



Nursery

This half term we have been looking at Winter Festivals. Children have learnt about Bonfire Night, Diwali and Christmas. They have engaged in a variety of activities over the past few weeks from making firework biscuits, Christmas Cards and creating their own Rangoli Pattern. When we return in January our topic will be Spring. I want to wish all the children a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year!



Reception

Reception have worked very hard this half term. The topics we have looked at are 'Winter' and 'Christmas.' The children have been looking at the changes in the weather and enjoyed a local walk to see if we could spot any of these changes. The books we have explored are 'Goldilocks and the 3 bears' and 'We're going on a Bear Hunt'. We have done lots of writing about these stories and have spent time discussing our own teddy bears and why they are important to us. The children have also enjoyed making their own porridge and writing about this too.

In Maths, we have been looking at time, partitioning numbers, comparing lengths and measuring. The children have also produced a variety of topic themed creative activities both indoors and during outdoor learning. They have also enjoyed a trip to the local church and have been busy creating their own Christmas cards, tree decorations and calendars for the new year! Well done, Reception. Have a wonderful Christmas and a happy New Year.



Year 1

This half term Year 1's topic was called 'Through the Key Hole'. They started off with a topic day where the children all dressed up as a character from a fairy tale, which led to some character description writing in our English lessons.

To end the topic Year 1 went on a trip to Wonderland, where they got to see some of the fairy tale characters houses and even got to meet Mr and Mrs Claus. Year 1 have had a busy half term, with the Christmas nativity and a KS1 Santa sports event added in.

You have all worked incredibly hard this half term, well done Year 1! Enjoy the Christmas Holidays!



Year 2

The children have really enjoyed exploring their new topic learning all about Wonderful Weather! We looked at different weather patterns around the world and how they compared to the weather with how we live! We really enjoyed making fantastic lead patterns outside in our Outdoor Learning sessions. The children enjoyed a super trip to a local Pumpkin Patch to kick off our topic, researching and discovering how pumpkins grew and what kind of weather helps our local farms. The children have also been super active in their maths lessons, taking a lot of their learning outside. Have a great Christmas break everyone! Mrs Westwood, Mr Vaughan and Mrs Fisher.



Year 3

This half-term the children have been learning all about mountains, exploring how they are formed and how volcanoes affect local inhabitants. In DT students developed their sewing skills to create their very own cushions. Their creations turned out very well and the children were all proud of their cushions. In guided reading we have read *The Abominables* by Eva Ibbotson which brought the Himalayan Mountain range to life and the children worked on their comprehension skills chapter by chapter. In English we have been writing in a range of styles including formal letters, character descriptions, and poetry.



Year 4/5

Our exploration of world food has been a delightful feast for the senses! Students have not only enjoyed delicious treats but also learned about the diverse cultures that contribute to the rich variety of global cuisine. Designing our own biscuits have been a highlight, fostering an appreciation for different flavours and design processes.

In Science we've been uncovering the secrets behind the movement with our exploration of forces. From gravity's gentle pull to the effects of friction, we have been conducting hands-on experiments and making discoveries. We've witnessed the laws of physics in action and marvelled at the forces that shape our everyday experiences.

In PE we've been keeping our bodies active and healthy through a combination of fitness activities and the exhilarating sport of tag rugby. From mastering fundamental fitness skills to learning teamwork and strategy in tag rugby to engaging in the importance of an active lifestyle. It's been a joy to see everyone enthusiastically participating and growing both physically and socially.

Our exploration into the connection between colour and music has been a symphony of creativity and imagination. Students have delved into the world of synaesthesia, expressing themselves through colourful interpretations of musical compositions. As we wrap up these learning experiences, we look forward to the upcoming adventures and discoveries that await us in the new year.

Thank you for your continued support and involvement in our learning journey



Year 5/6

What a great term Y5/6 have had with this topic. We have been learning all about our local history and learnt that the school was originally built in 1896. The children are contributing to the historical re-opening of the bell tower. Lacey Walden (year 6) was the first child to ring the bell since 1958. The children have also enjoyed the 'Come Dine with Me' topic in which they have been cooking up a storm.



Fundraising

A huge thankyou to all pupils and children who helped raise for various charities this term.

Hope House Children's Hospice- £253

Children In Need- £311

Poppy Appeal- £175.53



Diary Dates

Friday 22nd December 2023– Monday 8th January 2024– **Christmas Holiday**

Tuesday 9th January 2024– **Return to school**

Tuesday 16th January 2024– **Whole School Topic Day (check Tapestry for details regarding your child's topic).**

Outstanding Arrears

We have a number of outstanding arrears that still remain unpaid. Please can we encourage parents to log in to their school money accounts to check and make a payment.

Please note that your child will have to bring a packed lunch if you owe over a week's worth of dinners.

Please contact the office if you need to set up a payment plan.

A huge thankyou for Elliot Smith's nan, Wendy who has provided every child with some homemade 'Reindeer' food to place outside on Christmas Eve.



Attendance

The Education Welfare Officer (EWO) checks our registers regularly. We understand that some childhood illness' cannot be helped, however we expect all children to attend school and be on time.

Please inform the office of any illness that requires your child to have time off school.

Please make sure all contact information is up to date and your child has **at least** 2 emergency contacts on file.

Parent Support over the Christmas Break

To report a safeguarding concern by phone ring Shropshire [First Point of Contact team](#) on **0345 678 9021** Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, and Friday 9am to 4pm.

If you have urgent adult safeguarding concerns outside of these hours, please phone the [Emergency Social Work Duty Team](#) on 0345 678 9040.

[Parenting Helpline](#) 01743 250950 Tuesdays and Thursdays 9am to 12.30pm.

[Family Information Service](#) 01743254400

[Ludlow Food Bank](#) 07896706189

[Craven Arms Food Bank](#) Market Street Craven Arms open Tuesday mornings

[Shropshire Domestic Abuse Service](#) 03003031191

[Mental Health Crisis Team](#) 01743368647

[Craven Arms Library](#) The Library are putting on some free sessions during the holiday Booking is essential

[Discovery Centre HAF](#) (Holiday activities and Food) There are free places available on the programme for children and young people aged 4 to 16, who are eligible for benefits-related free school meals and lots more fun activities, happening across the county. Free nutritious meals will be provided at each session. View the "Whats on" guide to find out what activities are available www.shropshire.gov.uk/haf or visit the Discovery Centre.

Enjoy the Break, see you in January 2024.

Sue Austin

Pastoral Support Manager



Family Learning Shropshire in partnership with Stokesay Primary School invite you to...

Make a Story Sack

A FREE six week Family Learning course for Reception and Year 1 parents and carers

A free practical course making a story sack containing puppets, games and activities to match your child's favourite storybook.

Support your child with their reading and enjoy reading books together.

**Starts Thursday 18th January
9.15 - 11.15am
at Stokesay Primary School**

Please bring your child's favourite story book to the first session



What do I need to bring?
Please bring one of your child's favourite books to the first session, all other resources and materials are provided.

What are the entry requirements?
None

What can I do next?
At the end of the course, our tutor will let you know about other family learning courses that we have on offer.

Your child will join you for the second part of the session to work on a range of fun activities together!

Please note spaces are limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis. Unfortunately, we are unable to accommodate younger siblings as our courses are for school age children only.

Interested?

We are very fortunate to have family learning tutors support us at Stokesay Primary School. We are asking our Reception and Year 1 parents to support us during the next term. We are flexible if you cannot commit to all 6 sessions but ask if you sign up that Katheryn Griffiths is notified of any absence (number given on the first session).

To sign up please contact admin@stokesayprimary.co.uk or inform your child's teacher.