



...we really care and make learning fun.

Stottesdon C. of E. Primary School

Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust

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3rd March 2023.

Diary Dates

Monday 6th March	Monday SATs club for year 6 pupils
	No private music lessons—today's lessons will take place on Thursday
Tuesday 7th March	Esther Leverett Williams – Private Music Lessons
	Reception Class – Vision Screening
	Lego & Football After School Clubs
Wednesday 8th March	Esther Leverett Williams – Private Music Lessons
	Yr 5/6 Girls football at Lacon – Please ensure children have warm clothing and shin pads
	Gardening After School Club
Thursday 9th March	Esther Leverett Williams – Private Music Lessons (Monday's lessons moved to today)
	Thursday SATs Club & Netball After School Club
Friday 10th March	Forest Fun Session for N2 & Teme Class Pupils
	Lego After School Club

Well done those who are reading 4 x a week and logging it in reading diaries.

Reminders about school uniform:

Thank you to everyone for sending their children back in smart school uniform (a reminder of this is [here](#)) as it really helps set the 'tone' of a school as an important place where we wear 'work' clothes/uniform that makes us all feel an equal part of the family. Following these standards/rules is an important concept for children and, if given the right value by everyone, helps a culture and ethos of a school. Below are a few reminders we would welcome people remembering:

- PE kits should be in school all the time (jogging bottoms are still a good idea for the cold)
- Short hair cuts should not be shorter than a grade two and long hair should be tied up in a simple hairband (these things become a distraction and a peer pressure)
- Children should not be bringing in toys/teddies to school as this is also distracting learning. This includes elaborate keyrings/zip pulls which are not only dangling off bags but are now dangling off water bottles (getting quite competitive – please ensure children keep these special things at home)

Thank you for your support and, as a result, making sure these rules are fair for everyone.



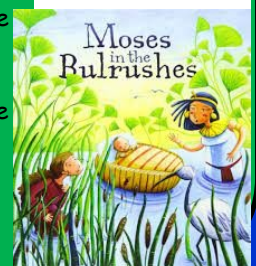
Our Worship/Reflections this week:

This week we have shared our understanding of and given thanks for friendship by:

- Sharing what friendship means
- Learning a new song that celebrates how friendship makes a 'brighter day'
- Welcoming our new friend (Axolotl) - thank you to the school council, Mrs Crook, Mrs Heeley and Mr Middleton for bringing this initiative together. The school council will be sharing more information next week.
- Reflecting, with Reverend Daborn on the story of 'Lowered through the roof,' where friends helped their ill friend to visit Jesus.
- Shared the story of Moses in the bulrushes with Open the Book. We reflected on how wonderful it was that the Pharaoh's daughter didn't care what race/group/country the baby came from but saw it as special. We also reflected on how God is everyone's friend and sees us all as special.
- Celebrating our love of reading with World Book Day.....see the wonderful photos further on.

Friendship is...

- Finding things to do together
- Relying on each other
- Impossible on your own
- Enjoying being together
- Never selfish
- Depending on someone else
- Sharing hopes and dreams
- Happiness and laughter
- Including others
- Precious



EYFS (Nursery and Reception) News

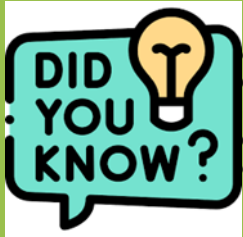
Nursery News:



Please can we request that toys from home do not come to nursery. It's getting tricky to keep track of whose toy is whose and some have got lost. We understand if your child is settling in their may need a small comfort toy to support them.

Look, Say, Sing and Play

During your child's earliest years, their brain makes 1 million neural connections every single second. Positive, supportive experiences with parents and other adults are important to their brain development. Brain-building happens when you and your little one are interacting with each other. It's about taking a cue from them and reacting to what they're doing. You could think of it like a game of tennis - going back and forth between the two of you.



Visit <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/look-say-sing-play/> to sing up for activities and tips.

Don't forget to look at Tapestry or Class Dojo this week!



Forest Fun



It was good to return to Forest Fun today. We explored the changes in the forest and recapped our forest rules.

