Stanford Newsletter

Exploring and Learning Together, Inspiring Each Other

Stanford PRIMARY SCHOOL

Term: Autumn 1 | 2nd October 2026 | Issue 2

Mrs Lake says...

September is coming to an end and we are delighted with how the new Primary School is coming together. I can honestly say I am loving my job! We have now introduced a way of teaching, across the whole school, that everyone is really embedding. I do (the teacher explains, thinks out loud and models the lesson), we do (the children join in with ideas and sometimes work all together) and the you do (where the children work independently). The leadership team have spent time in every class, watching the teaching and seeing how this new approach is developing. Please do ask your children - which part of the lesson do they like the most? We are really grateful for the parent support and questions, as our school develops.

You will always find a member of the leadership team on the gates every day. Please do talk to us and ask anything!

Emma Lake
Headteacher

Emma Remnant
Deputy Head

Roisin Doran
Assistant Head - Inclusion/ SENDCo

Lesley Walker
Assistant Head - Teaching & Learning

Upcoming Dates

The Diary Dates for the academic year can be found by clicking here. All upcoming dates are posted on our School Website calendar.

Mon 5th October
1.30pm - Y5/6 Author Visit - MG Leonard, Book Nook

Weds 7th October
Tree House Grand Opening
Year 4 Arundel Wetlands Trip

Thurs 15th October
year 6 National Child Measuring Prgramme

Thurs 22nd October
Individual School Photographs (Infant Site)

Fri 23rd October - Last day of Term
Crazy Halloween Hair Day (both sites)
1.30pm - Y3/4 Author Visit - Jamie Gregory
(Assembly & Book Sale, 3.30pm)

Click here for Term Dates 2026-27

Parent Pay Update

We are still working hard to resolve the Parent Pay issues affecting some parents/ carers. We are aware that some balances are showing incorrectly and understand the frustration and concern this is causing. As the system is run by the Council, we have limited access and involvement with the back-end administration but please rest assured that we are doing everything we can to rectify the problem. Thank you for your patience.

Learning at Stanford Primary!

A snapshot of learning from aross the school - take a look at what we have been up to!

Don't forget to join us on **Weds 7th October**, **9am** at the Infant Site for the Grand Opening of our Tree House!

Learning Spotlight – Year 5 get musical!

Year 5 have been learning about Early Music this term and are very lucky to have had visits from the Brighton Early Music Festival in preparation for a concert on Friday night. The children will be singing songs that are hundreds of years old, in English, Italian and Latin. The concert is in front of a large live audience and is the opening concert of the Brighton Early Music Festival- a wonderful opportunity for the children to perform alongside professional musicians.

House Captains & School Council

House Captain assemblies took place this week at the Junior site. Year 6 children gave speeches to their houses (Dragons, Unicorns, Phoenix & Griffins) about why they feel they would make a good house captain. Children will now take a vote and house captains will be announced soon!

Children will soon vote for School Councillors to represent their class at meetings with Mrs Lake.These will be announced soon. Mrs Lake is looking forward to meeting with the children and hearing their ideas.

Ofsted

Our school is due an Ofsted inspection, we do not know when this will happen. We are looking forward to showcasing our new primary school and the progress we're making. Ofsted has already visited several schools in Brighton & Hove this term, so our inspection could be approaching soon. There is no need for concern, and we will keep you updated about any visit as soon as we have more information.

Patchwork Quilts

Year two have been creating all kinds of beautiful patchwork quilt inspired art. This is Regent class's quilt of things that are special to them.

Brilliant Book Fair!

The children at the junior site enjoyed a fantastic assembly from Afrori books today. Thank you to everyone that supported the Book Fairs this afternoon which was organised through Afrori Books. The children were very excited to browse the selection of books on offer.

Afrori
Books of Black Origin

Playground Safety

Please ensure your children use the school grounds appropriately and the beginning and end of the school day. The Climbing Frames and outdoor equipment are always enjoyed by the children during school times; however, they are closed at the beginning and end of the school day as they are not supervised and therefore compromises health and safety regulations. We would welcome your support in discouraging your child/ren from using any equipment.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Half Term Clubs

Click the flyers below for more information and how to book these excellent half-term clubs!

MK ACTIVE

TENNIS TIGERS

YOUNG ENGINEERS

Hello from the Governors!

Hello from the Governors of Stanford Primary school. Firstly can we thank the staff, the children and yourselves for an amazing start to the new school year.

We thought we'd write to tell you a bit about us and what we've been up to during the very early days of our new primary school. There are 15 of us on the governing body comprising the headteacher, a staff governor, 2 parent governors, a local authority governor and 10 co-opted governors (some of whom are also parents of children in the school). We are also looking forward to welcoming a new parent governor to the team following the election that concludes today. It's been wonderful to have so much interest in the process and we're very grateful to all the candidates for putting themselves forward.

