



# THE STOPSLEY NEWS

ALL ABOUT STOPSLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

24th Apr 2026

Dear Parents,

I would like to celebrate the positive, strong start the children have made to this summer term. It has been wonderful to see so many children demonstrating determination, our key learning behaviour, in all they are doing. From tackling challenges in lessons, to showing resilience when work feels difficult and taking pride in their achievements, the children are showing exactly the attitudes that help them succeed. We are very proud of the great start they have made.

Alongside strong learning behaviours, we continue to place great importance on high standards of behaviour around school. We ask all children to show respect for one another, for staff and for our school environment. This includes wearing the correct school uniform each day and taking pride in presenting themselves as members of our school team. We do not apologise for having extremely high expectations of all children as they get one go at this year so we want to make it the very best for them. If you want to support us in our drive for excellent behaviour, please do read our Golden Rules that are attached to this newsletter.

Please can I remind families about respecting our school grounds and rules at drop-off and pick-up times, in particular, children not riding scooters around the grounds as this can be unsafe when it is so busy. Thank you for your support in reinforcing these expectations.

A huge well done to Year 3 for their lovely music performance on Monday. The children performed with confidence and enthusiasm. We were delighted to see their hard work shine through. We are very proud of the music curriculum at our school, which gives children good opportunities to develop creativity and confidence. We are also grateful for the ongoing support of Luton Music Service, who provide many lessons and help with these opportunities.

Finally, a reminder that all parents of Reception to Year 6 children should have received my letter and parent guidance regarding Relationships and Sex Education (RSE) for this year. Please do take time to read through the information if you have not already done so and reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. Working together helps us ensure the very best for all of the children.

Mr Fordham  
Headteacher

## KEY DATES FOR SUMMER TERM

Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May - Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs week	Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Celebrating cultures and diversity day
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Mental Health Awareness week	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Father's Day pop up shop
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Bowling reward trip for Sharman class	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Choir - Singing Spectacular at SBC
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 music performance 2.15pm - 3.15pm	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 2 Whipsnade Zoo trip
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 3 Fitzwilliam Museum trip	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5 overnight camp at school
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Children In Charge day Last day of half term	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Whole school transition day
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	Inset day	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 production of Aladdin 2.00pm - 3.30pm and 6.00pm - 7.30pm
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Back to school	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 fun day Reception leavers' assembly
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Sports day	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Open evening 3.45pm - 5.00pm
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Gulliver's Land trip	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Rock Steady summer concert PTA summer disco
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Stopsley fire brigade visit	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 leavers' assembly 10am - 11.00am Last day of term



It's been lovely to see so many of you enjoying our crazy golf course on Mondays after school. Our family golf will be on next Monday after school. We hope to see you there!

At Stopsley we expect all children to follow the Golden Rules. These ensure fairness, equality and help to keep every member of our school happy and safe. By following the Golden Rules, we embed the whole-school ethos of our HEART values.

Everyone understands the Golden Rules and makes sure they remember them wherever they are in school. The rules are displayed creatively in every classroom, they are seen in corridors and shared areas and they feature in our weekly assemblies.

The Golden Rules are...

### OUR GOLDEN RULES

- WE ARE GENTLE
- WE DON'T HURT OTHERS
- WE ARE KIND & HELPFUL
- WE DON'T HURT ANYBODY'S FEELINGS
- WE LISTEN
- WE DON'T INTERRUPT
- WE ARE HONEST
- WE DON'T COVER UP THE TRUTH
- WE WORK HARD
- WE DON'T WASTE OUR OWN OR OTHERS' TIME
- WE LOOK AFTER PROPERTY
- WE DON'T WASTE OR DAMAGE THINGS

### PLAYGROUND GOLDEN RULES

- WE ARE GENTLE WHEN WE PLAY
- WE ARE KIND & HELPFUL TOWARDS OTHERS
- WE LOOK AFTER THE PLAYGROUND
- WE LISTEN AND KEEP TO THE PLAYGROUND SAFETY RULES
- WE ARE HONEST WITH EVERYONE
- WE RESPECT EVERYONE'S GAMES

### DINING HALL GOLDEN RULES

- WE LINE UP CALMLY
- WE WALK CAREFULLY THROUGH THE HALL
- WE SPEAK QUIETLY TO THOSE AROUND US
- WE KEEP OUR TABLE CLEAN
- WE ARE POLITE TO EVERYONE
- WE USE GOOD TABLE MANNERS

## PTA NEWS

### PTA QUIZ AND CHIPS!

Last Friday evening we held another Quiz Night again for the grownups with a fish and chip supper, hosted by Quiz Mistress, Mrs Leigh.