Reception News

In **Phonics**, this week we've focused on the following phonemes:

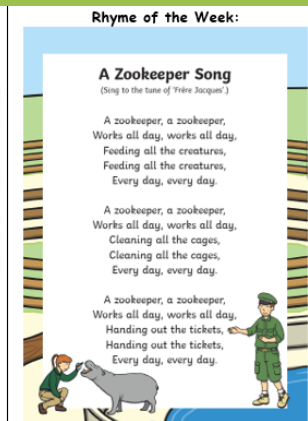
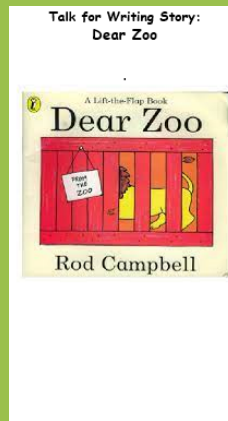
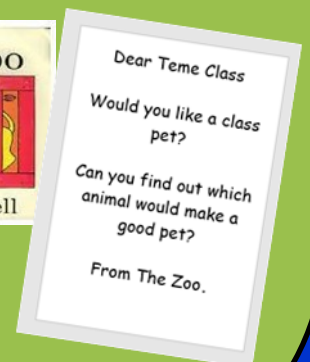
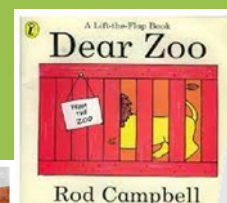
Reception have been learning to read and write the following words:

ai	ee	igh	oa
oo	ar	or	ur
oo	ow	oi	ear

In **Maths**, this week, the children have been consolidating the composition of numbers, by investigating the numbers within 7. Composing and de-composing numbers involves the children investigating part-part-whole relations, e.g. seeing that 7 can be made of 5 and 2. The children are beginning to recognise that numbers can be made by combining parts in different ways, and will be encouraged to make links by considering similarities and differences in the various ways of making 7.

tail	deep	fight	load
food	hard	born	surf
foot	town	boil	hear

In **Talk 4 Writing**, we received a class letter from the Zoo and the story book 'Dear Zoo'. We've created our story map and have learnt many Makaton signs to retell the story



Rea Class

Mrs J Jones has asked if Rea class parents would be able to send in photographs, or email digital photographs of different places that the children may have visited that are not near to Stottesdon. This could be a day trip somewhere, a visit to a relative, in the UK or abroad please. Mrs Jones needs these for a lesson on Wednesday.

Following discussion at parents' evening during the last half term, Mrs J Jones has changed the settings on Numbots, to give the maximum extra time to complete the activities. The maximum that can be set is 3x the normal time period. Numbots advise that it is okay for children to practise a level up to five times before progressing to the next level. Unfortunately, it seems we cannot remove the time control completely, but as stated above, we have given the children the maximum amount of time allowed.

Year 1 phonics for next week will be:

Monday - tch making the ch sound as in match and pitch.

Tuesday - ture making the ch sound as in picture.

Wednesday - al making the ar sound as in half and calm.

Thursday - a making the ar sound as in father (for all children) and grass and bath (for some children). This rule is based on regional accents.

Friday - review day - Sorting words containing ch and tch, and reviewing all words for the week.

Tricky words throughout the week will be:

- reviewing - once, our and laugh
- New words - because and eye.

Year 2 phonics/spellings for next week will be:

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday - learning to spell words spelt with 'su' making the 'zh' sound as in treasure and usual.

Thursday - Homophones - new and knew.

Friday - Homophones - there, their and they're

In maths: Year 1.

In mastering number, we will be: subtracting within 10.

We will also be:

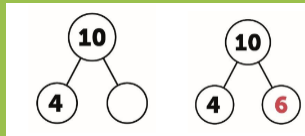
- Considering subtraction stories and showing them whole model.
- Matching different representations of number.

Year 2.

In mastering number, we will be: Subtracting across the tens boundary, both as take-away and as difference.

