



**Staplehurst School Newsletter - No.16  
- Spring Term**

## News from the Senior Team



Dear Parents and Carers

Whilst we continue to navigate our way through these challenging times, this week started as we mean to go on: full steam ahead! During our PRIDE values assembly, we celebrated our fantastic essay writing from years 1 – 6. I was very impressed with how the children shared their learning and understanding with confidence; our new displays around school reflect our high expectations across the curriculum.

Clubs have begun this week; once again we have been able to offer a good range of additional enrichment opportunities for our children.

**Communication:** parent voice is very important to us as it helps us to reflect and develop our provision. On **Wednesday 9th February at 9am** we will be holding this term's **Parent Forum**. Please save the date in your diary and come with ideas and feedback that together we can discuss and develop together.

Have a lovely weekend

Miss Davenport & the Senior Leadership Team



### **Attendance Guidance**

As we enter a new year Covid-19 is still impacting all parts of our society. Albeit a milder strain, it can still present a high-risk for some members of the community.

We must all continue to help stop the spread of the virus.

About 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 do not have symptoms but can still infect others.

LFD rapid tests help to check if someone has COVID-19. Research shows rapid tests are a reliable test for COVID-19. They give a quick result and do not need to be sent to a lab.

Even if you're vaccinated, you could still catch the virus or pass it on. Doing rapid tests helps to protect yourself and others.

Do rapid tests on days when you're more likely to catch or spread COVID-19.

For example, do a test before you:

- mix with people in crowded indoor places
- visit [someone who is at higher risk of getting seriously ill from COVID-19](#)

You should also do daily rapid tests (1 a day for 7 days) if you've been in contact with someone with COVID-19 and are either:

- fully vaccinated
- under 18 years and 6 months old

If you live with or have been in contact with someone with COVID-19, you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine
- **you're under 18 years and 6 months old**
- you're taking part or have taken part in an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Even if you do not have symptoms, you're strongly advised to:

- do daily rapid lateral flow tests (1 a day for 7 days), if you're fully vaccinated, to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 - [find out more about daily testing on GOV.UK](#)
- follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#)
- consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#)

**Tell** people you've been in close contact with in the past 48 hours that you might have COVID-19.

You should tell them to follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#).

They **do not** need to self-isolate unless they're contacted by the NHS Test and Trace service.

If they get any symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate and get a test as soon as possible.

We are aware the NHS guidance will be updated on Mon 10th January and you will only have to isolate for 7 days [as long as you provide two negative LFD rapid test results on day 6 and day 7]

We would ask our parents to continue to advise us of any Covid-19 cases within the family.

EYFS



## YEAR 1

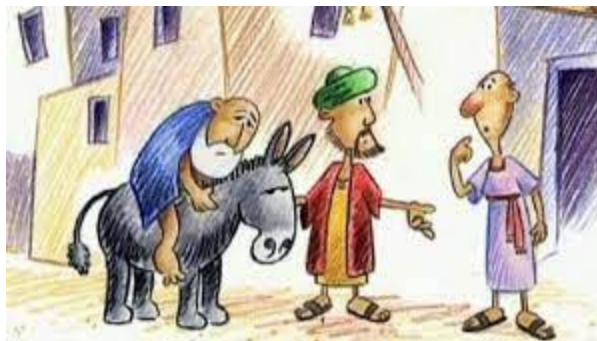
There has been so much fantastic learning taking place in EYFS this week. It has been wonderful to see how enthusiastic the children are whilst we learn about birds. We are enjoying spotting birds outside and through our class bird 'hides', drawing and recording what we see. Using pastels, the children explored blending to create different shades when drawing their birds. To attract birds to our garden, we made cereal bird feeders, which we then hung on the trees in our garden. During child initiated, some of the children built a 'bird hotel', labelling each floor for the different birds.

This term we are working hard to develop our independent writing. The children are encouraged to write labels during exploring, as well as labelling their pictures and recording their work using their own methods, such as tally marks, in maths. After reading the story of the Ugly Duckling, the children thought of ways to make the Ugly Duckling feel better and wrote simple sentences to record their thoughts.