We had a great time and managed to take in **£632** as part of our fundraising for the school.

Many thanks to those who came, thank you so much for your support.

We look forward to running this again in the future!!



### Attendance Matters

*Congratulations to our class attendance winners this week!*

**KS1: Badgers and Freedman 98.8%**

**PRIZE: Non-uniform day and an extra break every day for a week**

**KS2: Belt 99.7%**

**PRIZE: A 'crafternoon'**

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# MRS HEALY

## Freedman class teacher

### HOW OLD ARE YOU?

I'm 33. 34 this year - I think? Do you know what, I think I'm actually 33 this year! No no, I'm 33 this year! I am 33 in September!

### WHY DID YOU NAME YOUR SON OTIS?

We named my son Otis because I've not taught anyone with that name before and it's a name you don't always hear. I like unusual names. So when he goes to school he'll probably be the only Otis.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FRUIT?

Banana, but it's got to be green. Green and crunchy! It can't be yellow and squishy.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE THING ABOUT TEACHING IN YEAR 1?

That's a great question! My favourite thing about teaching in year 1 is that the children are still young but they still get my terrible jokes. The older ones don't think I'm very funny, they think I'm very embarrassing but I think because they're 5 and 6 they still think I'm funny!

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE COUNTRY THAT YOU HAVE VISITED?

Hmmmm. I've got to say America. I loved America because of the giant McDonalds you get. I went to New York and the McDonalds were absolutely massive!

### WHAT IS YOUR DAILY ROUTINE?

I wake up at 5.30 if Otis hasn't already woken me up. I then have a shower and get ready to come to work. I leave my house at 6.30 because I live in Stevenage. I get into school for 7.00, do my job at school. I go home at 4.00, do Otis's dinner, cook my dinner, eat my dinner, wash up, give him a bath, give him his milk, put him to bed at 7.00, my day actually starts then. I can do whatever I want when he's in bed, like watch true crime documentaries on Netflix, eat pizza. My favourite thing to eat in the evening is Minstrels. I go through a packet probably every night! I go to bed at 9.00, if I've not fallen asleep on the sofa by then! I hope and pray and keep everything crossed that Otis stays asleep all night because he doesn't sleep very well and is up all night.

### WHAT LESSON IS YOUR FAVOURITE TO TEACH?

Geography. Because I like getting out and about and I like seeing the world and teaching about the world.

### DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?

I do! I have a dog called Jasper, he's 14 and he looks just like Miya, our school dog. He's getting very old now but Otis loves to play with Jasper and Jasper almost becomes a bit of a puppy again. So although he's 14 and very, very old, he likes to play with Otis and it makes him more of a puppy which is lovely. He is my favourite dog ever. That's not even a word, but he's my favourite dog ever.

### IF YOU WEREN'T A TEACHER, WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING?

I'd probably be at home with a load of dogs doing nothing. \*Laughs\* I think maybe I'd be like, I dunno, a dog walker? Or a dog sitter? Because I like dogs and getting outside. But I like being at home as well so being a dog sitter you could do a bit of both!

### HAVE YOU EVER PLAYED VOLLEYBALL?

\*Laughs\* Yes... but badly! I'm not very good at it. I played it on a beach in Barcelona once, it's very, very difficult. Nice place to play but it's very difficult on sand.

### WHAT ARE YOU SCARED OF OR WHAT IS YOUR WORST FEAR?

I'm quite scared of spiders, but now I've got Otis I've got to pretend I'm not scared. I've got to be brave. I don't overly like them but I've got to get them out and I don't really like things that fly. I don't like bees and wasps or butterflies. I've also got to pretend to not be scared of those otherwise Otis will be scared of them.

### WHAT IS THE WORST INJURY YOU HAVE EVER SUSTAINED?

I broke my little toe once and that was really painful. I tripped over the washing basket and fell into the coffee table and it was the worst thing I've ever felt. But I've never broken anything else, I'm quite sensible.

### DO YOU LIKE BEING A TEACHER?

Yes. Everyday's a different day, you never know what you're gonna get. I've been a teacher for a very long time and I do very much enjoy it!

