

Headlines

Issue 09 - 23.01.26



MESSAGE FROM MRS FORD, HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents/Carers

Next week is Themed Week 'Around the World' in school for all children. I am sure the children will have a lot of fun learning about countries from around the world and participating in a range of exciting activities. We also have one or two surprises planned for the children.

I know our wonderful FOSS team (Friends of Stepgates School) are also busy organising a variety of events for the children to enjoy during Spring Term, including a Krispy Kreme Doughnut sale after school on Thursday 12th February.

SNOW POLICY

In the event of adverse weather, please see our 'Snow Policy' which is on the school website (Click on 'School Information' and scroll down to 'School Policies'). You will find details of our procedures should we experience adverse weather conditions.

HEAD BOY AND HEAD GIRL

Firstly, I would like to say thank you to our previous Head Boy, Kieran EHF and Head Girl, Ellie J, and Deputy Head Boy, Onur A and Deputy Head Girl, Alexa S. All have been excellent role models.

Huge congratulations to our new Head Boy, Jackson S and new Head Girl, Adewonuola O, for this term. Congratulations also to our new Deputy Head Boy, Alfie J and new Deputy Head Girl, Ruby B. I am sure they will also be excellent role models in our school community.

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRES

Thank you to all parents who have completed the online Parent Questionnaire for Autumn Term; I am delighted to say, once again, the majority of these have been very positive with some lovely comments. Thank you! If you have not yet completed the questionnaire, it is not too late. Your feedback is always valued.

REMINDER - INSET DAY FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2026

Please note that school will be closed on Friday, 13th February for an INSET Day.

Mrs T Ford
Headteacher

ATTENDANCE

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

	5th-9th January	12th-16th January
WHOLE SCHOOL	94.7%	93.3%
Ladybirds	92.4%	93.3%
Butterflies	97.0%	98.5%
Grasshoppers	95.2%	92.4%
Falcons	94.2%	92.7%
Hawks	92.9%	93.4%
Owls	89.1%	88.5%
Kites	98.2%	93.3%

PROUD CORNER

Well done to:

- ◆ Sebbie H, Year 5 - Park Runs (Completed 14)
- ◆ Ivy W, Year R - Skiing Medal & Certificate
- ◆ Theo PDG, Year 2 - Karate, Grade Yellow Belt
- ◆ Leo W, Year 2 - Football Tournament Trophies & Medal
- ◆ Dakota W, Year 3 - Encore Musical Trophies

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 4
- Amber S, Year 6
- Adam P, Year 6
- Raven C, Year 6
- Santino W, Year 6
- Aaron G, Year 4
- Yasir T, Year 4
- Bella C, Year 6
- Ruby B, Year 6
- Reggie DI, Year 6

GRASSHOPPERS BREAD BAKING

Grasshoppers Class took part in a baking class on Tuesday 13th January with a special mission in mind; to imagine being a baker in 1666 - the year of The Great Fire of London! We added the ingredients together to make a simple bread recipe, then went back to class to find out all about the events that took place on September 2nd 1666 in Pudding Lane and how that affected the City of London. We had some fantastic conversations about how the baker and his family would have felt around that time, and how life was so different then. We finished the day with a tasting of our delicious bread, and even had some to take home to our families; yum!

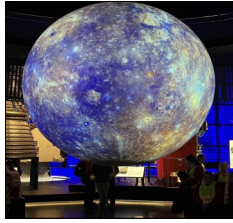
KITES CLASS ASSEMBLY

On Friday the 16th January Kites had their class assembly. The assembly was about Winnie The Pooh Day, this is celebrated on the 18th January. The class acted out a story of Winnie The Pooh. The children researched the history of Winnie The Pooh and Friends, they were happy to share it with the school.

Kites would like to thank all the parents for joining us.

Written by Chace and Year 6 Robins

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



OWLS CLASS TRIP

On Thursday 8th January 2026 Year 5 went on a trip to The Science Museum in London. We travelled by coach. We went into the 'Energy Hall' where there were lots of fascinating items like Engines and Rolls Royce cars. Next, we went into the 'Space' section and saw Helen Shawman's spacesuit. We listened to a lady talking about each of the planets. We learnt that one of Jupiter's moons is called a 'pizza moon'. We also explored a room called 'What's my name?' where there were lots of cool hands on things we could try. We also went into the 'Medicine room' where we found out about medicine over the years, our bodies and how to look after ourselves.

