

# WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

BE KIND | BE SAFE | BE YOUR BEST SELF



WE 17.7.2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another busy week across school with plenty going on and it was good to have Chris Wheatley (CEO of Flying High Partnership) in on Tuesday afternoon to talk through our continued **school improvement journey** as we reach the end of this academic year. We are very grateful that through the Flying High Partnership; the school will have quite a bit of building work going on through the summer holidays—especially in lower school with **the development of a new EYFS outdoor area** and **decoration in the Lower hall and classrooms**. This is fantastic news and will have a huge impact on the learning environment which we provide for children. We waved off many of Year 6 on Wednesday who are having an amazing time in London. Thanks to all the staff team who have supported the trip: we are sure they and children will be shattered when they return today!



We also had meetings this week to finalise a personalised **Stanhope Reading Diary** which will be shared with children and parents in September. You may know that it is the **National Year of Reading** across the country. The mission of this campaign is to tackle the decline in reading for pleasure across all age groups and reconnect people with reading as a rewarding and culturally relevant activity. Miss Martin and Miss McIver are working hard to review our **school library provision** and this will be re-launched when we return to school.



Many thanks this week to Miss Vernon who led a second **Parent One Life Workshop** this week. This is a unique programme supporting children at Stanhope in their personal development and again, we will develop this further in the next academic year. Thanks for your continued support in these last few weeks of heat and tiredness: just another week before a well deserved Summer break for all!

Best Wishes, Mrs Bridges.

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Keyworth Road | Gedling | Nottingham | NG4 4JD

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**Thank you** to all parents who attended our **Curriculum Open Afternoon on Wednesday!** It was fantastic to see so many of you there and offer parents and family the chance to see some of the great outcomes from your child's Summer Term Enquiry learning.



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**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

## ATTENDANCE UPDATE:

As a school we will continue to focus on exceptional attendance as this is essential for children to make the best progress. As a whole school, we have a target for the year of **97%**.

| Class                | This Week | This Year |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Reception (Acorns)   | 96%       | 94%       |
| Year 1 (Elm)         | 96%       | 96%       |
| Year 2 (Chestnut)    | 94%       | 96%       |
| Year 3 and 4 (Pine)  | 97%       | 97%       |
| Year 3 and 4 (Maple) | 97%       | 96%       |
| Year 3 and 4 (Cedar) | 97%       | 96%       |
| Year 5 (Willow)      | 100%      | 96%       |
| Year 5 (Sycamore)    | 91%       | 94%       |
| Year 6 (Hazel)       | 97%       | 95%       |
| Year 6 (Oak)         | 88%       | 92%       |

|                                                |       |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|
| At and Above School Attendance Target          | 97% + |
| Below Target and Attendance causing concern    | 95% - |
| Serious Attendance Concern: Persistent Absence | 90%-  |
| Whole School Target                            | 97%   |
| Actual Whole School Weekly Attendance          | 95%   |

## Music at Stanhope:

Part of our improvement journey is ensuring that there are opportunities for all children to have access to an enriching curriculum. We have Rocksteady at Stanhope which some children attend on a paid for basis. Within parent feedback, some parents expressed they would like to see an offer which supports all children access a musical instrument and we agree. We will from September be working alongside **Inspire Music** who will send in a specialist Music Teacher to support our music curriculum in KS2. They will teach different year groups throughout the year and children will access the **ukelele instrument and djembe drums**. We look forward to this provision starting!



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## KEY DATES:

|                     |                                                                                                                         |                         |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Monday 20th July    | Reports out to parents (including any statutory assmt results and attendance)                                           |                         |
| Tuesday 21st July   | Nursery Sports Event (9-10am)                                                                                           | Nursery                 |
| Wednesday 22nd July | Current Reception children "Graduation" @ 2pm                                                                           | Reception in Lower Hall |
| Wednesday 22nd July | Year 6 Leavers Disco 5:00—6:30pm                                                                                        | Year 6                  |
| Friday 24th July    | Year 6 Leavers Assembly at 9:30am (Upper Hall)<br><b>Y6 chn</b> are then able to leave (approx. 11am from the assembly) | Year 6                  |

[2026—2027 Holiday and term dates can be found here.](#) Please do note that we are seeing an increase of children being absent during the Summer term with time taken for holidays. We have no choice but to carry out fines for unauthorised holidays taken during term time.

## Welcome back Miss Ashworth!

Miss Ashworth has returned this week to Stanhope following her maternity leave. She is supporting across Year 6 in these next two weeks and will then from September be based in Year 4 Wed to Fri. It is great to have her back!



## Free School Meal (FSM) Eligibility:

From the start of the 2026 to 2027 academic year, all children from households in receipt of Universal Credit attending these schools will be entitled to receive a free meal. The Government have made this a legal requirement through the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026. Going forward, there will be 2 categories of benefits-based free school meals:

**Targeted FSM**, which continues to be based on the existing threshold, covering pupils who are in households in receipt of Universal Credit with annual household earnings of £7,400 or less

**Expanded FSM**, a new category covering pupils who do not qualify for targeted FSM, but who are in households receiving Universal Credit

**Going forward FSM eligibility will be monitored by schools and local authorities on an ongoing basis, through annual rechecks.** Rechecks should confirm that pupils in receipt of FSM continue to meet the eligibility criteria set out in this guidance, and the category of eligibility they fall under (either targeted or expanded). **We will be working alongside all parents (and will send further information) to support this re-check which will be live from 1st August 2026.**



## **THANK YOU from FOSS!**

**Wow – what an amazing turnout for our Summer Festival this year!**

- **To our Stanhope community**

*To all our parents, families, friends and children, thank you for your incredible support. Thank you for showing up, donating, and helping to create such a fantastic atmosphere. You really are the best!*

- **To our volunteers**

*Thank you for giving up your time and working so hard in the heat to support our Stanhope community. We couldn't do it without you. You are all amazing!*

- **To our Stanhope staff**

*How lucky we are to have such a dedicated and caring team. Thank you for giving your time to support FOSS and for everything you do to help raise funds for our school. You are all incredible!*

- **To our stall holders**

*Thank you for joining us and bringing such a wonderful variety of stalls. It was fantastic to see so many smiling faces and lots of full tummies throughout the afternoon! (Nottinghamshire Police sent their apologies but were called away on an emergency so couldn't make it).*

- **To our FOSS members**

*Thank you for everything you do, both behind the scenes and on the day. Your dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to raising funds for Stanhope are truly appreciated. We are so grateful for all your hard work at every event.*

*Once again, thank you to everyone who helped make our Summer Festival 2026 such a wonderful day-  
FOSS@stanhope.notts.sch.uk*

