



# Staplehurst School Newsletter No.20- Spring Term 2024

[A message from Miss Davenport](#)



This had been a fantastic term, filled with superb learning and progress for all children and some meaningful parental engagement opportunities to improve your understanding of our curriculum and the way we teach your children. Thank you to everyone who has participated; working in

partnership with you is essential so that together we improve our provision and ensure children reach their potential. Please enjoy the reflections from our leaders in this week's edition.

I hope you have a wonderful break and that the weather is kind to us.

We are back, ready for action on **Monday 19th February**.

Miss Davenport

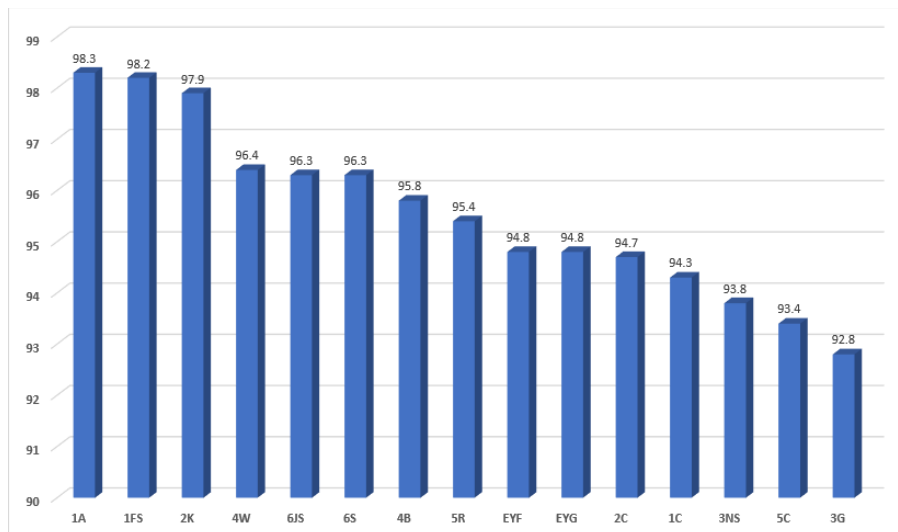
### Attendance:





**1 - Well done to 1A, the weekly and KS1 winners with 98.3% who will receive Attendance Ted.**

**Well done to 4W, the KS2 winners with 96.4% who will receive the Attendance Cup.**



## Pride Certificates 09.02.24

Name	Class	Reason
Charley Edmunds	EYG	It has been wonderful to see Charley growing in confidence this term. This term in particular has seen Charley's independence grow. He organises himself when he comes into school and throughout the day. I have also been impressed over the past few weeks with Charley's hard work during phonics, improving his blending skills as a result. Well done Charley!
Marcie Woodman	EYF	As Marcie's confidence has grown, so has her independence. This is obvious in the way she comes into school and during class discussions. Marcie has now started to attempt to write independently during child initiated time as well. Well done Marcie, Keep it up!
Ben Young	1A	Ben has demonstrated excellent independence this week, especially with his history essay. He has been able to contribute ideas during class discussions about goods that could be bought in the past and goods we are currently able to buy. Ben has been able to explain the difference between goods from the past and present and explain what is a good and service. He has also worked hard to remember his lines for our class assembly whilst ensuring he uses a clear and loud voice. Well done Ben, a wonderful week!
Leo Brooks	1C	This week Leo has demonstrated excellent independence in his essay writing. He has listened brilliantly to teaching about shopping in the past and can use this knowledge to write a coherent, informative essay. Leo has also shown he can be a superb partner to others; he listens to their idea and shares his own. Well done Leo.
Erin Bassett	1FS	Erin has been working really hard on her History essay this week. She has contributed good ideas in class and has shared thoughtful answers to questions. Erin has been working on her overall presentation and we are seeing a great improvement. Well done Erin, keep up the great work!
Mila Hoppe	2C	Over the week, Mila has really impressed me with her perseverance and independence within her writing and DT this week. She has been able to create a puppet using her understanding of the different types of stitches. I am very proud of Mila. Keep being a superstar!
Daniel Smith	2K	Daniel showed amazing independence and resilience during our DT day. He worked hard to thread the needle, sew the seams and add lots of detail to his animal hand puppet (an amazing squirrel!). He also showed great teamwork by helping others when they found something tricky. Great work Daniel, I'm so proud of you!
Vinnie Warren	3NS	Vinnie has shown great determination and resilience this week during our DT day. He worked really hard to create an amazing board game and focused independently to write some fabulous instructions to go along with the game. Well done Vinnie!
Buddy Martin	3G	This week, Buddy has worked independently to complete his essay on biomes. He demonstrated high levels of focus and determination throughout the week. He also worked really hard during our recent DT day showing both perseverance and resilience. Well done Buddy, keep up the hard work!
Jack Smith	4W	This week, Jack has worked really hard to independently complete an essay on the Ancient Egyptians. He used sentence starters to help but also wrote his own sentences to display his knowledge. His attitude to learning this week has been great. Well done!
Fuschia Santer	4B	This week, Fuschia has demonstrated determination and enthusiasm to write her essay about the Ancient Egyptians. She has presented her work neatly and to a good standard. She has shown independence with good listening. Well done Fuschia!
Freya Ashley	5R	This week Freya has been showing independence through her learning especially with her laying out of the page and showing pride in her work. Freya pushes her self when she is being challenged and wants to get to the answers accurately. Well done Freya!
Reggie Taylor	5C	Reggie continually demonstrates independence with his learning. He always works to a high standard in every lesson, contributing to class discussions and producing written work which fully shows his understanding. This week he has demonstrated his learning of medicine through history and completed long multiplication in maths. A good week, well done!
Paige Pilbro	6S	Paige always demonstrates STAR behaviours alongside our school PRIDE values; this week has been no exception. Paige has worked independently to construct an essay showcasing key geographical knowledge and vocabulary. She has asked questions and responded to discussions in class demonstrating a fantastic recall of knowledge from across the term. Well done, Paige!
Lilly McPherson	6JS	This week, Lilly made some excellent thought provoking discussion points during our internet safety lesson around AI. Lilly was confidently able to debate the positives and negatives of AI. Well done Lilly, another excellent week!

## A message from the Deputy Headteacher



*2 - Another term has flown past and we continue to make excellent progress as a school. It has been wonderful to see so much wonderful learning going on. I have been particularly impressed when taking pride assemblies to see the level of 'independence', our school focus value this term, coming through in children's work. We have now started celebrating the work under the visualizer on the projector so children are able to share their wonderful achievements and model excellence for others.*

*A particular highlight for me this term was the class assemblies in both year one and year five. It is tremendous to be able to invite parents in to celebrate and share in the spectacular learning that is going on. The range of curriculum that I saw, and the high-quality outcomes, really took my breath away! I was also dazzled by the quality of musical performances that were on show. We really appreciate parental support at these assemblies, and I know the children love to share with an audience.*

*Many thanks to parents and carers for another successful parents' evening - it is great to be able to have high-quality conversations about children's learning.*

*As we head into the holiday's, remember to keep that reading up (a little every day if possible). Don't forget to pop onto TT Rockstars as well to keep the cobwebs away from those times tables!*

*I wish you a very well-rested break and will be looking forward to welcoming you back refreshed after the half term.*

*Mr Williams-Jones*

## Inclusion

As we approach the end of another fulfilling term, it's important to reflect back on the values and lessons we embraced throughout our Wellbeing Week celebrations. This term, our school community came together to prioritize mental health, kindness, and self-care, fostering an environment where each child feels supported and valued. As we bid farewell to this term and look forward to the upcoming half-term break and the new term ahead, let's carry these invaluable lessons with us.

Rest and relaxation are crucial components of maintaining a healthy balance in our lives. I encourage everyone to take this opportunity to recharge, spend quality time with loved ones, and engage in activities that bring joy and rejuvenation. Whether it's exploring nature, indulging in a favorite hobby, or simply enjoying moments of quiet reflection, prioritising rest is essential for well-being. Further information on Mental Health and Wellbeing can be found on the school website page:

<https://www.staplehurstschool.co.uk/school-info/mental-health-and-wellbeing>

Furthermore, following our parent's evening this week, let's remember the importance of continued communication and collaboration between school and home. Our partnership with families plays a key role in supporting the development of every child. Together, we can create an inclusive and nurturing environment where every child can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Wishing everyone a restful half-term break, and I look forward to continuing our journey together in the new term.