We will also be:

- Subtracting bridging ten using an expanded column method.
- Finding the difference and recording this as subtraction. $12 - 5 = 7$
- Choosing the best way to add a 2-digit number and a 1 digit number.



I had 10 objects, I have taken away 4 objects and I have 6 objects left.

2 + 7 = □

The total of 7 and 2 is 9

$10 - 10 = 0$

I started with 10. Then took away 10. There were none left.

8 = 10 - 2



Keeping Parents Informed of Patterns and Issues That It Would Be Good For Us All To Work Together On—Appropriate Language

All of our children are able to talk politely and clearly—conversations with our children are a joy.

Historically and still today, all schools have needed to help children understand about appropriate words and swear words (the latter being words they occasionally might hear but we don't chose to use).

Recently staff seem be needing to help children understand a broader range of phrases and words that aren't nice/appropriate. We think that this may be influenced by 'looser' language in general, models from older peers and the increased access to a range of influences on the internet/social media/in music. Below are some examples that staff are helping children understand aren't appropriate. Obviously, if children, after being helped to understand, continue to use inappropriate phrases we follow our [behaviour policy](#). We would welcome parents taking a similar stance and listen out for inappropriate language. Please feel free to come and chat and share so we can all work on this together.



Phrases	How staff might deal with it
I'm going to kill you/Your dead (children don't mean it but don't see what is wrong with it in their play).	It's not nice to say that in our playpeople dying is a sad thing.....let's make this a happier game.....
You're weird....	That's not nice and hurts people's feelings (we shouldn't label others they might not like it). It is okay to say that's a strange thing to do or look at the weird pattern.
Any phrases about our own private parts or other people's private parts. Derogatory comments to others.	Privates are private—that is making people feel uncomfortable. We don't comment/joke/banter about other people's private parts or sexual orientation. That's not respecting one another. Further information on inappropriate sexualised behaviour can be found here .

Active Learners

The 5 'B's

Brain



Board



Book



Buddy



Boss



As a staff we have been reflecting on what we do to help children become active (as opposed to passive) learners. Many of our children have excellent learning behaviours but we are seeing a slight increase in children who do less on their own without direct instruction e.g. don't open laptops to turn them on; don't open a book to read it; sit and do nothing if they are stuck etc.

As staff we have revisited our strategies of how we help children with their independence and thought it might be worth sharing it with parents. Below is guidance we use as staff. Children also have the 5 B's in classes to encourage them to independently help themselves and prevent a belief that they need an adult to do it.



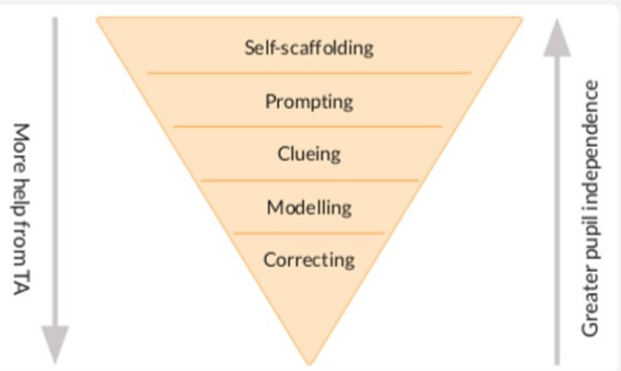
Self-scaffolding: TA observes that the pupil is working independently and does not intervene.

Prompting: TA uses wait time (10 secs) to see if the pupil can get started, asks a prompt question such as 'Can you remember what Mr T said you need to do first?', or gestures to a useful resource such as a model on an interactive white board or a word-bank on a table.

Clueing: TA uses a statement, 'The ruler will help you', or question, 'How could the ruler help you?', to give one piece of information at a time to support accessing the task. Several clues may be needed.

Modelling: TA demonstrates the next step the child needs to complete and then asks the child to take this step. 'I am using the word-bank to find a word to help me describe my character ...'

Correcting: The TA provides answers and requires no independent thinking. Occasionally it is appropriate to do this, however, TAs should always aim instead to model and encourage pupils to apply new skills or knowledge first.



