



# Stamford Green Primary School



5 March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

## Reception Weekly Information – w/b 5.3.18

### Upcoming Dates

- **8.3.18** and **12.3.18** Parents' Evening – please remember to sign up online

### Have you remembered?

- Have you contributed for our Zoolab Visit? (6.3.18)
- Have you returned your 'All About Me and School' sheet? (Due Monday 5.3.18)
- Warm coat, hat and gloves every day.

**Show and Tell on Thursday:** Black group

We continue thinking about superheroes this week, but now we will be thinking about real life ones. We will be talking about the important jobs people do, and what 'powers' they need to do them – linking these to our school values. As part of our discussions we will be thinking about looking after animals with a visit from Zoolab on Tuesday and a talk from Cats Protection on Wednesday.

The snowy weather at the end of last week meant that our Superhero Day, which involves lots of outdoor activities, had to be postponed until this week. Our capes are all ready for us to leap into action at a moment's notice!

In phonics this week we will be moving on to Phase 4 which looks at consonant blends. To begin with we will think about blends at the start of words (initial blends) e.g. **plan**, **trap**, **slip** etc. During reading time we will be assessing each child's phonics progress so far – finding out which sounds they confidently know, and how well they can blend them to read words. We will make a note of the sounds they still need to work on in the reading section of your child's Learning Journal. We have been so impressed with how well all the children are doing in their phonics groups – these assessments will help us as we plan for the next few weeks of sessions.

During maths lessons we will continue exploring the concept of subtraction using practical resources and pictures to solve word problems. We will be using the different words that mean 'subtract' such as 'take away' and 'minus' as well as the correct mathematical term, which is 'subtract'. We will also be thinking about 'one more' and 'one less' by trying to learn these off by heart for the numbers up to 12.

Show and Tell will be for the **black** group across all classes on **Thursday 8 March**. As always with Show and Tell, please ensure that your child's item only comes into school on the day of their turn, is clearly name-labelled and is nothing too precious or expensive.

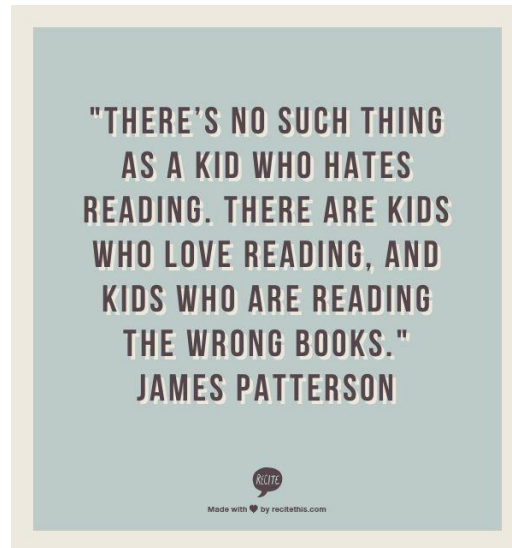
We are looking forward to sharing your child's progress with you at Parents' Evenings this week and next. Your child's **books** will be out in their classroom for you to look at – it is worth doing this before your appointment if possible. Don't forget to write a **positive comment** on the sticker on the front page of their Discovery Folder – quite a few children had blank stickers last time! We endeavor to keep to time during the evening and we may ask to make a further appointment if discussion

overruns the ten minute slot. Please help us to keep to time by making sure you are in the hall a minute or two before your appointment. Our classrooms are quite a walk from the hall!!

Have a lovely week!

The Reception Team

Mrs Vidal, Miss Verlander and Miss Wright



## Messages from the Office

### YR Zoolab visit to school – Tuesday 6 March

If you would like your child to participate in this activity, you will need to log into Tucasi and go to the trip section, tick the permission box and pay the voluntary contribution of £3.54 as soon as possible, as the deadline has now passed.

