THE STOPSLEY NEWS

ALL ABOUT STOPSLEY COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY *13th Nov 2026*

IMPORTANT – PLEASE READ

Dear Parents,

I apologise for using the front page of this week's newsletter to share this message and I appreciate that many of our families do not take the approach mentioned.

We pride ourselves on having positive, open and trusting relationships with you all. Good communication between home and school is incredibly important. We definitely want parents to feel that they can approach us with questions, concerns or issues. If something is worrying you, or you feel that something has not been handled well at school, please do come and speak to a member of the school leadership team. A face-to-face conversation is often the best starting point, allowing us to listen, understand the situation and work together towards a positive solution.

With this in mind, I need to take this opportunity to say something about the increasing use of AI (Artificial Intelligence) when writing correspondence to the school. We completely understand that parents may use AI to help organise their thoughts, find the right words or express a concern, and there is nothing wrong with this. However, we would gently encourage parents to think carefully before relying on AI to write messages on their behalf. Over the past months, we have received a few very lengthy emails, which use very formal and legal language. They refer to procedures or threats that are not necessarily relevant or accurate and they have stated that they are a 'formal complaint' – when this hasn't been the parent's actual intention. We have also noticed that some emails are very similar in their wording and structure. It's worth being aware that very lengthy emails do also take a long time for myself or my team to read and unpick and this is time that therefore, can't be spent with children.

Our concern is not that parents may raise an issue – it is that the language used in some AI-generated emails do not match what the parent wants to say. When we phone or meet parents, they are saying that they didn't fully read or edit their AI-generated message and that they did not intend for it to come across in the way it did. Please be assured that you do not need to use formal, legal language to have a concern taken seriously. You do not have to state something is a 'safeguarding issue' for it to be taken seriously. A simple, honest email or, better still, a conversation with a member of the leadership team is just as powerful and helpful for all of us.

If ever needed, our formal complaints policy can be found on our school website but we hope parents will follow the correct procedure and speak or meet with leaders first. Ultimately, we are all working towards the same thing: the very best for the children. We want to maintain a school community where conversations are respectful, relationships are valued and issues can be discussed openly without unnecessary formality or misunderstanding. We have an open door approach and would rather have an honest conversation where we can listen and work things through with you – than exchange lengthy emails. We genuinely value our relationships with you all and we want to keep communication between home and school as positive, constructive and human as possible.

Mr Fordham
Headteacher

STOPSLEY sports





HOUSE AND VICE HOUSE CAPTAINS

On Wednesday, we held our elections for House and Vice House Captains. The candidates had worked hard to prepare speeches, which they confidently presented to their peers before everyone cast their votes.

We're pleased to announce our captains and vice captains are:

Vikings: Emily and Imela

Romans: Aurelia and Ehsanullah

Normans: Cherry and Faysal

Saxons: Alveena and Fabeha

Congratulations to all eight children! We are incredibly proud of you and look forward to seeing you take on your new leadership roles, representing your houses and being wonderful role models for your peers.

Well done to everyone who put themselves forward and took part in the elections!

REMEMBRANCE DAY

On Wednesday, our Year 6 children visited the war memorial to lay a wreath as a mark of respect and remembrance for all those who fought and sacrificed so much for our country.

Back in school, we came together to observe the two-minute silence and took time to talk about the significance of Remembrance Day and why we wear poppies. The children reflected on the importance of remembering those who served and continue to serve in our armed forces.

Our Year 1 children also took part in a range of poppy-themed activities and produced some thoughtful writing about how we can remember and honour those who fought for our freedom.

It was lovely to see the children engaging so thoughtfully with this important occasion and showing their respect and understanding. We will remember them.





PLEASE HELP US MAKE A COSY BUG HOTEL!

The children in Hedgehogs, Rabbits and Squirrels classes are on a mission to give our outdoor bug hotel a makeover! As the colder weather approaches, we would love to create a cosy winter hideaway where our little minibeast friends can shelter and stay safe. The children will be helping to rebuild and refresh the bug hotel, and we would be very grateful for any donations of the following items:

- Pine cones
- Large, flat pebbles
- Small terracotta pots
- Sticks or thin slices of log
- Small amounts of straw or hay
- Bamboo canes
- Pieces of bark



If you are able to donate any of these items, please hand them to Mrs Wiles in Hedgehogs Class (Nursery). Thank you so much for your support. With your help, we can create a wonderful winter home for our bugs and give the children a fantastic opportunity to care for the wildlife in our outdoor area!

PTA NEWS



Our children have been busy creating amazing artwork!

The PTA is organising a Christmas fundraiser with My Child's Art where you'll soon be able to order your child's masterpiece on cards, mugs, placemats, notepads, magnets, and more.

Watch this space for ordering details coming soon!



ATTENDANCE MATTERS

Congratulations to our class attendance award winners this week!

KS1: Donaldson 99.3% Prize: Parachute games

KS2: Curie 98.4% Prize: Non-uniform day on Thursday 19th November

Hitchin Road, Luton LU2 7UG • Tel: 01582 611035
Email: schooloffice@stopsley.primaryluton.co.uk
: Stopsley Community Primary School • : StopsleyPrimary
Website: www.stopsleyprimary.co.uk