As parents it might be worth thinking through how you are developing your child's independence as opposed to being reliant on you doing it. As mums, we all know that sometimes it is quicker to do it yourself but before long, they either expect us to help or don't believe they can do it themselves. Half term might be a good time to try the approach below:

1. Give notice

Get your child on board by encouraging them to help you and become more independent.

2. Identify opportunities

Make a list of things they could be doing themselves. Ask them which duties they feel big enough to take on e.g. brushing hair, getting dressed, having school bag organised, tying shoe laces, clear away their breakfast things, get their own breakfast things ready etc

3. Target priorities

Tackle **one item** at a time, so you don't overwhelm them.

4. Make time

If it takes her 10 minutes to brush her own hair, start your morning 10 minutes earlier (and put down the brush!). You'll be a calmer influence when you're not racing against the clock.

5. Forget perfection

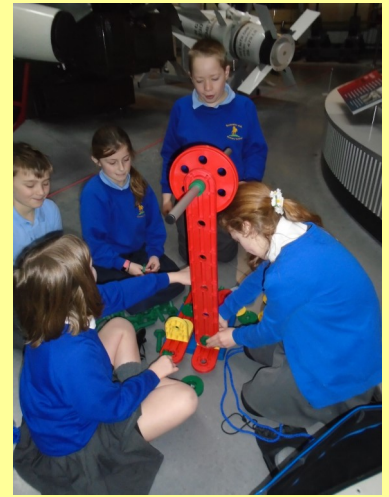
Accept that they won't do the task as well as you. If the milk spills, show them how to clean it up **without criticism** and assure them it happens to everyone

6. Praise something

Instead of pointing out that their shoes are on the wrong feet, say, "You put on your own shoes! Good job!" They'll discover the discomfort on their own. Give **positive follow-up** like, "I bet you'll get them on the right feet tomorrow."

Severn Class

On Wednesday Severn Class visited RAF Cosford where they attended a levers and pulleys workshop



Swimming Gala

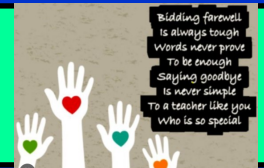
We have been invited to take part in the Primary Schools swimming gala for South Shropshire on Wednesday 22nd March at Teme Leisure, Ludlow.

The gala is open to year 3 / 4 and 5 / 6. Strokes will be front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke for both age groups, and butterfly for year 5 / 6. There will be a relay too. It is a fun morning in Ludlow. You must be able to swim a length confidently, and be willing to cheer your team mates on. If you are interested in taking part, Miss Robinson will be holding the meeting on Tuesday 7th March.



Mrs King's Leaving Gift

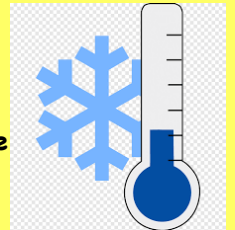
.....don't forget to donate if you would like to.....



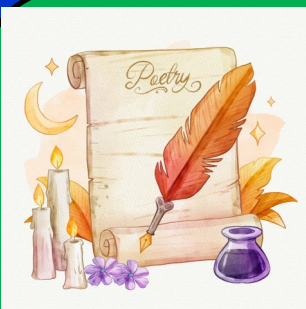
Bidding farewell
is always tough
Words never prove
to be enough
Saying goodbye
is never simple
To a teacher like you
Who is so special.

Emergency Closures: Winter Weather Arrangements

As we head deeper into the winter period, we would like to remind parents of the procedure if we need to close the school (due to severe weather, damage to school buildings, loss of utility supplies, difficulty in accessing the site to make it safe). Closure will always be as a last resort to ensure the safety of staff and students. Schools are expected to stay open unless there is no other sensible option than to close and staff know that travel to work / school is regarded by both the police and the Council's Highways Management as an essential journey. However, there may be times when the school feels it is unsafe to be open or needs a delayed start to give more time for staff to travel safely.