## Year 1



In R.E we are answering the question 'Who is a Christian and what do they believe?' and focusing on the question 'Why is Jesus important to Christians?' We have learnt that Jesus told stories called 'parables' and that these had a hidden meaning. We listened to the story of 'The Good Samaritan' and talked about the secret meaning. We enjoyed taking on roles of the characters in the story and acting it out.



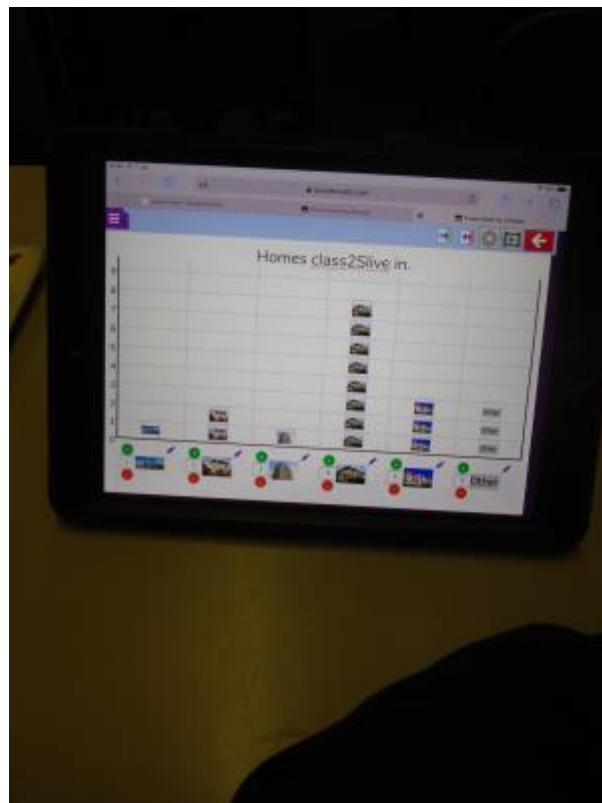




## Year 2



This week Year 2 have been using spreadsheets and creating pictograms during Computing. The children worked in pairs to create a pictogram all about our homes. It was great to hear the children discussing their home and producing wonderful pictograms.







## Year 3



# YEAR 3

This term, in our PE lessons we are doing gymnastics. In this week's lesson we made different shapes with our bodies. We especially enjoyed the warm up where we had to make letters of the alphabet with our bodies, for certain letters we found it was helpful to join with a partner. We focused specifically on good body tension and control.



## Year 4



# YEAR 4

We have now started investigation electricity in science. The children are already really enjoying their scientific learning with opportunities to explore electricity. We started with experiencing static electricity, using a balloon to make our hair stand on end! Then, we investigated how to make complete circuits using the components: a bulb, battery (cell), wires and buzzer.













## Year 5



# YEAR 5

This week, Year 5 had our DT (Design and Technology) day. We looked at a problem set by Practical Action, 'Squashed Tomatoes!', in which farmers in Nepal struggled to move their produce up and down the mountain. By focusing on Sustainable Development Goal 11- sustainable cities and communities- we decided to help by creating basket systems using pulleys and levers. As we went along, we evaluated our designs and final products, problem- solving and eventually moving our pom-pom tomatoes safely to the top of the table!

# SQUASHED TOMATO CHALLENGE



## Can you design and make a model to transport tomatoes down a mountainside in Nepal?

In Nepal farmers grow tomatoes on the mountainside then sell them in markets at the bottom of the mountain ... up to three hours' walk away.

Use your STEM skills to come up with an ingenious solution which could improve their lives.

