



Stamford Green

Primary School and Nursery



INSPIRING

Welcome to our School Newsletter - Issue 1 - September 2025

Headteacher's Headlines

Dear Families,

In July, I attended the 'Smartphone Free Childhood – The Hidden Impact of Mobile Phones on Childhood' event at St Martin's School. In the UK, 89% of 12 year olds now own a smartphone and so do a quarter of children aged 5-7. The event brought together different speakers from both primary and secondary schools to share their experiences on smartphone use. In addition, there were speakers from the Lucy Faithfull Foundation who shared valuable insights into the effects of mobile phone use on young children and their mental health. A particularly insightful part of the evening was hearing from young people themselves – talking about their experiences with mobile phones, including some of their regrets about having a smartphone too young.

Recent statistics include:

- The average time UK teens spend on their smartphone is 35 hours a week.
- The average teen gets 237 smartphone notifications a day.
- 23 minutes is the length of time it takes to refocus on a task after interruption.
- Among children aged 8-17 who are bullied, eight in ten experience it through a device.
- Children using smartphones at bedtime have over double the risk of a disrupted night's sleep.

You can find more information about the [Smartphone Free Childhood](#) campaign on their website, including how you can sign the [Parent Pact](#), pledging to delay the use of smartphones and social media for young children. Currently, there are 153, 332 signatures, with Surrey topping the leader board for number of pacts signed.

Currently, there are four primary/junior schools in the Epsom and Ewell area who have become smartphone free schools – this is where the children in Year 6 who may bring a phone into school are not allowed to bring in a smartphone. This helps to discourage the peer pressure of other children having the latest smartphone. At Stamford Green, children in Year 6 only are allowed to bring in their phones to school, however, they must be turned off at the school gates and handed in to their class teacher when they arrive at their classroom. This year, we will be exploring how we can become a smartphone free school from September 2026 and more information will follow throughout the year. Smartphone Free Childhood have recently made a [video resource](#) that explains why delaying a smartphone is best. It is very worth a watch!

Miss Swann



News In Brief

First Aid

If your child needs first aid treatment at school they will be taken to the first aid area in the school office. Guidance from the Department for Education requires us to telephone a parent/carer to inform them when a child in Reception (YR) has received any first aid treatment, however minor. Our policy states that:

'If a child in YR requires first aid, as a result of an accident or injury, the office will telephone a parent / carer as soon as reasonably practicable, and after any first aid treatment. A message will be left if there is no reply giving details of the injury and any first aid.'

Vacancies:

We are recruiting for Teaching Assistants (TAs) and details of the fixed term positions can be found on our [website](#).

Good luck to Mrs Victor, one of our TAs who is leaving at the end of September and thank you for everything,



Thank you for still remembering to follow the preferred route round **Christ Church Mount** and keeping the school to your left!



Instagram

stamford.green



stamford.green Congratulations to our new Y6 Pupil Leaders! Our Head and Deputy Pupils will be involved in various public speaking events in the autumn... more

Post of the week

Looking after our local community

As a school, we work hard to engage with our local community and build positive relationships through initiatives such as the Generations Coffee Morning, the Residents Newsletter and our Community Christmas Cards. We are therefore always very sad when that relationship is damaged by inconsiderate actions.

Since the start of term, we have received messages from neighbours about dangerous driving, inconsiderate parking, damage to fencing and litter. In one particularly sad message, we were informed that a neighbour's cat had been run over in Christ Church Mount by a speeding car.

Please can we take this opportunity to appeal to everyone to keep our children and our community safe by:

- Driving slowly and carefully. The roads around the school are extremely busy at school drop off and pick up times, with lots of children and families crossing the road.
- Not stopping on the zig zag lines outside the school gate. The Highway Code states that yellow zig zag markings outside schools indicate restrictions on waiting, stopping and parking to protect children. Drivers must not park or stop on these markings and violations can result in a penalty charge notice.
- Not dropping children off or turning in the school entrance. There are lots of families crossing the school entrance and vehicles stopping or turning cause an additional hazard.
- Double yellow lines mean no waiting at any time, unless there are signs that specifically indicate seasonal restrictions so please do not park on them.



Please also respect our community by:

- Taking all litter home with you and not dropping litter either inside the school grounds or in the wider community.
- Not climbing on fences – this picture was sent in by a resident of Ethel Bailey Close, Manor Park, after some children were seen climbing on the fence. The residents will have to pay for this to be fixed.
- Parking responsibly – keep driveways and junctions clear and respect road markings.
- Not parking in private roads or reserved parking bays. For example, Ethel Bailey Close (West Gate) is a private road and public parking is not allowed, even in the two 'visitor' bays.



Please help us to keep our children safe and to respect and care for our local neighbourhood, showing our school values both inside and outside of school.