Mr Tate



## EYFS



EYFS have thoroughly enjoyed our learning this term. Our theme of 'Flying High' enabled us to learn about different birds, from those we find in our gardens or around our school to birds of prey, particularly owls. We listened to and discussed different fiction and non-fiction texts to develop our ideas and as a starting point for our writing opportunities. It has been wonderful to see the children using their phonic knowledge to develop their sentence writing, as well as using the high frequency words displayed in the classroom. Our writing has included descriptive sentences, describing Mummy Owl, factual sentences about bird facts and speech bubbles for the baby owls. It has also been wonderful to see the children writing during child initiated learning - writing shopping lists in the role play and labels to describe models they have made.

Our bird learning has provided some fantastic art opportunities. We used pastels to draw garden birds and owls, blending the colours using our fingers. We also created collage owls, tearing different shades and types of paper to represent feathers and used sponges to show the fluffy owlets.

To complete our learning on birds, we took part in the RSPB garden bird watch as part of our home learning. We then used the information collected by the children to find out which was our most common bird during our . We added each total and used ten -frames to make our results easier to read.

In addition to our class learning, we have also participated in the whole school well-being week and internet safety day. During well-being week, we played the whisper game, passing a whisper around the circle to demonstrate the importance of listening to each other. We then talked about things which are important to us. We noticed all these things made us feel happy and safe which is important for our well-being. We learnt an easy breathing technique to calm ourselves called 5-finger breathing. For internet safety day, we discussed the many different ways we use technology in the home, school and all around us. We then discussed how these sometimes help us, for example computers and phones and many are fun, such as ipads and games consoles. We then sorted different images of types of technology through time. The children did not recognise many of

the items such as record players! We finished our learning by reading the story 'Chicken Clicking' - a story about staying safe online.

It has been a fantastic term and the children have worked hard. I would like to wish everyone a happy and restful half term and I look forward to seeing you at the start of term 4.

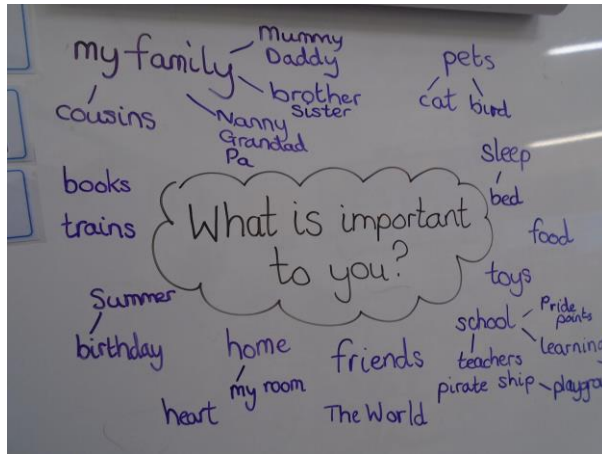
Mrs Golding

EYFS Phase leader









robin		9	•••••
magpie		7	•••••
sparrow		9	•••••
blackbird		11	•••••
blue tit		10	•••••
goldfinch		4	••••



## KS1



Key Stage 1 have had an amazing start to the Spring Term, we are all incredibly proud how their achievements and how hard they're continuing to work.

This week we have been writing our history and geography essays. Year 1 were answering the history question 'How has shopping changed since our Grandparents' lives?' The children planned what they wanted to write and wrote sentences to answer different questions about shopping in the past compared to today. Year 2 wrote their geography essay to answer the question 'where in the world can we sail?'

The children have impressed us with their ability to include all the key vocabulary and main ideas that we have researched during our lessons.

