

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

BE KIND | BE SAFE | BE YOUR BEST SELF



Dear Parents and Carers,

Despite some unpredictable weather and heating issues to start the week, I have very much enjoyed joining Stanhope as Headteacher: getting to know children, staff and parents. We started the week on Monday with an assembly where I introduced myself to the children and where we revisited what is important at Stanhope where our ethos is to create a **“love of learning for life!”** led by the values of **Be Kind: Be Safe: Be your Best Self!** Throughout the week staff have talked to children about our expectations of **Fantastic Walking** and **Fantastic Listening** and children have enjoyed returning to regular routines at the start of the day following the **One Life** personal development programme.

I will very much look forward to getting to know children at Stanhope as we move through the term and they have been testing me on my knowledge of names! We started on Thursday a weekly Tea Party to which **Stanhope Stars** are invited which gives me an opportunity to talk to every child throughout the term about what subjects they are enjoying at school; their favourite books and their ambitions and aspirations for the future. I will also enjoy getting to know parents and aim to be present outside at the start and end of each school day.



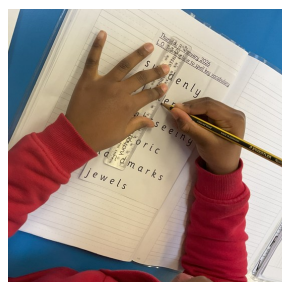
Thank you this week for your support coming into school from 8:40am. Gates are open between 8:40 and 8:50 with registration taking place at 8:45am. We very much appreciate you getting your children to school on time as this lessens disruption to learning. I have really enjoyed getting into classrooms this week: from Nursery to Year 6 and seeing what new **Enquiry** questions (based this term on Geography) are being reflected on and I look forward to working on the curriculum and approaches to teaching and learning with the staff team.

I hope you have a great weekend and thank you for being such a welcoming community in this first week!

Mrs Bridges



Year 5 PE



Year 1 Phonics



Reading Interventions



Year 5 Enquiry

Creating a “love of learning for LIFE!”

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Flying High Partnership

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%**. Each week, we will share class attendance during our Stanhope Stars assembly and when a class reaches 9 weeks of achieving 97% attendance, they will be rewarded.

Class	This Week	This Year
Reception (Acorns)	91%	94%
Year 1 (Elm)	99%	97%
Year 2 (Chestnut)	97%	95%
Year 3 and 4 (Pine)	93%	98%
Year 3 and 4 (Maple)	99%	97%
Year 3 and 4 (Cedar)	94%	99%
Year 5 (Willow)	96%	98%
Year 5 (Sycamore)	92%	95%
Year 6 (Hazel)	97%	95%
Year 6 (Oak)	94%	95%

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%

Pupil Leadership Programme: Year 6

In the Autumn Term, all children in Year 6 were allocated a leadership role:

Sports Leaders	Reading Ambassadors	Digital Directors	Eco Warriors
Wellbeing Champions	Community Leaders	Kindness Mentors	Reception Buddies



The programme is intended that pupils have the opportunity to take on real responsibilities and develop their leadership skills. It was great to have Kevin and Leighton help run tea party this week as part of their Community Leader role and we will be establishing these roles further throughout the Spring term.

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KEY DATES:

Monday 12 th January 2026	Young Voices Concert (Thank you to staff and volunteers supporting this event!)	Young Voice Children  YOUNG VOICES
Thursday 22 nd January 2026	Stanhope Partnership Afternoon – 1.30pm (Arts and Crafts)	Year 6
Friday 13 th February 2026	Valentines Disco – FOSS	Whole School
Monday 16 th February – Friday 20 th February 2026	Half Term	Whole School including Nursery
Monday 23 rd February 2026	INSET DAY	Whole School including Nursery
Tuesday 24th February 2026	Return to School	Whole School including Nursery
Thursday 5 th March 2026	World Book Day 	Whole School including Nursery
Thursday 12 th March 2026	Stanhope Partnership Afternoon – 1.30pm (Arts and Crafts)	Year 3 & 4
Tuesday 24 th March 2026	Parent and Carer Consultations	Whole School including Nursery
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	Parents and Carer Consultations	Whole School including Nursery
Monday 30 th March 2026 – Friday 10 th April	Easter Holidays	Whole School including Nursery

[2025-26 Term Dates](#)

Designated Safeguarding Leads at Stanhope Primary School:



Nicky Bridges
(Headteacher)



Amy Messom
(Deputy Headteacher)



Robyn Vernon
(Mental Health Lead)



Natalie Wright
(SENDCO)



Toni Vernon
(Attendance & Pastoral Lead)