Creating a love of learning for LIFE!
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WE 6.11.2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to welcome children back to school this week and lovely to hear about all the things they had been getting up to over the half term! We have begun this half term reminding ourselves of **The Stanhope Way** and what is special at Stanhope: **our unique outdoors** where we want to develop play and the opportunity to grow and then cook food in our Curriculum Kitchen. We also talked about our **One Life Personal Development programme** and our Curriculum values including how we aim to **"Create a love of learning for LIFE!"** and **"Fuel Ambition"**

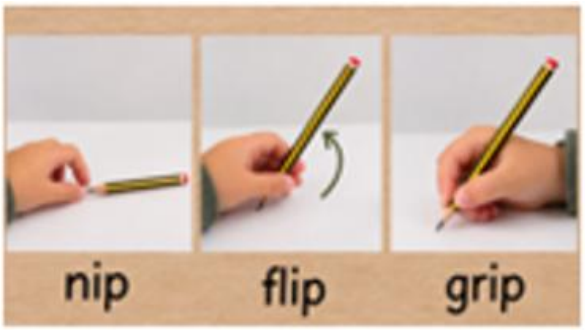
A big thank you for your support on the last day of half term: we raised over £100 for **Just One Tree day** and children across school seemed to enjoy very much the chance to learn more about the environment around us. We also shared an assembly on Monday about Diwali – linking to our British Value of learning more about other faiths and showing **respect and tolerance.**



A big thank you to Y6 pupils supporting the selling of poppies for the RBL. We will discuss the significant of **Remembrance Day** on Monday and we will be holding a 2 minute silence on the 11th so we can reflect with children on how our Armed Forces keep us safe today and remember the sacrifice of men and women in the past to ensure our freedoms. I was really impressed with the poems being written in Year 6 this week about remembrance and a couple of excerpts are included in this weekly news: well done Year 6 showing such maturity during an emotive topic.

<u>Practising our handwriting and Tripod Grip:</u>

You may have spoken to your child's class teacher at Parents Evening about our approach since September to handwriting. We are using the Nelson scheme. Alongside this, we are focusing on the correct "Ready to Write" position and "tripod grip!"



As a school, we are ensuring we have the best tripod grip using the patter of "nip, flip, grip." This supports our children gain automaticity when writing and develop their transcriptional fluency.

I hope you have a great weekend and we will look forward to welcoming children back into school on Monday for another busy week of learning! Best Wishes, Mrs Bridges.

MOMENTS MATTER, ATTENDANCE COUNTS.

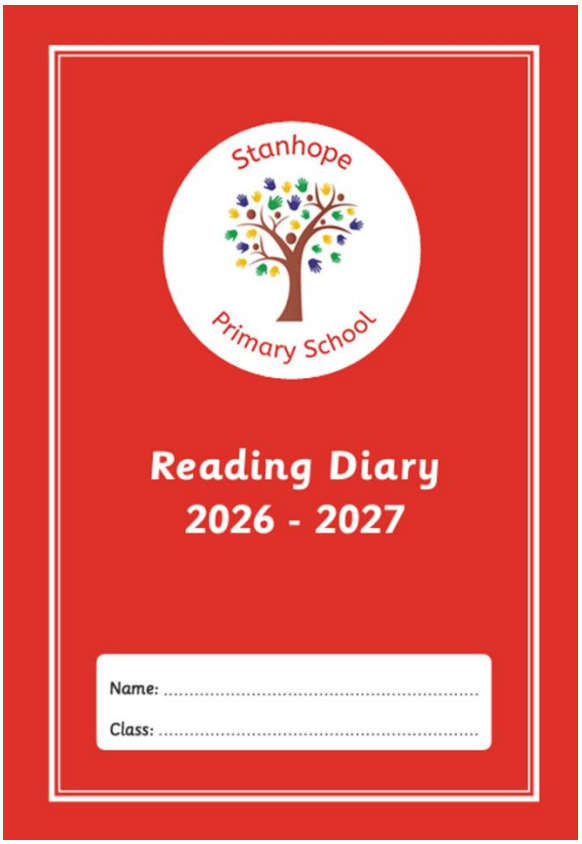
As a school we will continue to focus on exceptional attendance as this is essential for children to make the best progress. As a whole school, we have a target for the year of **97%**.