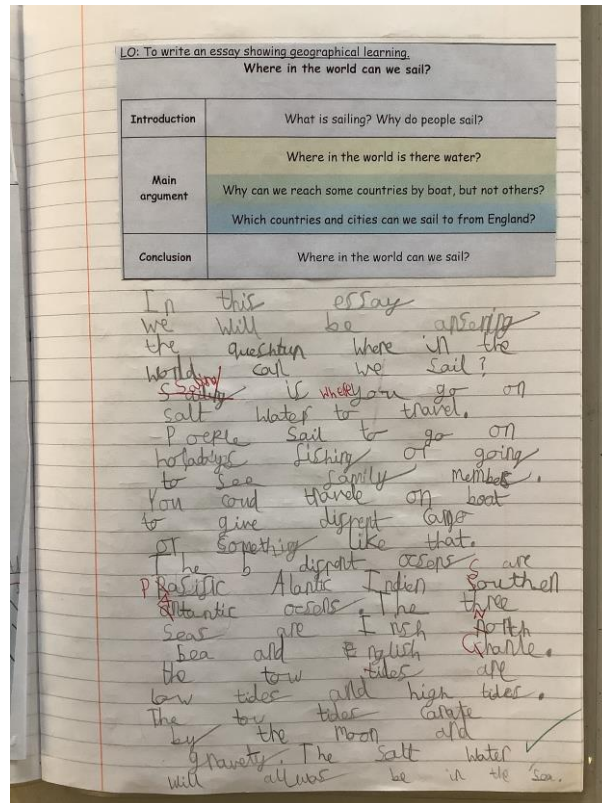
During our Well-Being Week the children enjoyed listening to the story of 'The Boy, the horse, the fox and the mole.' We thought about the qualities that make us special and unique.

We held our first Wider Celebration assembly this week which allowed the children in KS1 to bring in, and share, achievements from outside of school. It was lovely listening to all the interesting things they have been working hard on! Keep an eye out for the date for the next one.

I hope you have a lovely and restful half-term and I look forward to welcoming all the children back for Term 4!

Mrs Knight

KS1 Phase Leader



I addok is where you  
 can't get to a continent  
 by boat so you can't  
 a parcel that lands on  
 land. A coastline is where the land  
 meets the sea. The Humber  
 searches of a coastline is  
 a berth, harbor, shores and  
 a lighthouse. The Phisick  
 a teacher of a coastline is  
 a cliff, sand, sea, seabed.  
 From England we can sail  
 across the English chanel to  
 France, the Netherlands, Belgium and  
 Spain. We can even sail  
 to Paris, Antwerp, which are  
 even in the North Sea and  
 the other and entire that  
 I can think of right  
 now and that is the end of my  
 or almost the end of my  
 beautiful wonderful essay. I  
 hope my essay is really  
 really useful for you  
 to help you with Geography.  
 I have worked really well  
 in the conclusion we can sail  
 to the continent Belgium, Rome and  
 the landlock is a place  
 where you can't get to  
 all continents. Remember  
 a good life if  
 where the land meets

3.1.24

LO: To write an essay showing geographical learning. Where in the world can we sail?	
Introduction	What is sailing? Why do people sail?
Main argument	Where in the world is there water?
	Why can we reach some countries by boat, but not others? Which countries and cities can we sail to from England?
Conclusion	Where in the world can we sail?

In this Essay I will be writing and  
~~answering~~ answering the question: What is  
 sailing and why do we sail?  
 Sailing is when you are on a boat/ship  
 traveling ~~by~~ on a body of water/salt water.  
 There are MANY reasons for people to sail  
 like delivering items, sports, taxi, ferry or a  
 police boat (for a job). And when it is a  
<sup>high tide</sup>  
~~high tide~~ maybe fishing boats can go ~~out~~  
<sup>you</sup>  
 Did ~~you~~ know that 70% of the Earth is the  
 water and 30% is land. Most of the water is  
 separated into a few seas and 5 oceans the ~~oceans~~

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024

LO: To write the main argument of the essay.

services?

A good is...

A service is...



A good is a object for you can buy. A good from the past is a typewriter and a sawing machine. A good from the present is pens and phones.

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2024

LO: To write the main argument of the essay.

