



Dear Parents and Carers.



Y6 Victorian Day

Our term begun with the fantastic news that Stamshaw Junior School is a 'good' school as judged by Ofsted. I feel that the opening statement "*pupils are flourishing both academically and pastorally because of the school's high expectations*" does sum up our school. We do our best to make learning memorable at SJS and I am so grateful to you all for continued support of our great little school. I say little however since I started here at SJS nearly 5 years ago, we have 100 more pupils so we are certainly growing! We are almost at 300.

SCITT: Other great news is that our Trust SCITT also had a 4 day inspection and were judged as '*Outstanding!*' This is great news for the whole city as they train our future teachers. SCITT stands for School Centred Initial Teacher Training who are based in our school. Take a look at their [website](#).

INSET DAYS: We have three final inset days planned for: Monday 15th April, Wednesday 12th June and Monday 8th July.



Year 6 SATs: Year 6 children will be taking part in Key Stage 2 SATs, week beginning 13th May 2024. For more information and advice on how to support your child visit the SATs Guide for Parents page on our [website](#).

Parent's Evening: We have parents evening in the first week back after the holidays. Letters have gone out to book your slot.

Website: Please remember to take a good look at our website where we have a lot of supportive information. I would like to point out our [parents page](#) where you will find a page on [community support](#).



Anglo Saxon Day: SJS brought the Butser experience to Year 4 and gave the children the opportunity to see what life was like in Anglo-Saxon times. The children took part in three different [activities](#). Mrs Piper showed Year 4 how to make Anglo-Saxon brooches using cardboard, string, tin foil and paint.

Mr Barrand set up an artefact hunt in our pond area along with playing board games. Mr Massey's session involved the children building a fence using the technique of wattle. The children also carved some patterns into chalk and decorated the outdoor classroom with Anglo-Saxon runes.

The day ended with parents coming in to share the experiences together.

Rocksteady: Many children are taking part in the Friday lessons learning drums, guitar, piano or singing. It is great to hear them rock every Friday afternoon! Check out the Rocksteady [website](#) for more information.



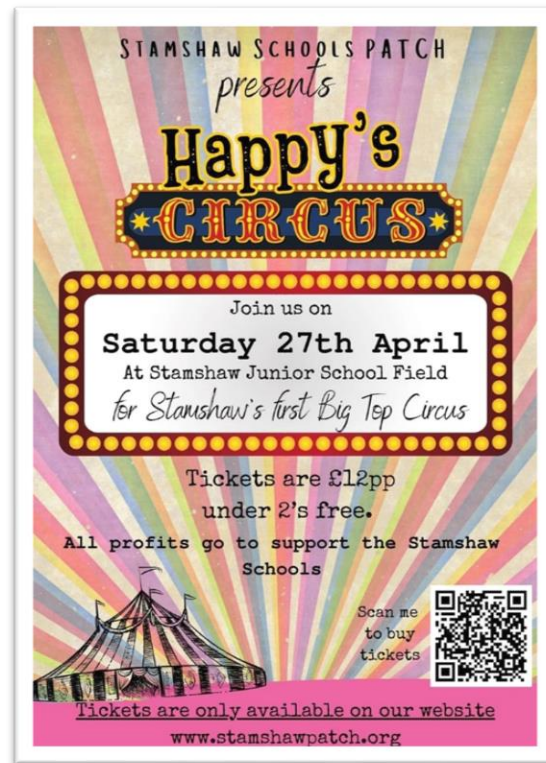
Year 6 Victorian Day: As part of their topic, Year 6 took part in a Victorian Day which gave them the chance to experience what a typical school day was like during the Victorian era.

Curriculum Newsletters: Curriculum Newsletters are always available on our website. Click the [link](#) to find out more about your child's topic and the skills that they will be focussing on in English and Maths as well as other subjects.

PATCH (PTA): As usual PATCH are busy raising both schools loads of money for our school. They work tirelessly and all members are volunteers. Any help is always appreciated. Check out their [website](#) for up and coming events including the circus!