Class	This Week:	This Year:
Reception (Acorns)	**96.9%**	**97.5%**
Year 1 (Elm)	**90.7%**	**94.7%**
Year 2 (Chestnut)	**84.0%**	**93.1%**
Year 3 (Maple)	**93.7%**	**94.7%**
Year 4 (Cedar)	**97.7%**	**95.6%**
Year 5 (Willow)	**90.9%**	**96.5%**
Year 5 (Sycamore)	**95.9%**	**95.8%**
Year 6 (Oak)	**96.9%**	**94.9%**
Year 6 (Hazel)	**91.2%**	**94.1%**

At and Above School Attendance Target	97% +
Below Target and Attendance causing	Below 95% -
Serious Attendance Concern: Persistent Absence	90%-

Whole School Target:	**97%**
Whole School Week Attendance	**93.27%**

2026—2027 Holiday and term dates can be found here. Please do note that we have no choice but to carry out fines for unauthorised holidays taken during term time.



Reading Diaries:

Our Reading diaries have been recently introduced (September 2026). Reading is an essential life skill and research shows it is pivotal in securing children's success and happiness in later life.

This week, leaders have completed monitoring around how consistently these are being filled in and we will work with children to support them know exactly what our expectations are.

We aim that **children read and sign their Reading Diary at least x4 a week.** Children in Y2 and upwards are welcome to sign their own diary and get parents to sign at the end of each week.

Children are expected to bring their Reading diary in every day as there are many scaffolds (e.g. 100 square / sound mat / x tables) we use in here throughout the day.

Key Dates:

Tuesday 10.11.2026	SEND and Gedling Family Hub Coffee Parent Coffee Morning 9—10. All are invited!	
Thurs 12.11.2026	Nursery (F1 PM) and Reception (F2) to Gedling Library 1:30—3:00pm	F1 and F2
WB 16.11.2026	Anti-Bullying Week "Break the Silence"	Whole School
Tuesday 17th November	Y5 Viking Workshop (children)	Year 5
Thurs 19th November	Y1 Trip to Gedling Library	Year 1
Friday 20th November	Children in Need & Visit from MP Michael Payne	Whole School
Monday 23rd November	INSET (School closed to all children)	
Wednesday 25th November	Year 4 Roman Workshop Day	Year 4
Thursday 26th November	Individual and Sibling Photographs (Wrates)	Whole School
Thursday 26th November	Y2 Trip to Gedling Library	Year 2
Saturday 28th November	NYO Concert (opportunity for 18 children to attend)	Allocated Y5/6 chn
Monday 30th November	Y6 Trip to Holocaust Centre	Year 6
Wednesday 2nd December	Y3 Trip to Cresswell Craggs	Year 3
Wednesday 2nd December	Y4 Partnership Afternoon (2:15pm)	Year 4
Wednesday 9th December	Reception & Nursery Nativity @ 2:30pm	F1 and F2
Wednesday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Dinner	Whole School
Wednesday 16th December	KS1 (Y1 and Y2) Christmas Concert @ 9:00 and 2:30	Year 1 & 2
Thursday 17th December	Y5 Ukelele Concert (2:15pm) & KS2 Flashmob (3:00pm)	Year 5 and KS2 chn
Friday 18th December	Rocksteady Concert (9:00am) Lower School Hall	Rocksteady Chn perform

Pudsey – Children in Need Day – Friday 20th November:

We will be celebrating **Children in Need** day on **Friday 20th November with a "Pudsey Run."** Each class will run around a route of our school site guided by Pudsey faces as they go. Children are welcome to wear non uniform on this day and bring in a donation. The suggested donation is £1. Your child can choose to wear a CiN Pudsey outfit or a non uniform outfit suitable for sports. If your child is happier in uniform; that is absolutely fine!



Year 6 Remembrance Poems: WE 6.11.2026



Why are there flowers everywhere?

There are poppies everywhere because they are a sign of remembrance for the soldiers who fight.

But why did they not come back?

They tried to come back day and night.

But why are the poppies red not pink?

The colour red is for the soldiers who died and the boats which did sink.

Jack S

Why do we try to remember people that are gone?

It shows respect.

Why do remember those who fight?

It shows respect for those who fought day and night.

Those who were injured and scarred for life, had been taken by the enemy's knife.

Why do we remember those who fight?

With the poppies red and bright.

Fields stained with crimson blood. Scattered bodies lie tranquil across the mud.

Roman

Why so many poppies daddy – why so many?

Its remembrance week my child.

So why poppies and not beautiful tulips?

Soldiers fought on the land where the poppies grew.

Why do red daddy, why so red?

It's the blood that our soldiers bled.

Doing what daddy, doing what?

Fighting in WW2 on the dangerous battlefield.

Oscar