



# THE STOPSLEY NEWS

ALL ABOUT STOPSLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

8th May 2026

Dear Parents,

I begin by apologising that I have not been out on the playground at drop off and pick up times as much as usual this week. A number of meetings and other commitments have kept me inside school during these times. Thank you, as always, for your continued support, understanding and partnership with the school — it is very much appreciated by all of us.

This week, we have welcomed visitors into school and I would like to say a huge thank you to our brilliant Pupil Leadership Team for the great job they did helping to show them around. They spoke so confidently and proudly about our school and were excellent ambassadors. I would also like to thank the children who helped me with interviewing for new members of staff. They asked clever questions and represented the school brilliantly. We are always proud of Stopsley children.

We are also very proud of our Year 6 children as they prepare to do their SATs next week. They have worked extremely hard all year and shown great determination and resilience. We hope every child does the very best they can but most importantly, we want them to remember just how fantastic they already are. SATs are only one small part of who they are and we are proud of each and every one of them. A reminder to Year 6 families that it is especially important for children to arrive at school on time next week. We will once again be holding our special SATs breakfast each morning from 8:15am in the Key Stage 2 hall, giving children a calm and positive start to the day with their friends and staff before the tests begin.

Emails have been sent this week to parents in Hedgehogs (Nursery) and Curie class (Y5) regarding upcoming staffing changes. Please do make sure you've seen these communications and contact one of us if you have any questions.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Mr Fordham  
Headteacher

KEY DATES FOR SUMMER TERM			
Monday 11th May - Thursday 14th May	SATs week	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> June Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June	PTA Father's Day pop up shop
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Mental Health Awareness week	Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Choir - Singing Spectacular at SBC
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Bowling reward trip for Sharman class	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Year 2 Whipsnade Zoo trip
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 5 music performance 2.15pm - 3.15pm	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	Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Sports Day Nursery Morning session 9.00am-10.30am Afternoon session 12.30pm-2.00pm
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Back to school	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 production of Aladdin 2.00pm - 3.30pm and 6.00pm - 7.30pm
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Sports day Year R - Year 6 9.00am-10.30am - KS1 10.45am-12.15pm - LKS2 12.45am-1.45pm - Reception 2.00pm-3.30pm - UKS2	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 fun day Reception leavers' assembly
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Gulliver's Land trip	Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Open evening 3.45pm - 5.00pm
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> June Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2 Stopsley fire brigade visit	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> July	Rock Steady summer concert PTA summer disco
Tuesday 16 <sup>th</sup> June	Celebrating cultures and diversity day	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 6 leavers' assembly 10am - 11.00am Last day of term



## ATTENDANCE MATTERS



WELL DONE TO OUR CLASS ATTENDANCE WINNERS THIS WEEK!

KS1: Badgers 99.6%

PRIZE: A day of using the dressing up clothes in class (please note, this is not a non-uniform day)

KS2: Curie 100%

PRIZE: A seat swap day





# MR GARNER

PREMISES MANAGER

### HOW MANY HATS DO YOU OWN?

Erm, 30 plus hats. I've got summer hats and bucket hats which keep the sun off my head 'cause I've got plenty of hair! And the woolly ones to keep my head warm in the winter time. My wife even moans about them. We've got a rack in the porch and it's just full of my hats. Yeah, I definitely have at least 30 hats, a couple for football too because I'm an avid Luton fan.

### WHAT IS THE WORST THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Unblocking the toilets that you lot block up! \*Everyone laughs\* I won't say what you block it up with, but it's blocked. That's the worst part of the job!

### WHAT IS THE BEST THING ABOUT YOUR JOB?

Educating you lot. I'm 61, I've made mistakes and I try to educate you so you don't make mistakes. You're the ones who are gonna sort the problems out that my generation and generations before me have created. So you've gotta be better than us.

### WHEN YOU WERE YOUNGER WHAT DID YOU WANT TO BE WHEN YOU GREW UP?

I wanted to go into engineering with metal and whatever else, but I didn't necessarily get the qualifications for that, so then I went into building on the building sites.

### WHAT'S YOUR ACTUAL NAME?

My actual name is Kenneth. Kenneth means handsome and the first king of Scotland.

### WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE SUBJECT AT SCHOOL?

Maths. I was very good at maths. And it's always good when you have your own company to learn how to count money.

### WHY DO YOU GROW A BEARD?

Laziness. I'll be perfectly honest. I just trim it every now and again and sometimes I don't trim it at all and if you see me it goes quite big and bushy.

### HOW DID YOU MAKE THE GOLF COURSE?

First of all I got a contractor in to put some 40 tonne of stone down to bring the height up. Then put the fence up and the course down.

### WHY DID YOU WANT TO WORK AT STOPSLEY PRIMARY?

This job came up when I was working in another school which was slightly further away. This is easy as I can walk here.

### DO YOU HAVE ANY PETS?

We have a cat called Raven.

### WHAT WAS YOUR JOB BEFORE THIS ONE?

I worked at another school in the same role but before that I worked at Woburn Safari Park for ten years doing similar things. Security, fixing things and all that.