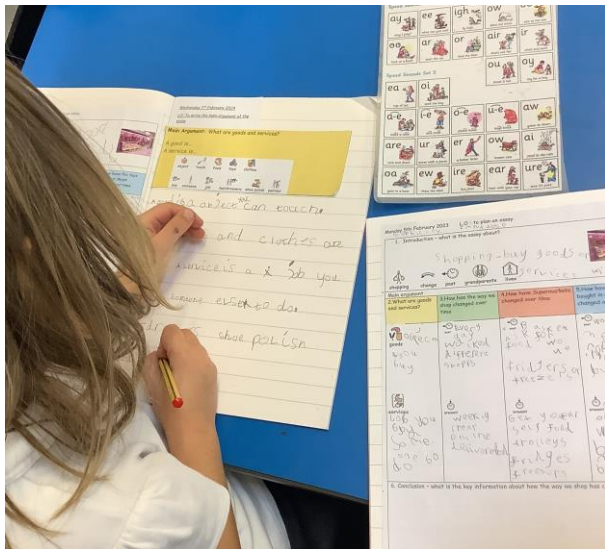
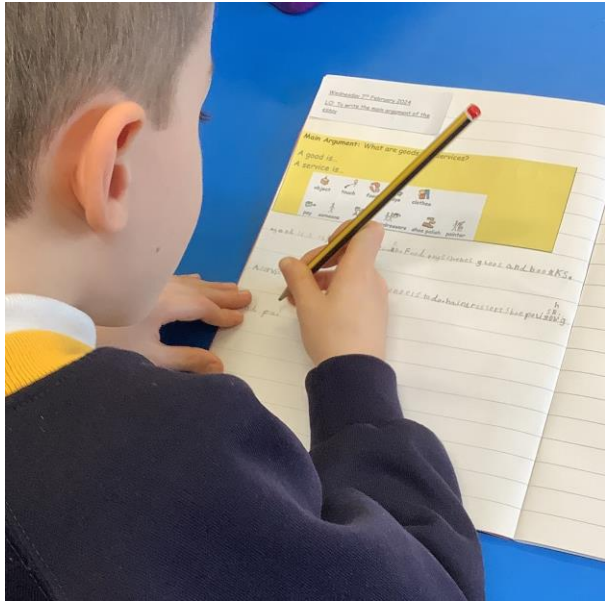
Main Argument: What are goods and services?

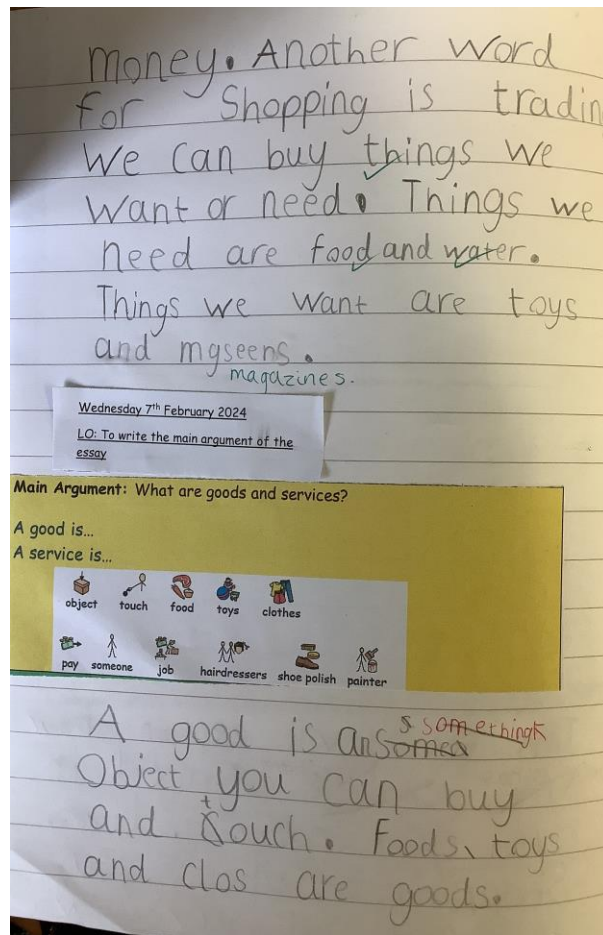
A good is...

A service is...