Mrs Lee
School Business Leader



PTA Post

New email address to use: pta@stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk

We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported the PTA last year. Everyone's dedication and generosity are truly amazing and vital to the continued success and growth of Stamford Green.



Can you help?

We still need a volunteer to lead the YR Stay and Play which is due to take place on Friday 10 October after school. If you would like to help, please email [parents@](mailto:parents@stamford-green.surrey.sch.uk) by 9.00am on Monday 22.9.25. Unfortunately, if nobody steps forward, this event will be cancelled.



Could you lead the following event please? If not, it will not happen this year.

- PTA Wreath Making. You might be the person pulling the event together, working with someone else to do the wreaths.



Online Safety

What does the new UK Online Safety Act mean for parents?

The **UK Online Safety Act** is a new law that aims to make the internet safer, especially for children. Here's what it means for KS2 parents:

Stronger age checks

- Sites will be required to have more robust age verification methods so that younger children are less likely to access content intended only for older teens/adults.
- For example, for content about self-harm, suicide, eating disorders, or pornography, age checks must be used.

Algorithms and content feeds will be safer for children

- Recommendation algorithms must "downrank" or suppress harmful content in children's feeds.
- "Safe search" for search engines that children might use.

Blocking unwanted contact / stranger contact

- Platforms have to make sure children are protected from being contacted by strangers, if relevant, e.g. direct messaging from unknown adults.

Simpler reporting mechanisms and support

- Children must have clear, easy ways to report content or contact platform support if they see something harmful.
- Platforms must provide information and support for children who have encountered harmful content.

If you believe something should be investigated then you can report it at: <https://ofcomlive.my.salesforce-sites.com/formentry/QSComplaintsHarmfulContent>



Community Corner

As golden leaves drift to the ground,
A season of sharing comes back around.
Last year your kindness shone so bright,
You filled our hearts with hope and light.

But many still feel worried today,
The cost of living takes joy away.
Some feel lost, unsure what to do,
But together, we can see them through.

For **Epsom & Ewell Foodbank**, we'll collect,
With care and kindness, all we can select.
A jar of sauce, a bag of rice,
Biscuits, noodles - each gift is nice.
Tinned tomatoes, fruit or beans,
Simple gifts can change what harvest means.

With every item that you share,
You show our neighbours that we care.
Together we can help them cope,
And turn despair to seeds of hope.

Please bring what you can on **Thursday 16 October**,
East or West Gate – it's easy to pop over!
We appreciate your support, big or small,
You needn't give if you can't at all.
And if you'd like to learn much more,
Watch their harvest [video](#) and explore!

Items needed for Harvest Festival Epsom and Ewell Foodbank Collection

UHT Semi skimmed or full fat milk	Tinned vegetables	Custard
Powdered milk	Rice/ Micro Rice	Instant coffee
Jars of cooking sauces	Pasta	Tea Bags
Tinned meat – meatballs, minced beef, stewing steak etc	Noodles	Biscuits
Long-life juice	Tinned tomatoes	Jam / Honey / Marmalade
Long-life sponge puddings	Baked beans	Ketchup / Brown sauce / Mayo
Pasta sauce	Instant mash	Peanut butter / Chocolate spread
Tinned fish	Cereal (not porridge)	Shampoo / Conditioner
Tinned fruit	Weetabix	Deodorant
Tinned sweetcorn	Rice pudding	Shower gel
Sanitary Towels/ Tampons	Chocolate/ sweet treats	

Attendance - Every Day Counts

We're pleased to let you know that our overall attendance is 95.6% for the school year last (2024 - 2025) , which is above both the national average (94.8%) and the local authority average (95.2%). This is something we can all be proud of, and it reflects the strong partnership between school and families in supporting regular attendance.

However, we are also mindful that 8.3% of our pupils have been identified as persistent absentees, meaning their attendance has fallen below 90%. While we understand that there are often valid reasons for absence, it's important to remember that attendance has a significant impact not just on academic progress, but also on social development and emotional resilience.

Research shows that students with 100% attendance are nearly three times more likely to achieve five or more GCSEs, including English and Maths, compared to those with attendance between 65—70%.

We're committed to supporting every child to attend regularly and thrive. Every Day Counts!

Attendance Reminder:

If you take your children out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not have to be consecutive), then the following will apply:

1. If you have not incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children in a rolling 3 year period since 19 August 2024, then the penalty notice will be charged at the rate of £160.00, **per Parent/Carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. This will be reduced to £80.00 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
2. If you have incurred a penalty notice relating to this child/children since 19 August 2024, the rolling 3 year period will be activated from the date of the first penalty notice and the second penalty notice will be charged at the flat rate of £160.00, **per Parent/Carer per child**, if paid within 28 days. There will be no reduction for payment within 21 days. Failure to pay the Penalty Notice will result in Surrey County Council considering legal proceedings against you in the Magistrates Court.
3. If you have incurred 2 penalty notices relating to this child/children in the rolling 3 year period since the first penalty notice was issued, then you will NOT receive a third penalty notice – Surrey County Council will have no option but to consider a prosecution, **per Parent/Carer per child**, in the Magistrates Court under s 444 Education Act 1996.