### WHAT'S BEEN YOUR FUNNIEST EXPERIENCE AT THIS SCHOOL?

Watching Mr. Fordham get hit with sponges. That's always a giggle!

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE COLOUR?

Blue.

### DO YOU PREFER PUZZLES OR LEGO?

Lego. I've got some expensive Lego kits. They're all made up and displayed on shelves. The most expensive one I have is a Mercedes Jeep.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE SANDWICH?

Cheese and onion. Love it everyday. I had one today!

### IF YOU HAD TO LIVE ON A DESERT ISLAND, WHAT LUXURY ITEM WOULD YOU TAKE WITH YOU?

My watches.

### HOW DO YOU HANG TOILET PAPER? UNDER OR OVER?

It's gotta go over, away from the wall. It can't go against the wall, that's just so wrong.

### CAN WE GO INTO THE WORLD WAR BUNKER?

Can you? Erm, no 'cause health and safety would not let you. It's under the playground. The fire brigade come every couple of years and use it as a training thing.

### IF YOU WERE A SUPERHERO, WHAT WOULD YOUR COSTUME BE LIKE AND WHAT WOULD YOUR SUPERHERO NAME BE?

I'm in my superhero costume. It's my uniform for the school. And my superhero name would be 'The Premises Manager'.

### WHAT IS ONE THING YOU DISLIKE?

To be honest, racism. Unfortunately it's always been a big thing because people don't like what people look like and it is one of my bug bears in life.

### WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES OUTSIDE OF WORK?

Hobbies? Just relaxing. I like listening to music. I do puzzles, you know stuff like that. Just relaxing, 'cause I do enough in my working environment. Gardening, I like gardening.

### WHAT MUSIC DO YOU LIKE?

Anything. Music is just for music. Bad rap music, especially from the eighties. Classical, I go to the Royal Albert Hall to listen to the Christmas carols with an orchestra. Any sort of music, if it's good you just sit there and listen to it.

### WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU'RE NOT AT SCHOOL DURING THE DAY?

I go home, I have my lunch. Today I watered all my plants and tidied up my garage. Family life, there's always stuff to do in the house. It never goes away when you're a grown up. Bit of washing. Ironing, I did all the ironing the other day.

### DO YOU LIKE TO READ?

If I read I read autobiographies, about people, about their life. Like Winston Churchill and Jackie Stewart.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ICE CREAM FLAVOUR?

Mint.

### DO YOU GET TIRED FROM UNLOCKING THE SCHOOL SO EARLY?

Nope, I'm used to getting up at 5.30, I've done that since I was 16 when I started working. Up at half 5, used to be on the motorway at 6.15 going into London. I'm just used to it and I get up at that time on the weekends as well.

### HOW MANY STEPS DO YOU DO IN A DAY?

On average I do 22,500 steps a day. Average a month is 347,000 or yearly it's 4,200,000. Which works out I walk 3,378km a year, which is going from John O'Groats to Lands End about three or four times. So walking just up and down the whole of the country.

### WHAT TIME DO YOU GO TO SLEEP?

Half nine I usually go to bed.

### WOULD YOU RATHER BE ABLE TO TURN INVISIBLE OR FLY, AND WHY?

Fly, to see the whole world. There are some fascinating parts of this world.

### IF YOU COULD HAVE ONE WISH, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

World peace. Everybody gets on with everybody. There's too much disagreement about oil and other things. When my time's over it will be about water because water will be a rare commodity.

### DO YOU HAVE ANY CHILDREN?

I do, I have one girl and one boy. My son doesn't like his name, I named him Daniel Kenny Garner which he gets a bit of stick for and the girl's Ellie Marie Garner.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE SPORT AND WHICH TEAM DO YOU SUPPORT?

Football mainly. Luton Town.

### WHAT'S BEEN YOUR FAVOURITE JOB YOU'VE EVER HAD?

I've enjoyed all my jobs. I've left my mark anywhere I've worked. I've built some really big luxury houses. Then I worked at Woburn which was wonderful to work with all the animals and the people there. And then to work in this environment with you lot. All my jobs I've enjoyed.

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE SEASON AND WHY?

Summer. Why? Because I like the sun, I like the warmth. The places I travel to are warm, so.

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

A real good roast dinner. Doesn't matter what the meat is, but a good roast dinner. Or even without the meat. The whole combination of good vegetables, cooked properly, good Yorkshire pudding. Proper gravy - not watery.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ANIMAL?

Lions and tigers. I've stroked them when I worked at the safari park.

### WHY ARE YOU NOT AROUND OFTEN? WHERE DO YOU GO?

I am here every day! Apart from holidays - I have to take my holiday. I come in for the first few hours in the morning and Mr. Day does the main bit of the day and then I come in and do the later part. I'm here till 6pm and I come in at 6.30am.

### WHAT DO YOU EAT FOR BREAKFAST?

I have porridge with a banana.

### WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE MOVIE?

I like all Star Wars. Old westerns, Clint Eastwood, John Wayne.