- Decisions will be made and communicated by 7am at the latest.
- Decisions to close will be sent by email and will be announced on Shropshire Radio (**Frequency:** 96 MHz, 90 MHz, 95 MHz, 104.1 MHz)



**SGET Evening of Poetry to celebrate international poetry day:
Tuesday 21st March 2023 @ 6pm – Lacon Childe School.**

Mrs Britton, from the English department at Lacon, has been supporting / inspiring children to consider whether they want to perform a poem by heart at the event detailed above. Children who are interested will be bringing letters home with further details. Please return the letter to confirm participation (please note parents will need to transport and collect children themselves).

Reception and Nursery's topic for Spring 2 is 'Wild Animals Around the World'.

To bring the learning alive for the children, we have organised for Corner Exotics to come into school on Friday 24th March 2023 to show a range of 35 exotic animals. This will give the children a first-hand experience workshop of what different animals from around the world look like, their habitats and their life cycles.

As this is an exciting experience, we are inviting KS1 and KS2 to join in with the fun with a shorter 'hands on' meet and greet with the animals - Q and A's session with experts about fears, phobias and the environments that these animals come from, how they protect themselves.



For this session to go ahead we are asking for a voluntary contribution of:

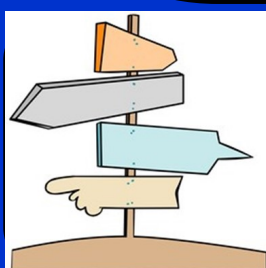
Nursery: £4.25

Reception: £4.25

Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6: £2.70

Those children eligible for benefit related free school meals are asked for a 50% contribution of the above amount.

Contributions are voluntary, but we must point out that without sufficient support such visits will not be able to take place. We hope that you agree that the children's education benefits greatly from such visits. Please make your voluntary contribution through Squid by 17th March 2023. If your child has any allergies and CANNOT touch the animals, please let the office know.



Please note that when the school signposts to activities and services, that these are not vetted by the school and it is parental responsibility to do so.

However, we do recognise that it is useful to signpost and share information that maybe of interest to you.



MESSAGES FROM FOSPS

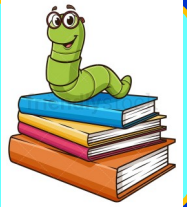
- **SAVE THE DATE:** film night returns after school on the 24th March—more information next week.
- Last Easter children loved the Easter Raffle organised by FOSPS. Please send in donations so we can do this again (tickets will be sold in last week of term). We are also doing adult hampers to raffle so if you are able to send in a few treats for parents that would also be welcomed.
- Don't forget to join the school lottery—poster attached to the school news.



Class Reading Information:

Time: 100% Rea: Yr 1=100% Yr 2 91% Corve: 55% Severn: 97%

PLEASE HELP OUR CHILDREN AND READ WITH THEM 4 TIMES A WEEK TO HELP DEVELOPMENT WITH THIS CRUCIAL LIFE SKILL.



Achievers

Well done this week to:

Walt for his knowledge of animals from around the world and the type of habitat they prefer to live.

Francesca for her enthusiasm for writing her world book day riddle.

Cash for his responsible learning choices this week.

Oliver for his detail in his map for his route to school in geography.

Lana, Aaron, Jenson St and Gabriel for their fantastic work adding and subtracting fractions.

All of Severn Class for their excellent behaviour and engagement in learning whilst at R.A.F Cosford.

Bronze Spelling Bee: JJ, Elliot & Lorelei

Book Voucher: Harry M, JJ



Time Class — Numbots — Eva George
Rea Class — Numbots — Fletcher Middleton

Corve Class — Times Tables Rock Stars — Harrison Cook



Sports stars of the week:

Time Class: Jackson for being able to create his own ways of moving when being a variety of animals in the jungle.

Rea Class: Phoebe and Esther for good group work in our first games and use of space session.

Corve Class: Hollie D and Bella L for their fantastic work creating a routine using Indian hand gestures.

Severn Class: Nate & Jack for great interception skills in bench ball.



Using words of the week

I have a thin table that I play on at home. Ned

My dog often goes outside. William M

I clapsed onto my bed because a ginormous earthquake was smashing my room. Ellie

The monster's nauseating breath could suffocate their victim in an instance. Nate