Surrey County Council is not responsible for authorising pupil absence and therefore cannot withdraw any Penalty Notice requests without the written permission of the Headteacher.

Please read our Attendance Policy [here](#)

ATTENDANCE WHAT THE NEW RULES MEAN FOR ME

1 I'm a single parent of one child and we want to go on holiday for a week.
Your holiday will not be authorised and you must talk to the school before you book anything. Because your child will miss 5 school days you will be given a penalty notice fine. The fine is £160 but if you pay it in 21 days it will be reduced to £80.

£160

2 FOR EVERY CHILD A PENALTY IS GIVEN.
+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160
4 children & 1 parent = £640
Reduced to £320 if paid in 21 days

IRREGULAR ATTENDANCE 10 IN 10
If your child is absent for 10 or more sessions in 10 weeks and their absences are unauthorised. The school will consider prosecution.

1 Day = **2** Sessions

3 FOR A FAMILY OF TWO PARENTS
+£160 +£160 +£160 +£160
4 children & 2 parents = £1280
Reduced to £640 if paid in 21 days

If in any period of not more than 3 years, your child has a 2nd and 3rd leave of absence or pattern of irregular attendance...

4 **2ND TIME**
2 parents and 1 child = £320
2 children = 640
3 children = 960
4 children = 1280
No discount for early payment

3RD TIME
A penalty notice fine will not be given. Instead, your case will be taken to court. A magistrate can fine each parent £2500 for each child
1 parent & 4 children = £10,000
2 parents & 4 children = £20,000



Pupil leadership Scoop

We would like to thank all the children that spoke so confidently to Mrs Druce and Ms James seeking a role as one of our Head or Deputy Pupils last Thursday. Almost a third of the year group tried for the roles and we admired their ambition, courage and articulacy in their presentations, as they spoke passionately about their school and demonstrated their values.

Here are our new Pupil Leaders for 2025 - 2026.



Challenge Corner

Calling All Artists!

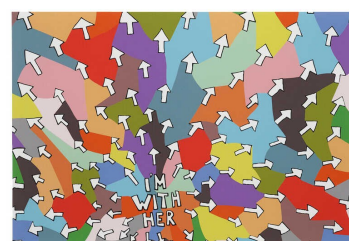
Do you love creating art at home? Would you like to see your artwork proudly displayed in our school for everyone to admire?

We're putting together a special art display and we would love to include pieces from children across all year groups. If you enjoy drawing, painting, or getting creative, this is your chance to shine!

Here's the challenge: create a piece of art inspired by one of these amazing artists: **Frank Bowling, Vincent Van Gogh, Stephen Wiltshire, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Georgia O'Keeffe, or Sonia Boyce.**

Your artwork can be made using any materials you like - paint, pastels, pencils, felt tips, collage....Just make sure your finished piece is **A4 size** and handed in to **Mrs Davis** by **Monday 22 September** please.

We can't wait to see your fantastic creations and celebrate the talented artists in our school!



Governor Dispatch

Message from Rebecca Jennings - Chair of Governors

Welcome back to Stamford Green, for academic year 2025 - 2026! I hope you all had a great summer, and everyone is settling well into their new classes for this year.

The autumn term is always a fun one, with great events to look forward to such as the ever popular Fireworks (which my children always clamoured to return to, even through secondary school!) as well as the carol services, nativities and Reception's first Christmas songs for families.

The whole Governing body were thrilled with the wonderful, and well deserved, Ofsted report from January this year, but that doesn't mean anyone is resting on their laurels – work continues apace to ensure best practice is continually embedded throughout the school, and we were very pleased to see the excellent results achieved across the board this year (more details can be found on the school website). So I hope everyone has a fun and productive term, and hope to see some of you at some of the many events between now and Christmas!

YOUNG LEGENDS

Epsom & Ewell Young Legends is a new local programme designed to give children aged 9 to 11 the opportunity to take part in fun, free, and inclusive sport and creative sessions.

There are sessions on basketball, rugby (girls only), judo, yoga, arts & crafts, rap therapy and musical theatre. Spaces are limited, so find out more and sign up soon if you are interested: www.epsom-ewell.gov.uk/younglegends



VALUES

Our value of the month is:

Working together to be the best we can
Our value of the month is:



Manners

ADJECTIVES:
A way of behaving towards others and how a task maybe carried out.

