



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2016

Federation Headteacher: Ms Mandy Stewart

Deputy Head: Mr Mike Walton

## Message from the Headteacher



Today we bid a fond farewell to two members of the school office staff: Mandy Groves, who has been with us since 2007, and Clare Ives, since 2011. I am sure you will want to join me in thanking them for their many contributions to Stafford and in wishing them both the very best in their future endeavours. We welcome Sarah Child, who has joined us this week and Felicity Wright, who will be joining us after the Easter holiday, as our new Administrative Assistants. Please also note that after the Easter holiday, the school office hours will be from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm.

## World Book Day

World Book Day was a great success! The children all looked wonderful dressed as their favourite book characters. We celebrated the day with a whole school photograph and a book swap event which enabled all children to go home with a new book. We look forward to seeing you at our Book Fair on Thursday 17th March when your child will be able to spend their £1 World Book Day voucher.

Many thanks for all your support.

WORLD  
BOOK  
DAY

3 MARCH 2016



## Book Swap Event



I would like to say a HUGE thank you to Gardner's Books in Eastbourne for donating a large number of books to the school for our book swap event. This meant that every child at Stafford was able to go home with a new book.

Many thanks to Miss Taylor for organising this with Gardner's Books.

*Mrs Ward*

## Swimming

On Monday, 10 year 6 pupils (Alice, Henry, Phoebe, Matthew, Lydia, Sophie, Emily, Amber, Harry and AJ) represented Stafford in the Eastbourne Schools Swimming Gala. They all took part in either an individual or team race and everybody swam really well. Two of the team managed to get to the finals and Henry won his breaststroke race. The group were all a real credit to the school and were very supportive and encouraging to each other. Thank you to all the parents who supported with transport or stayed to cheer the children on at the event. Thank you also to Mr Smith for his help on the day. *Mrs Lloyd*



## Hockey

On Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> February, two mixed teams of Year 5 and 6 pupils travelled to Eastbourne Hockey Club to take part in the South Downs Area Quick Sticks Hockey Festival.

It was the first time that almost all of the players had played in a match against another school and most of the opposing teams had been together for much longer than our pupils.

Although the matches were only ten minutes each, the pace was fast, as they were only allowed four players on the pitch at any one time. There were plenty of saves made and goals were scored but unfortunately, neither team made it through to the quarter finals.

Having said that, the children were a credit to the school; they supported each other, made sure that everyone was included and organised who was playing in each match themselves. They even cheered along both teams in the final.

They showed that they understood the aim of the festival which was to get schools together and have fun!

I am pleased to say that we have also returned to school with invitations from other schools who would like to meet and play hockey with our pupils again.

Many thanks to Mr Smith for taking us in the minibus, for Mr Porrell for helping to sort out the teams and a special 'thank you' for the parents who were able to come along and watch us play.

*Mrs Porrell*



## Sport Relief

On Friday 18th March, Stafford will be going 'all out' to support Sport Relief. This charity event supports many valid charities: half of the money raised by the public for Sport Relief is spent in the UK; the other half is spent in the world's poorest communities.

On the day, your child can come to school dressed as a sportsman / woman of their choice in exchange of a minimum donation of £1. Many of the classes will also run an extra 'Stafford Mile' that day so if you would like to donate more than £1, please do. There are many other events running around the area. For further information, please see <http://www.sportrelief.com/>



## Year 6 Residential Trip

Please could we remind you to pay the next instalment for your child's trip on parent pay with the full balance due by Friday 29th April 2016.

## Learning Outside the Classroom – Stafford’s Secret Learning Garden

We are thrilled to be able to share with you our exciting new project to enable the children to learn outside of the classroom and develop our currently underused outside space. Mr. Walton has developed this project in conjunction with So Sussex, an innovative family run company based in the heart of the Sussex countryside who offer outdoor activities, events, challenges and festivals.

On Monday, in assembly, we shared with the children our ambitious plans and established planning groups with representatives from every class who will create final designs for their individual projects. Work will begin early next term when Year 4 will build reading pods out of willow. Year 3 will then take the reigns to construct a greenhouse made out of recycled 2 litre drinks bottles! For which we need approximately 1500 bottles! We are quarter of the way there so please keep collecting. Year 5 and 6 will then join forces to create a stunning geometric dome.

It is our aim to fully redevelop our garden so that the children can grow and cook their own food, engage in learning activities outside of the classroom and relax and enjoy the great outdoors! All classes will spend time working on the project as well as participating in other activities led by So Sussex. Running alongside the class activities, Mr. Walton will also be running an after school club called ‘Eco Warriors’ to support all of the projects. Please refer to the Terms 5 and 6 clubs letter coming home soon.

If you would like to get involved in our project please speak to Mr. Walton who will be delighted to hear from you.



Have a lovely weekend see you all on Monday.

# SHARING SUCCESS

## Reading Raffle Winners

As part of our drive to promote a love of reading, we have launched a reading raffle for all pupils who read at least five times a week at home and have their reading record book signed off by an adult. One winner is then chosen from each year group and they get to choose a book, from a range of popular titles, as a reward.

This week's winners were:

Edward in 3 Rowan, Poppy in 4 Larch, Caitlin in 5 Alder, Emily in 6 Cedar.



## Attendance Challenge

The class with the best attendance for last week was 3 Elm with 100% - well done!



## This Week's Stafford Stars

★ Year 3 ★	★ Year 4 ★	★ Year 5 ★	★ Year 6 ★
3 Birch – Finnley	4 Ash – Grace	5 Acacia – Akim	6 Cedar – Kaitlyn
3 Elm – Lara	4 Chestnut – Luke	5 Alder – Alex	6 Maple – Buster
3 Poplar – Soraia	4 Larch – Harley	5 Beech – Rosey	6 Oak – Taylor
3 Rowan – Jamie		5 Sycamore – Harvey	

# DIARY DATES

## Diary Dates

Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March – Book Fair / Reading Breakfast 7:45 – 8:30 am

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – Sports Relief Day

Friday 18<sup>th</sup> March – PTFA Bingo Night

Monday 21<sup>st</sup> March – Year 5 Herstmonceux Science Centre Trip

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Last day of Term 4**

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April – Start of Term 5**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> / Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April – Year 4 Secret Learning Garden

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April – Year 4 Fishbourne Palace Trip

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> / Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> April – Year 3 Secret Learning Garden

