



Stanhope Barrington Co E Primary School Newsletter

SPRING 2022



Dear Parents / Carers

We are now almost two thirds of the way through this academic year—and what a year it has been (again).

It is lovely to be able to welcome parents and visitors back into school and although we have taken our usual pragmatic approach to 'Living with Covid', we have had a steady stream of visitors and volunteers working in school. We have also been able to take our children out and about again with visits around Stanhope, attending a Tennis festival and an educational visit to Beamish. We are also looking forward to holding Sports Day and our Summer Fair with more educational visits during the Summer Term. Despite the lifting of restrictions, Covid, however, remains and at the beginning of the Spring term we had to implement our Outbreak Management Plan and continue to struggle with staffing levels as members of our team test positive. In fact, we haven't had our full complement of staff since we returned to school in September 2021.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

VACANCY

We have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor to start after the Easter holidays. One hour per day Monday—Friday. Please ring the School office for more information.

NOTICE BOARD BACK IN

ACTION

From Monday 21st March 2022, our School Noticeboard is now back in action. We will be using the noticeboard to share events and news.

Parents should continue to check the Website for letters and information.

RED NOSE DAY

Congratulations to everyone who took part in our Stanhope's Got Talent Show on Red Nose Day. The acts were all phenomenal.

Trophies were awarded to 1st, 2nd & 3rd places for each age group category.

We raised £500! Thank you for all your support. The video will be on our You Tube channel shortly!



Science Week

During week commencing 21st March 2022, we held our annual Science week.

Each Learning zone had specific lessons focussed on a theme:

Opal & Amethyst—Food

Sapphire—Bees

Ruby—Marine life & coasts

Emerald—Climate change

Diamond—Biodiversity

We also had a whole school assembly about our local Peat Bogs which are as important to climate change as the

Amazon Rainforest.



Team GB Athlete—Sponsored Circuits

On Thursday 17th March, Charlie Myers (Pole Vaulter) attended school to run a sponsored circuit event.

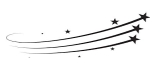
School will receive 60% of all sponsorship raised whilst Team GB will receive the remaining 40%.

Thank you to everyone who supported our children to raise money for their school. Sponsorship closed on Thursday 24th March by which point our total had reached £890!

Prizes for individual children will be awarded soon.



TENNIS STARS



Congratulations to our Ruby Learning Zone who won at a recent tennis festival at Parkside.

Diamond visit Beamish

Our first Educational visit since

restrictions were lifted took place on Thursday 10th March. Our children from the Diamond learning zone went to visit the 1950's village at Beamish and specifically Spainsfield Farm which originated from Weardale. The children have written and recorded poetry which celebrates life in Weardale and three children (Olivia, Danielle & Joey) attended the official opening on Saturday 19th March. They read out their poems in front of a large public audience and we are very proud of them.

The Great British Bread Off

This half term each learning zone have focused on different types of bread and on Friday 25th March 2022 we welcomed Tony Humphries and Sarah Stancliffe from Bread Church (St .Thomas') to judge the entries for our competition. After much deliberation,

Congratulations go to the Sapphire learning zone for their fantastic Soda Bread. See the whole school events section (under the Our learning drop down menu) of our website for more details and photos.



West End Refugee Service (WERS)

WERS came into school on Monday 7th March to deliver a whole school assembly. The session was delivered sensitively and was very moving with Jess (a refugee from South America) showing amazing strength and courage as she shared her experiences.

The assembly had been planned as part of a community project which the Emerald learning zone are taking part in but turned out to be extremely poignant given the war in Ukraine.

PTA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Our PTA is known as the Fellowship of Stanhope Barrington and was established in March 2021.

Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for 3.30pm on Monday 9th May in the school hall.

VOLUNTEERS URGENTLY NEEDED

We are looking for volunteer readers to join our amazing team of volunteers who come into school to read with our children each week.

If you have 2 hours per week to spare we would love to hear from you. We can arrange days & times to suit you.

We are also offering training to all of our volunteer readers on our new phonics programme—Little Wandle.

Our new programme requires children to read 3 times per week so each Learning zone needs at least two readers.

If you are interested please contact Mrs Cross to discuss.



Social Action at Stanhope

In February we took part in a social action campaign called Show The Love. Instead of celebrating the people we love for Valentines Day, we celebrated our love for our planet. We had a whole school assembly to Show The Love and some of our children sent postcards to Richard Holden (MP) to tell him what they would miss most in the world if it become extinct. This was a national campaign and supported by schools across the country.



Decorate An Easter Egg Competition & Raffle

On Friday 8th April, we will be holding a 'Decorate an egg' competition. Prizes have been donated by Scotmid. Please bring your child's entry on the day.

Our Easter Egg raffle will be drawn on Friday 8th with tickets on sale at the main gate from Monday 4th April.



Great news for Power Play

We are delighted to announce a 3 year funding programme has been agreed with Cook's. The local company has committed to donating £5000 per year for 3 years to support our development of the outdoor field and yard into different Play zones. Each year will see new zones added. All play zones have been chosen by the children who worked closely with Mr Storey (Senior Leader) to develop the 3 year strategy. We are incredibly grateful to William Cook's for this enormous and generous level of support.



LITTLE WANDLE—A NEW PHONICS PROGRAMME

On Tuesday 3rd May 2022, we are implementing our new synthetic systematic phonics programme called Little Wandle.

This is a totally new way of teaching and learning phonics. All of our staff have been fully trained and training is being provided for our volunteer readers.

It is essential that parents/carers who have children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 understand this significant change .

We are holding two briefing sessions for Parents/carers:

Monday 4th April at 6pm in the school hall

Tuesday 5th April at 5.30pm via zoom.

Please choose which one you would prefer to attend. If you would like a zoom link emailing to you, please register at the school office.

HOLIDAYS 2022/2023

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-open
Easter 2022	Friday 08 April 2022	Monday 25 April 2022
May Day 2022	Friday 29 April 2022	Tuesday 03 May 2022
Summer half-term 2022	Friday 27 May 2022	Tuesday 07 June 2022
Summer 2022	Wednesday 20 July 2022	Wednesday 07 September 2022
Autumn half-term 2022	Friday 21 October 2022	Monday 31 October 2022
Christmas 2022	Friday 16 December 2022	Wednesday 4 January 2023
Spring half- term 2023	Friday 17 February 2023	Monday 27 February 2023
Easter 2023	Friday 31 March 2023	Monday 17 April 2023
May Day 2023	Friday 28 April 2023	Tuesday 2 May 2023
Summer half-term 2023	Thursday 25 May 2023	Monday 5 June 2023
Summer 2023	Friday 21 July 2023	Wednesday 06 September 2023

If your child will not be attending school, due to illness, medical appointments etc., please can you call the school office before 9.00 am to let us know the reason why? Any absence that is not reported will be recorded as 'Missing from Education' on your child's record. If they are 'Missing from Education' for more than 48 hours we are required to inform County Hall.



Don't forget ...

If you do need to take your child from school during term-time, for whatever reason, please complete a 'Leave of Absence' form which is available from the school office.

This form should be completed and returned to the school in advance of the absence.

**Mrs D Cross, Head Teacher
Tel: 01388 528218**