### Parents' Evening reminder

Please can we remind parents not to bring their children to school on Parents' Evening. With nearly 600 pupils in the school we do not have the space to accommodate children who are waiting whilst their parents meet their teacher. We have received feedback from parents that the hall was too busy last time, as children were sitting on the blue chairs, that were meant for adults so people couldn't get into the hall. In addition to this, we have had issues with unsupervised children in classrooms and corridors so would appreciate your co-operation with not bringing your children to school on Parents' Evening. We would encourage parents to help each other out with reciprocal arrangements for child care.

### Jury Service

Mrs Druce has been called for Jury Service so will not be in school for two weeks, from next Monday. Miss Swann and Mrs Dray will be ensuring it is learning as usual and hoping it doesn't snow!

### STEM Week

This week is STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Week at school. If you would like to take part at home, you could try out the experiment below. Mr Loughlin would love to see how your experiments go - if you are on Twitter, please send a tweet to @StamfordGreen, including a photo if you can. Children in Years 2 - 6 may use this experiment as their homework task to be handed in on 13.3.18. Your child(ren) should still write an entry in their homework book, making it clear they completed the STEM homework task.

You will need:

- About two teaspoons of baker's yeast
- One half-litre clear plastic bottle
- Two teaspoons of sugar
- Some warm water
- One balloon

What you do:

1. Pour some warm water into the bottle – about 2 cm deep.
2. Add the yeast and give it a little swirl to help the yeast dissolve.
3. Add the sugar and give it another swirl.
4. Place the opening of the balloon over the top of the bottle.
5. Put the bottle–balloon contraption in a warm place for about half an hour – by a radiator would be good.
6. Watch what happens. What do you observe? Why do you think it is happening?

You could try:

See what happens if you change one or more of the variables. For example: use more yeast, use honey instead of sugar, leave the bottle in a cool place or use cold water instead of warm.

### **STEM Week – Newspapers!**

All the children this week, will be taking part in an activity involving newspapers. Please could you send your child in with a newspaper and give it your child's class teacher by Thursday. Thank you for your help.

### **Childcare vouchers close to new entrants soon**

The government has announced that the childcare voucher scheme will close to new entrants on 6 April 2018. Any working parent who currently uses registered childcare (or plans to use registered childcare in future) needs to sign up to their employer's childcare voucher scheme and receive a voucher by 5 April. If parents don't register on a scheme and receive a voucher by this date, then Tax-Free Childcare (TFC) will be your only option (if you are eligible).

If you don't need childcare vouchers immediately, you can simply register on your employer's scheme today and place an order for the minimum amount. As long as you receive a childcare voucher from your employer in every rolling 12-month period, you'll remain on the scheme.\*

\* Any parent who's already registered for childcare vouchers can carry on ordering them even after April 2018, providing they've received a voucher in the last rolling 12-month period. For example, if they last received a childcare voucher on 25 May 2017 they need to receive their next voucher on or before 25 May 2018 to remain eligible.

### **Coming up soon:**

<b>March</b>		
w/b Monday 5.3.18	-	STEM Week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)
Monday 5.3.18	9.00am – 10.00am	PTA Class Reps coffee morning with Mrs Druce
Tuesday 6.6.18	All morning	YR Zoolab Visit
Wednesday 7.3.18	All day	Astrodome visit at school for Y5 and YN
Thursday 8.3.18	9.30am – 10.20am	School Open morning for prospective Parents/Carers
Thursday 8.3.18	3.30pm – 6.30pm	Parents' Evening
Friday 9.3.18	9.00am – 9.30am	2B's Class Assembly – Entry via the office
Monday 12.3.18	3.30pm – 6.30pm	Parents' Evening
Thursday 15.3.18	All morning	Y6 Visiting the Junior Citizen Event
Thursday 15.3.18	All morning	Y3 Visit to Sikh Gurdwara Temple
Friday 16.3.18	9.00am – 9.30am	2T's Class Assembly – Entry via the office