SYNONYMS:
Behaviour, demeanour, attitude, conduct

THANK YOU
PLEASE
EXCUSE ME

MANNERS ARE THE BASIC BUILDING BLOCK OF CIVIL SOCIETY.
ALEXANDER MCCALL SMITH

This is how you can show your manners every-day:

- Thomas in 6G suggests:** When you use manners you are showing you have respect and that you are caring.
- Mrs Hughes suggests:** Good manners are all about making sure we treat other people with kindness and respect.
- Alice in 4B suggests:** Manners is showing respect.
- Mrs Smith suggests:** Using kind words to others and always being polite.

INSPIRING AND THRIVING

Spending time in nature to boost our mood!

Did you know that the phrase 'tree hugger' was once used as an insult towards people who tried to protect ancient trees from being felled?! Scientists have since proved that taking brain breaks outside in nature and hugging a tree can help humans to feel less anxious and more peaceful! This is because hugging trees releases a beneficial 'feel good' hormone in humans called oxytocin, as well as lowering the body's levels of the stress hormone cortisol. Moreover, trees and plants release helpful chemicals called 'phytoncides' which can speed up recovery from illness in humans and give them a stronger immune system.

In July, Year 6 Eco monitors Adam, Aidan, Azfareen and Will met with Louise Shorthose, Outdoor Learning Manager from Surrey Wildlife Trust, to discuss their ideas for developing our school grounds. As well as setting up an outdoor classroom with log seats, Louise suggested increasing the number of plants for pollinators (such as butterflies and bees) and explained that a 'no-mow' area would help to increase biodiversity on site. It would also give pupils the chance to 'sweep net', enabling Eco Warriors to record and monitor changes to wildlife in our environment.

Planning planting for pollinators

In July, Year 6 Eco monitors Adam, Aidan, Azfareen and Will met with Louise Shorthose, Outdoor Learning Manager from Surrey Wildlife Trust, to discuss their ideas for developing our school grounds. As well as setting up an outdoor classroom with log seats, Louise suggested increasing the number of plants for pollinators (such as butterflies and bees) and explained that a 'no-mow' area would help to increase biodiversity on site. It would also give pupils the chance to 'sweep net', enabling Eco Warriors to record and monitor changes to wildlife in our environment.

HAPPINESS





Generations Coffee

Morning

Stamford Green School Council would like to invite grandparents, retired neighbours or friends and anyone elderly who may be feeling lonely and would like a chat, to our Generations Coffee Morning.



Tea, coffee and biscuits provided!

Wednesday 15 October 2025

From 10.30am - 11.45am

Stamford Green Primary School and Nursery

Come along to the main school office



If you can, please let us know if you are attending by telephoning the school office - 01372 725383.

Many thanks.



What's in the News?

We have been reminding children of the 'PANTS rules' taught through the NSPCC resources.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

ACHIEVING - Celebrating Success

Congratulations!

A special mention to the children who have received either a Headteacher's Award and Stamford Bear or a Governors' Values Award and Buckingham Bear.



Dylan Kozlowski	3W	Matilda Hawkins	5T	Clara Almario Vanegas	2J	Jessica Hill	6B
Anneli Borkakoti	4C	Tiggy Azah	1S				



Winners of Pepe the Punctuality Puppy were: 4C, 1S



Winners of Annabelle the Attendance Ape were: 2J, 3L



ACHIEVING - Celebrating Success

Congratulations to everyone who has received a Merit Award recently:

Freddie Pethica	1M	Sophia Bennett	4C
Robbie Luca	3WH	Joshua Wells	4V
Isla Taylor	2J	Lyla Carter	5T
Amelia Lewis	6B	Mia Greyling	6B
Margot Benton	3W	Fatima Nazir	5J
Grace Collyer	2MO	Leah Chan	1MV
Thomas Riggall	6G	Darshan Sreenivasa-Murthy	1S

Phoebe Chandler	3L	Lewis Gray	4B
Owen Pasquet	6J	Jimmy Miller	2W
Luna Brigden	5P		

Achiever of the Week - Well done to the following children who have worn our Golden Jumpers/ t-shirts recently:

Emily Makarenko	1S	Dakota Douglas	2W
Antonia Wong	3L	Orla Shrimpton	6J
Elliot Skipp	4B	Joe Stanborough	5P
Reggie Rapier	1M	Ismail Ahmed	4C
Ariana Cook	4V	Dylan Satow	6B
Monir Stevenson	2MO	Jessica Short	3WH
Toby Verdin	5T	Elsie Balmford	6G

Evan Satow	3W	Harrison Woodsell	2J
Archie Matthews	1MV	Caitlin Sheard	5J