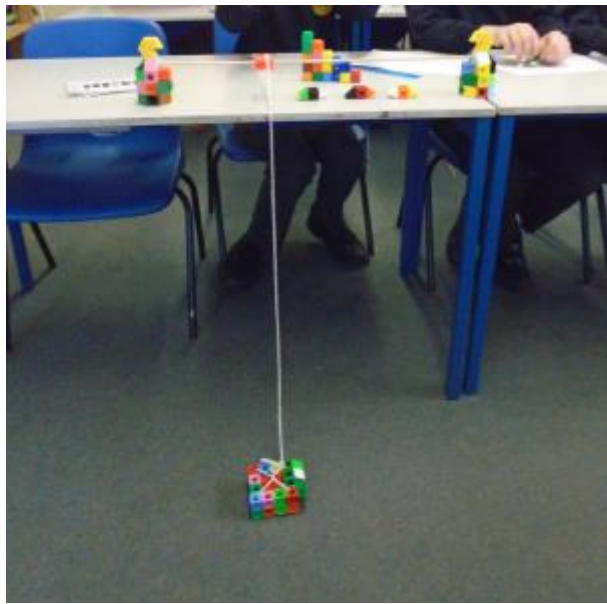


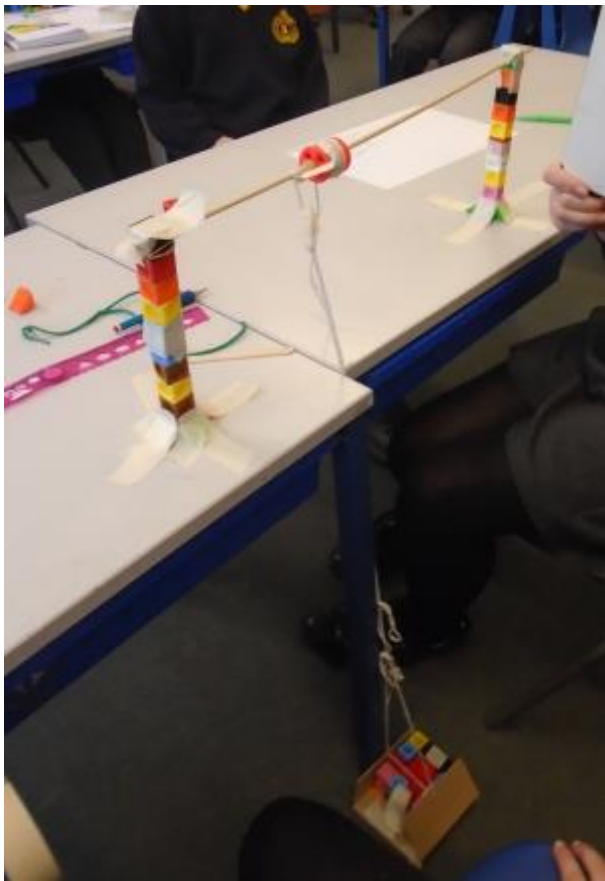
[practicalaction.org/schools/squashed-tomato-challenge](https://practicalaction.org/schools/squashed-tomato-challenge)

practicalaction.org/schools/squashed-tomato-challenge

**Practical ACTION**





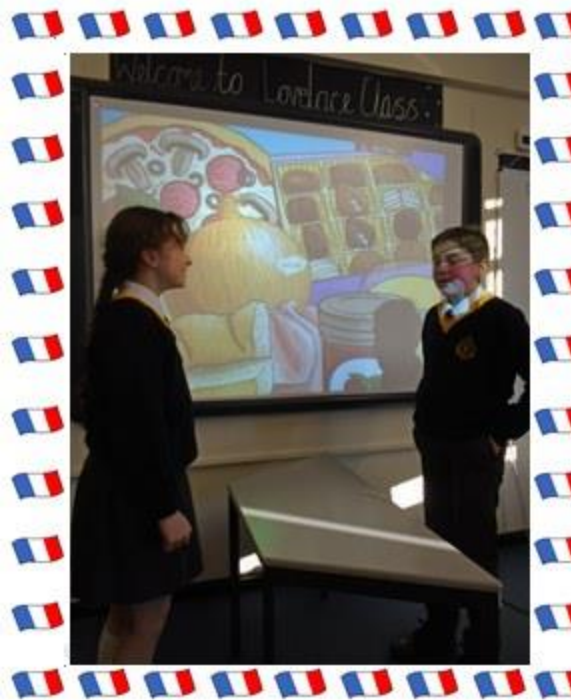


Year 6



YEAR 6





Year 6 have been enjoying their recent French lessons which have focused on Shopping. This week the children took part in a role play session as they rehearsed greeting a shopkeeper and asking for an item. Following their role play, the children calculated the cost of their receipts and documented the total value in digits and words. Well done, Year 6! Très bien!