LGB: Our joint Local Governing Body with the infant school continue to meet regularly where we are supported and challenged in areas such as the curriculum and finances. Do contact our Chair, Sherri Bailey, through the school if you have any questions. See our LGB Page to see [who is who](#).

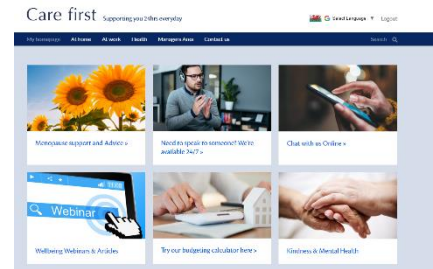
Year 5 Artwork: Our Year 5 classes created some amazing [artwork](#) today in the style of local artist My Dog Sighs. This is always one of my favourite art topics as the children create some amazing art work.





Care First: As a Trust, we continue to provide the Care First package to give advice and support on several things for parents and carers. Please take a look at the website.

The username is: unicatp
The password is: wellbeing.
The website is: carefirst-lifestyle.co.uk/



World Book Day: We celebrated [World Book Day](#) this half term with your children once again dressing up as their favourite book character. It was great to see so many homemade costumes this year! Thank you to all the grown-ups who came in and listened to their children read. We had loads of you in.

Charities: This term we raised nearly £240 for our charities which included Red Nose Day. Thank you!

British Science Week: A team of Year 5s attended a city-wide STEM event organised and held at UTC Portsmouth. They participated in three team events, working with other children across the city. As part of this year's British Science Week theme, 'Time', they really embraced time with others and developing their communication and team work skills.

We were also joined by Dr Nic Bonne and Dr Jen Gupta (and Austin the dog) who gave a detailed presentation about the universe, galaxies and solar system to year 5. A huge thank you to the outreach team from Portsmouth



University for once again visiting and sharing their wonderful knowledge of Earth and Space, and for answering the children's and teacher's questions!

Festival of Holi: Y4 spent the day thinking about the concept of good and evil. As part of the day, they learnt about the [Holi](#) festival, what it was, why it is celebrated, who celebrates it and how it is celebrated. In the afternoon, the children recreated the Festival of Holi (also known as the festival of colours) by throwing coloured paint around.





Year 5 Writing Competition: Writing a mini-saga might seem daunting, trying to translate your idea into a whole story that fits into just 100 words, but it can be done! We were treated to the 10, Year 5 finalists, who proved they could jam-pack a suspenseful adventure into limited wordage.

Each finalist considered authorial technique and their audience carefully. We were astounded by some of their techniques: sibilance, metaphors, twists, hooks, onomatopoeia, specific details, rhetorical questions, and powerful nouns.

Attendance: Take a look at the attendance in each class for the Spring term. 96% is our target.

Attendance for the Spring Term (Jan, Feb & March)									
3S	3T	3W	4B	4P	4M	5AW	5KW	6AB	6DR
95.3%	96.5%	94.4%	95.7%	96.2%	92.9%	95.3%	90.1%	94.7%	94.2%

SJS Pupils Shine: We came joint 3rd!

4 of our Year 6 pupils took part in the SLS Portsmouth Literature Quiz 2024! They had a fantastic time competing against other schools in Portsmouth and meeting authors Sufiya Ahmed, Lissa Evans, Michael Mann & Sam Copeland. We are so proud of James, Poppy, Anousha & Joseph, not only for how well they performed but for how they conducted themselves and represented our school.



Superbloom Project: The bulbs we planted in November are beginning to come through beautifully. These plants will provide essential food for Bumblebee Queens as they emerge from hibernating. Without this supply of food there would be no bumblebees later. This term we will be busy tidying up the allotment area to get it ready to transform into a wildlife haven using the wonderful plans drawn up by Miss Stanley.



Year 3 Fishbourne: Year 3 enjoyed a fantastic trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace where they learnt about the history behind the 2000-year-old ruins of King Togidubnus' home. They enjoyed an excellent workshop where they were able to dress as Roman slaves and take part in a range of Roman activities, including writing on Roman tablets, making mosaics and spinning wool. They were however most excited to be on a double decker bus!

We will see the children on Tuesday the 16th April.

Rob Jones
Headteacher