A ~~object~~ good is a object you can buy. A good that is from the past is a typewriter and a sawing machine.





## KS2

At the end of this term, as we approach the halfway point for this year, I am incredibly proud of the children in KS2 and their learning. Seeing the effort and enthusiasm the children have shown this term has been a joy every day as the children have enjoyed a broad variety of learning experiences going on throughout my phase.

I have loved seeing the fantastic writing across KS2 this term, from flashback stories to newspaper reports, as well as the amazing essays that the children have written in humanities. My favourite writing however were the powerful poems written by Year 6 inspired by The Day War Came.

### The Day War Came

The trees were destroyed and friendships were torn,

Tears ran through my heart and hope was all gone,

Faith was all lost and kindness was killed,

Comfort was locked and all doors were sealed,

Mirrors were shattered, all love was sad,

Life was all broken, everyone mad,

Tiles were thrown and the sky was full of darkness,



The shelter above my head was gone including the happiness,  
The war destroyed the school and all the pride within it,  
Smoke filled up the ocean and the tide beneath it,  
The war took possession of my heart.

By Samah Ahmed

It's been brilliant to see the children enjoying our library and finding books that might help them in this endeavour, especially as we've had a real focus on the importance of reading this term in school. Our focus on wellbeing during Wellbeing Week this term was a highlight, and I've loved seeing putting this into practice both in the classroom and on the playground, and working hard to earn team Pride Points in every aspect of school life. Our focus on being creative was centre in our school focus on gymnastics where children experimented with different body shapes, creating routines with balances, rotations, shapes, and flight. It was wonderful to see the children using the large apparatus including wall bars whilst showcasing their learning.

Speaking to the children, they've loved their Science learning too, with immersive investigations in every year group, investigating magnetic forces in Year 3. Meanwhile Year 5 investigated materials and their uses as thermal insulators, and Year 4 explored creating electrical circuits and static electricity. It's been incredible to see the children so hands on, finding their own answers to life's big questions.

The children have shown so much creative talent this year as future artists, designers and engineers through their art and DT days. This term, Year 6 turned their hand to designing and building their own moving toys using Cams in DT. Meanwhile, year 3 created their own magnetic board games, carefully thinking about how they could make their games both fun and long lasting. Year 4 enjoyed observational drawing, looking at patterns and colour.

Everyone across the phase has worked incredibly hard this term and demonstrated our PRIDE values. I can't wait to welcome all of the children back in the new term, after a restful break for us all.

**Mr. Smith: KS2 Phase Leader**

## **Class Assemblies**

We will be starting our class assembly programme for the year in term two this year. We would like to invite parents/carers in to share in the wonderful learning that has been taking place. The assembly schedule is as follows:

**Term 3 – KS1- Year 1** (History of shopping) - **Friday 9th February 2024** at 9.00 am in the junior hall. - **(Please note: No Parents into read for Year 1 this morning)**

**Term 4 – KS2 - Year 3** (Stone-Age) - **Friday 22nd March** at 9.00 am in the junior hall.

**KS1 - Year 2** (Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole) **Friday 15th March** at 9.00 am in the junior hall

**EYFS: Thursday March 28th**

We look forward to welcoming you in to school.

Many Thanks

Mr Williams-Jones

## Key Dates

# Dates to Remember

April

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**9th February 2024 - PTA - Glow Disco: Early Years: 3:30-4:15 / Years 1,2 and 3: 4:45-6:00 / Years 4,5 and 6: 6:30-7:45**

**9th February 2024 – Break up for Half term - WHOLE SCHOOL**

**19th February 2024 – Pupils return to school - WHOLE SCHOOL**

**22nd February 2024 - World Thinking Day - Children who attend clubs such as Brownies/Guides/Scouts to wear uniform to school. WHOLE SCHOOL**

**23rd February 2024 - PTA - Dare to be Different Day**

**29th February 2024 - 2.30pm Infant Hall - SEND parent drop-in - Mr Tate will be holding a SEND information and support session.**

**7th March 2024 - 2.30pm Junior Hall - P.E Parent drop-in - Mr Smith will be holding an information session about the teaching of PE across the school.**