Stanley St Andrew's

Church of England Primary School

An intelligent heart acquires knowledge and the ear of the wise seeks knowledge Proverbs 18:15

Welcome back to the start of a new term. We hope that you have had a lovely summer break and spent quality time together with family and friends. The term has started off very well and the children all look very smart ready for learning.

A huge welcome to the following reception children: Lilly, Matilda, Caden, Belle, Charlotte, Rohan, Dylan, Isabel, Rosie, Daisy, Casey, Eve, Millie and Anya. The new Reception children have settled very quickly into school life and are already showing lots of independence.

A welcome to Miss Grayson our new Reception/ year 1 teacher who again, after a very busy summer of sorting out her classroom and a move to Derbyshire, has settled into life at Stanley. Over the summer we have also appointed a new leader for our after school club, Miss Emily Barnes, who will be in charge of our after school provision. We also have a new mid-day supervisor, Sarah, who is working fulltime to help make lunchtime run smoothly.

School Improvement focus

The school focus for this year is increasing outcomes for all children in mathematics. As a school, we are having a big push on mathematics, in particular promoting children's problem solving using a variety of apparatus and pencil and paper methods. Over the next few weeks, there will be additional links to games on the school websites for you to use to support and help with mathematics activities. There are different ways that parents can support by playing number games, or board games, learning times tables and giving children the opportunity to talk through number problems. Active learn homework supports the teaching of mathematics, on a weekly basis, and you can see which aspect is being taught and then provide assistance where necessary.

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Contact Information

It is essential that if your contact details change for example, address or phone numbers that you make Katy aware in the office in order for the text messaging information to be correct and contact can be made in an emergency.

<u>Holidays</u>

There has been lots of information in the press about holidays. Please can I ask that before you book a holiday you check with the office or on the school website for the term time dates.

We strongly believe that children should be in school each day in order to access learning. If a child has one week off school, they potentially can fall behind, as there is no additional time in school to catch up missed lessons. If a holiday is taken within term time and are not due to exceptional circumstances the local authority will issue a fine. Thank you to all parents who sent items in for the harvest festival it was a lovely service and I know that we have contributed to changing the lives of people within Derbyshire.

This service was an opportunity to welcome each reception child into our school family and to acknowledge their transition into school.

It has also become tradition for me to announce the roles of year 6 children at the end of this service; therefore, I am delighted to announce the following:

Head Boy: Isaac

Head Girl: Grace

Deputy Head Boy: Ethan

Deputy Head Girl: Liana

Director of Sport: Neirin

Director of Education: Jacob

Director of Collective Worship: Lola

Director of ICT: Kai

School Administrators: Lily & Charlie

Directors of School Council: Toby & Leah

These children will carry out their roles within school and there is an expectation that they will be good role models and be able to represent school within the local and wider community.

Active Children

Activate will take place on the playground every morning at 8:50 for five minutes. Each child is expected to join in with the activities led by our year 6 leaders.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Kayden's mum and dad who got married over the summer holidays. We wish the family the very best.

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<u>Safeguarding</u>

Thank you to all those parents who are actively encouraging their children to be down on the bottom playground in the morning. Having all the children down on the playground supports our safeguarding procedures, as we can see any strangers or visitors who come on site. Please can all parents support this system.

In addition, please may I remind you that when leaving the school site, it is essential that the gate is closed to keep all children and staff safe.

If your child is going to be absent from school or late arriving, please ring the school office. If your child does not arrive at school and we have not heard from you, we will 'First Day Call', usually before 9:15am. The school office is open for calls from 8:00am.

When collecting your child, it would be really helpful if Robin parents waited around the outdoor play area. Puffin parents need to wait against the fence so that the children can get through. Kingfisher and Eagle parents, (as they are older) if you could wait near the main gate, it would help with the congestion.

<u>Kolkata links</u>

Last January we started our links with a school in Kolkata, it has been very successful and we have regular contact with the school. This year we intend to continue the link and I will be visiting our school in January along with Mrs. Davies. The aim for our visit will be to learn from the India school system and bring that back to enhance our own teaching within school and to support and introduce a different teaching style to our Indian colleagues.