## Music



This week, the choir sang lots of fun songs and part songs and considered how songs are composed. The children were then set a challenge to use a tuned instrument and in groups, try to replicate a well known nursery rhyme, continually thinking about pitch in order to do so. We are awaiting our new date for the Young Voices Concert at the O2.....watch this space!





## Extra-curricular Clubs



Thank you to all that have signed up for clubs this half term, it is brilliant to see some many children involved! We still have some spaces available in the following clubs:

Year 3 - Recorder - Friday lunchtime

Year 4 - Book club - Thursday 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Year 5/6 - Italian Club - Thursday 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Year 6 - Art - Thursday 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Year 6 - Dance - Thursday 3:15pm - 4:15pm

Please contact the office if these take you fancy.

Watch this space for weekly updates and photos of the clubs we are offering!

Year	Club Name	Day	Time	Number of children	Leader	Start date
Year 1	Film	Thursday	3:15 - 4:15	20	Miss. Chrysalis/param	Week 2
	Skipping	Wednesday	Lunchtime	15	Mr. Smith	Week 2
	Olympia Boxing	Thursday	Lunchtime	8	Olympia Boxing [External]	Week 2
Year 2	Skipping	Wednesday	lunchtime	20	Mr. Smith	Week 2
	Olympia Boxing	Thursday	lunchtime	8	Olympia Boxing [External]	Week 2
Year 3	Tennis	Wednesday	3:15 - 4:15	15	Mrs. Bennett	Week 2
	Recorder	Thursday	Lunchtime	15	Mrs. Staines	Week 2
	Olympia Boxing	Thursday	lunchtime	8	Olympia Boxing [External]	Week 2
Year 4	Choir	Monday	3:15 - 4:15	10	Mrs. Seal	Week 2
	Tennis	Wednesday	3:15 - 4:15	15	Mrs. Bennett	Week 2
	Book Club	Thursday	3:15 - 4:15	20	Mrs. Wye	Week 2
	Olympia Boxing	Thursday	Lunchtime	8	Olympia Boxing [External]	Week 2
Year 5	Choir	Monday	3:15 - 4:15	10	Mrs. Seal	Week 2
	New-Age Kurling	Monday	Lunchtime	10	Mr. Smith	Week 2
	Eco-Club	Wednesday	Lunchtime	15	Mrs. Riverberg	Week 2
	Italian	Thursday	3:15 - 4:15	10	Miss. Kish	Week 2
	Football	Friday	3:15 - 4:15	15	Mr. Arnos / Mr. Smith	Week 2
	Netball	Monday	3:15 - 4:15	15	Mrs. Bennett	Week 2
Year 6	Choir	Monday	3:15 - 4:15	10	Mrs. Seal	Week 2
	New-Age Kurling	Monday	Lunchtime	10	Mr. Smith	Week 2
	Eco-Club	Wednesday	Lunchtime	15	Mrs. Riverberg	Week 2
	Italian	Thursday	3:15 - 4:15	10	Miss. Kish	Week 2
	Dance	Thursday	3:15 - 4:15	20	Mrs. Starfield	Week 2
	Football	Friday	3:15 - 4:15	15	Mr. Arnos / Mr. Smith	Week 2
	Netball	Monday	3:15 - 4:15	15	Mrs. Bennett	Week 2
	Art	Thursday	3:15 - 4:15	20	Mr. Tate	Week 2

## Creative Paperworks



Family  
Courses



## Creative Paperworks

### Want to:

- Make 2D and 3D objects from paper?
- Use card and paper to help your children's creativity?
- Express your creative side?
- Make new friends whilst learning a new skill?

### This course is for you!

Where: Marden Children's Centre, Goudhurst Road, Marden, Tonbridge TN12 9QQ

Date: 12th January 2022

Time: 10am - 12pm

To book a place please email [mardenchildrenscentre@kent.gov.uk](mailto:mardenchildrenscentre@kent.gov.uk) or call 03000 412700

We want you to enjoy learning with us. To help us provide the best possible experience for you, please let us know if you or your child have any disabilities or particular support needs.

**FREE, fun &  
informal courses**



Kent Adult Education is part of Community Learning and Skills