### HOW MANY BISCUITS DO YOU EAT IN A DAY?

\*Laughs\* How many biscuits do I eat in a day? \*Laughs\* I love a biscuit... or maybe 27 or maybe 29 or even the whole packet. I particularly like a caramel digestive biscuit. The caramel chocolate ones. The Foxes cream biscuits with the cream in the middle - delicious.

### WHAT ARE YOUR IDEAL WEEKEND PLANS?

You're gonna laugh at me for this one. A trip to the garden centre with Mrs Pooley! Me and Mrs Pooley, most weekends we find a new garden centre to go to, to sit in the cafe and have a hot chocolate. Then come home, eat and sleep. That's my ideal plans. I'm a bit of a home bird.

### HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE TO DO YOUR HAIR?

So, my hair is very, very curly. Almost like Mrs Lefcovitch's hair. But when I leave mine to go naturally, I look a bit like Hagrid. It's like a triangle. It takes me about 10 minutes every morning to straighten it with straighteners because it's not very thick. It can be quite frizzy sometimes.

### ARE YOU A SPENDER OR A SAVER?

Oooh... now I'm a spender but my husband is a saver. He's tried to reign me in \*laughs\* but my husband is better at saving money and I like to spend it on clothes for Otis. He's a very stylish kid.

### WOULD YOU RATHER HAVE £1,000,000 PAID TO YOU IN 5 YEARS TIME OR RECEIVE £1,000 EVERYDAY FOR ONE YEAR, STRAIGHT AWAY?

I think I would rather have £1,000,000 paid to me in 5 years time. I reckon I could hold out for that long. It's something to look forward to isn't it? I wouldn't save it, I would just spend it!

### WHAT'S IT LIKE BEING MARRIED TO AN ACTOR?

You never know what the day brings. You never know if he's gonna get a phone call to say, 'you've got to go and do this' and then your whole plans are ruined. Every time we've been on holiday, he's had a phonecall the day before that says, 'sorry you can't go on holiday, you've got to come and do this' - every single time we've been on holiday. And even when we got married, the day before we got married, his agent called him and said 'you're gonna be in Star Wars' and I said, 'no no, no, we're getting married tomorrow' so he had to say no to Star Wars!

(The children asked what tv programmes or films he had been in)

He's been in Peaky Blinder and one of the Star Wars as a stunt man. Being married to an actor can be exciting but also frustrating.



ALL ABOUT ME

## FUN FACTS:

1. My favourite colour is pastel blue.
2. My favourite music is anything by Beyonce or Raye.
3. My favourite films are comedy because I love to laugh - anything with Kevin Hart!
4. I can't live without my phone - that's bad isn't it!

### HOW OLD IS YOUR SON?

He's 19 months. He's two in September.

### WHERE IS YOUR FAVOURITE PLACE IN THE UK?

I would have to say Norfolk. The Norfolk Broads is my favourite place. My dad used to have a boat on the Norfolk Broads and when I was a baby I used to go on the boat and we used to do our holidays there every half term and we've done that ever since. Happy memories and we love it. Otis hasn't been there yet, we're going to take him in May.

### WHO IS YOUR WORK BESTIE?

My work bestie is Mrs Pooley, she's gone now to have baby Caden. And Miss Carpenter. I would have to say Mrs Lefcovitch and Mrs Collins as well. We're all besties!

### WHAT'S THE SCARIEST THING YOU'VE EVER DONE?

Have a baby! That's quite scary! I did climb the O2 Arena. I climbed to the top of that and back down. It was a bit windy and in the dark! That was pretty scary, but I'd do it again, it was pretty cool!

JASPER



### IF YOU COULD ONLY EAT ONE MEAL FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE WHAT IT BE?

Oooh I think it's got to be my mum's Sunday roast. It's got to be my mum's though, it can't be someone else's. The gravy is the best bit. It's got to be swimming.

### IS THERE AN ANIMAL YOU DON'T LIKE AND WHY?

Pigs. They stink. Why do they smell so bad? They're cute but they smell.

### WHAT MADE YOU BECOME A TEACHER?

My mum was a teacher, she retired last year. I saw how much she loved it and how good at it she was so I decided to become a teacher. At first I was a teacher for children with special needs and then I came here and I love everything about teaching. Not so much the tiredness, but I love everything else about teaching.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ICE CREAM?

I don't know if they still do it but the Ice Cream Factory at Pizza Hut did a soft serve ice cream with strawberry sauce and jelly beans on top. It was the best!