owls) trip to Kew Gardens
Tuesday 15th July	Year 6 (Kites) Production
Thursday 17th July	3:30-5pm - Parents Celebration of Work Open Evening
Tuesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

## **TERM DATES ACADEMIC YEAR - 2025/2026**

**PLEASE NOTE THERE ARE 5 INSET DAYS WHEN THE SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED TO CHILDREN. THESE ARE:**

- Wednesday 3rd September 2025
- Monday 1st December 2025
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026
- **There will be one further INSET Day to add, which will be in June. This will be advised as soon as possible**

### **AUTUMN TERM 2025**

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 - INSET Day - School closed

Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2025 - Children in Years 1-6 start school

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2025 - Children finish at normal time for half term

(Half Term - Monday 27<sup>th</sup> October to Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025)

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025 - Children return to school

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2025 - INSET Day - School closed

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2025 - Last day of Autumn term - Children finish at 1pm

(Christmas holidays - Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2025 to Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2026)

### **SPRING TERM 2025**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 - Children return to school

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2026 - Children finish at normal time for half term

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026 - INSET Day - School closed

(Half Term - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> to Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2026)

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2026 - Children return to school

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2026 - Last day of Spring term - Children finish at 1pm

(Easter holidays - Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March to Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April 2026)

### **SUMMER TERM 2025**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026 - Children return to school

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - Bank Holiday - School closed

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2026 - Children finish at normal time for half term

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026 - INSET Day - School closed

(Half Term - Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> May 2026)

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026 - Children return to school

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026 - Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

# FOSS NEWS AND EVENTS



**Thank you**

**We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone for their help and support with the Father's Day Stall.**

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

**FOSS**



Every year, Stepgates creates its own fabulous float and proudly walks the route. To continue this tradition, we rely on the participation of our community of children, parents, carers and friends.

Last year, we won BEST FLOAT! To follow up on this success, we are planning on shining within our community by creating a simple walking procession.

**The theme this year is Classic Cartoons. With this in mind, we have decided to go with the FLINTSTONES as our school theme.**

As always, we need your help with this. This year, it is very simple. We need as many children and parents as possible to turn up and walk with us! Turn up wearing...

- Any character from the Flintstones
- Dinosaur costume
- Leopard/animal print
- OR any interpretation of this theme you like.

We will have props to walk with or carry, but if you have anything you can think of, please do bring it along too.

**Saturday  
12th July  
2025**

**Yabba Dabba Doo!**

\*Infants and Juniors will need to be accompanied to the starting point of Free Prae Road and then picked up immediately after the procession at Abbey Fields. Sunbeams children will need to be accompanied on the procession. Adults are also invited to join us to walk. Exact timings will be given nearer the time, although likely to be between 9:15 - 11 am

# BREAK THE RULES

at Stepgates

**Wednesday 25th June 2025**

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 Wednesday 25th June.

# ADVERTISEMENTS

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

*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.*



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2025

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[summerreadingchallenge.org.uk](http://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk)

**Starts from Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July!**  
**Step into the Story Garden!**



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