We had a lovely day, lots of fun and saw many fascinating things to learn about.

Written by Ella and Lara



Are you looking for a Nursery place for your child in September 2026?

We are now commencing the admission process for our Sunbeams Nursery for September 2026

If your child was born between 1st September 2023 and 31st August 2024

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 2022 and 31st August 2023

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 C Purkiss. Business Manager
Telephone: 01932 563022 / Email: admin@stepgates.surrey.sch.uk

DATES - 2025/2026

UPCOMING EVENTS - SPRING TERM 2026

Monday 26th - Friday 30th January	Themed Week 'Around the World'
Friday 30th January	Owls (Year 5) Class Assembly
Tuesday 3rd February	Falcons Class (Year 3) trip Chertsey Museum
Friday 6th February	Hawks (Year 4) Class Assembly
Thursday 12th February	Children finish at normal time for half term
Thursday 12th February	FOSS Krispy Kreme Doughnut Sale (after school)
Friday 13th February	INSET Day - School closed
Mon 16th to Fri 20th Feb	Half Term
Monday 23rd February	Children return to school
Thursday 26th February	FOSS Meeting 6pm
Friday 27th February	Grasshoppers (Year 2) Class Assembly
Friday 6th March	Falcons (Year 3) Class Assembly
Mon 9th and Tues 10th March	Parent-Teacher Consultation Evenings <i>(Details to follow in due course)</i>
Friday 13th March	Butterflies (Year 1) Class Assembly
Friday 27th March	Last day of Spring Term - Children finish at 1pm
Mon 30th March to Fri 10th April	Easter Holidays



INSET DAY

**PLEASE NOTE THAT SCHOOL
WILL BE CLOSED ON FRIDAY
13TH FEBRUARY 2026 FOR
AN INSET DAY**

SUMMER TERM 2025

Monday 13th April	Children return to school
Monday 4th May	Bank Holiday - School Closed
Mon 11th - Thurs 14th May	SATs (Standard Assessment Tests) Week
Wednesday 20th May	Class Photographs
Thursday 21st May	Sports Day (Weather Permitting)
Thursday 21st May	Children finish at normal time for half term
Friday 22nd May	INSET Day - School closed
Mon 25th to Fri 29th May	Half Term
Monday 1st June	Children return to school
Monday 8th June	INSET Day - School closed
Wednesday 22nd July	Last day of Summer term - Children finish at 1pm

FOSS NEWS AND EVENTS



KRISPY KREME DOUGHNUTS

On sale in the playground after school on Thursday 12th February. | £1 per doughnut
£12 for a box of 12*

*If you would like a box, please use the below link to pre-order by Thursday 5th February, ensuring you state your name/class:
<https://pay.sumup.com/b2c/QSJ7PXNC>



Next FOSS meeting




Thursday 26th February
@ 6:00pm,
Shared area at school

Everyone and anyone welcome!

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.

GIRLS FOOTBALL COURSE

FEBRUARY HALF TERM 2026




Monday 16th February
Tuesday 17th February

Venue:- Abbey Rangers Football Club (KT15 2QH)
Times:- 8.30am – 4.00pm
£35.00 Daily / £65.00 Two Day

Designed for girls of all abilities aged between 5yrs to 13yrs!

- Playing in a fun, challenging & safe environment.
- Meeting new friends that have an interest in football.
- Develop technique, speed, tactics & improve skills & confidence.
- Professional FA qualified coaching.
- 3G Pitch and use of clubhouse.

If you would like further information or would like to book a place for your daughter to attend, please kindly contact Tom on 07825 089500 or email tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk



In partnership with

BOYS FOOTBALL

2 Day February Camp

WHAT?
Technical development/1st touch/receiving the ball.
Team games / combinations / 3v3, Defensive techniques and understanding.
Finishing & 4 aside transitions – attacking and defending.

WHERE?
3G Pitch
ABBEY RANGERS FC
Addlestone
KT15 2QH

WHEN?
Wednesday 18th February
Thursday 19th February
8.30am – 4.00pm

AGE?
Under 5 (Reception)
Under 6 (Year 1)
Under 7 (Year 2)
Under 8 (Year 3)
Under 9 (Year 4)
Under 10 (Year 5)

DAILY COST?
£35.00





M:07825 089500 E:tom@tasportscoaching.co.uk