Dum Dum is a very small school set in the slums of Kolkata the children are aged between 4 and 9-years. The school consists of two small classrooms with no electric lighting with a fair sized sandy playground. When I visited last year, the classrooms had very little furniture and the roof was in desperate need of repair. Since working with the Kolkata Diocese, Dum Dum now has tables and chairs and the roof is due to be replaced by a German company. This all bodes well for the children, having a school building that is fit for purpose in order for teaching and learning to take place.

Last year I took out reading books, magnetic letters and toys, this year I feel the school would benefit from footballs, dice, board games, paper, pencils and crayons.

If there are any parents out there who have links with companies who can support the visit through providing items of sponsorship, please see me as soon as possible.

Mrs. Davies and I will also be holding a fundraising event to help support our trip- more information to follow.

All Infant children are entitled to have a meal which is government funded and therefore you do not have to pay for it.

School dinners are £2 and cheques should be made payable to Derbyshire County Council.

<u>Parking</u>

Reminder: We have parking available in the White Hart pub car park we ask that parents park and use the crossing patrol provided for your child's safety. Parking on Station Road outside the church or on the bend is hazardous and we ask you not to put children and other road uses at risk.

Please do not drop children off at the top of the drive, as this is dangerous and could cause an accident.

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Breakfast Club and After School Club

Just a reminder that breakfast club starts at 8am and the children have the opportunity to have toast, a full range of cereal and yoghurt.

Once the children have had breakfast they have a number of activities that they can do, such as: complete homework, use the computers, creative crafts and play games. All children need to be booked in, as I need to ensure there is sufficient staff to cover. Children will have a range of activities on offer which can include completing homework tasks such as; active learn, spellings and reading. The team will provide a range of board games, sporting activities, arts and crafts. The children will be offered a snack and a drink throughout the sessions.

<u>Twitter</u>

Please follow us on Twitter Stanley St Andrew's @StanleyStAndrew for updates.

Easy fundraising App

As a school, we always need funds, why not download the app before you start your Christmas shopping?

Each time you go through the easy fundraising app to make a purchase, our school will receive a donation. It is so easy to sign up to follow the link.

Did you know that whenever you buy anything online - from your weekly shop to your annual holiday - you could be collecting free donations for Stanley St Andrew's Church of England School PTA?

There are over 3,000 shops and sites on board ready to make a donation, including Amazon, John Lewis, Aviva, The Train Line and Sainsbury's – it does not cost you a penny extra!

It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

1. Head to https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stanleypta/ and join for free.

2. Every time you shop online, go to easy fundraising first to find the site you want and start shopping.

3. After you've checked out, that retailer will make a donation to your good cause for no extra cost whatsoever!

There are no catches or hidden charges and Stanley St Andrew's Church of England School PTA will be really grateful for your donations.

Free School meals

Could your child be entitled to free school meals? If you are on the following benefits you will be able to claim meals for your child:

Income support, income based job seekers, child tax credits (with a family income of less than £16,190, but not if you claim 'Working Tax Credits'), national Asylum Seekers Support Employment and Support Allowance or Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit. It is easy to apply at <u>www.derbyshire.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals</u> or ask at the school office for a form. Your request will be dealt with in the strictest confidence.

School receives extra funding for the Children who claim free school meals.

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Dates for your diary October

10th October Warwick Trip 18th October parents evening 3:30-6:00 19th October parents evening 3:30-6:00 20th October last day of term

INSET Day

30th October School closed to children. 31st October children return to school

December

8th December Christmas service in church 9:30 all welcome. 11th December Footprints theatre company in school. 12th December Panto 13th December Infant performance 14th December Junior performance 17th December Christmas service in church 10:30 choir singing. 19th December Party day break up for Christmas.

INSET Day –

2nd January 2018 3rd January 2018 children return to school

SAT's week for Year 6

14th -18th May 2018 this has been confirmed by the DFE. Holidays will not be authorise during this week for Year 6 children.

INSET days for 2017/18

Monday 30th October 2017 Tuesday 2nd of January 2018 Monday 4th June 2018 Friday 20th July 2018

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