We meet as a governing body twice a term. We also have 2 committees: one which looks at quality of education and teaching and learning and the other at Finance, staffing and buildings. They each meet termly and report back to the full governing body.

Governors are responsible for strategic policy and direction whilst the headteacher and her leadership team deal with daily operational organisation, deployment of staff and the planning and delivery of the curriculum.

So far this term we have made a number of visits already. These have focused on getting a sense of how the merger is 'bedding down' and responding promptly to any early teething issues. The co-chairs were present at the start of a school day and then visited all classes with the head. We were extremely impressed by how calm, settled and purposeful the whole school was. We have a nominated governor for staff well-being who is also the link with our PTFAs. They have visited and talked to staff. We are particularly thankful for all staff handling the strains of organisational and systems change this term with dedication and professionalism. Other governors are linked to aspects such as safeguarding, inclusion and diversity, special educational needs, early years, finance and buildings and health and safety.

Our new headteacher and her leadership team are very experienced, open, approachable and consultative. This has been much appreciated by staff and governors alike.

As Governors we want to remain actively and appropriately involved to support our amazing school. We are listening! We are keen to receive your ideas and suggestions as to how you think we can keep you better informed of our work and be more accessible when required. We recognise and value to strong parent and carer community which supports and champions the school. Please feel free to share your ideas. As chairs we can be contacted by email: GedCotton@stanfordprimary.school or PeterSearle@stanfordprimary.school

Thank you again to everyone for the commitment and support you continue to show. Together we are a team that will continue to work and learn together to ensure our fantastic school continues to strengthen and thrive.

For more information on our Governing Board, visit our website www.stanfordprimary.school > Our School/ Our Governors

Stanford Primary PTFA

Our PTFA plays an important part in bringing our school community together and helping to make a difference for our children. Find out about upcoming events, fundraising activities and ways you can get involved!

The PTFA have wasted no time getting stuck in with activities and fundraisers this year. Last week the Juniors hosted a record-breaking Cake Sale, raising £636.62! We have never gone over £500, let alone £600! Thanks to everyone who volunteered and made/bought cakes... also those who did some emergency shopping to bulk out the donations. What a fabulous start to the year!

We are looking forward to welcoming the Reception to Yr 3 children to Film Night tonight, the first film night ever for our new Reception children! We'll be watching The Lego Movie with popcorn and pyjamas, while parents enjoy the PTFA bar. Have fun everyone, big and small!

But that's not all, we are running the Christmas Card Project again this year and the children have already begun working on their designs in class. A big thank you to the teachers for helping with this! This is a fun and easy way to raise money for the PTFA, while creating personal cards and gifts for the festive season. More information about how to order cards and items featuring your child's artwork will be available soon, so keep an eye on their bookbags and Ping to get your orders in for delivery by Christmas!

We are always in need of extra help with events, putting up posters, running the bar or helping with the raffle teams. No amount of help is too small so please do get in touch with the PTFA either in person or at stanfordjuniorptfa@gmail.com or stanfordinfantsptfa@gmail.com.

We're very happy to confirm the PTFA roles for this year. Please join us in both congratulating and thanking the following parents for volunteering their time to support the PTFA.

Infant Site
Chair: James Harper (Marina & 4AF)
Secretary: Lauren Hughes (Ocean & 4JW)
Treasurer: Michael Goodfellow (Pier)

Junior Site
Chair: Maxine Hort (6MM)
Secretary: Malika Boostani (3LC & Pier)
Treasurer: Emma Mowatt (6MR & 4AF)
Co-treasurer: Clare Baker (3AB)

Upcoming Dates for your diary

Fri 23 Oct - Crazy Halloween Hair day for the whole school - Halloween is fast approaching and before you start planning your fancy-dress costumes we have some fun planned for the children's last day of term! Children are invited to come to school with their wackiest, weirdest, scariest hairdo in exchange for a donation to the PTFA. Children with the weirdest, wildest most bonkers hair will have their photo taken to be celebrated in the next newsletter, so don't hold back!

Save the dates after half term - our **fantastic Christmas & Festive fayres are on Sun 29 Nov (Juniors site) and Sat 5 Dec (Infants site)**, which are not to be missed!

If you can't attend a PTFA event and would like to donate instead, you can do this via the link below:
https://cafdonate.cafonline.org/28365#!/DonationDetails
(Please note that this is currently only for the Infants PTFA)

Preloved Uniform

The Preloved Uniform boxes at both the infants and juniors have been so loved that they are overflowing! Items are in great used condition so please take a look and help yourselves. At the Infants, the boxes are outside the double doors to the hall (past the bike shed!). At the Juniors, they are just outside the main reception doors.

Year 6 Leaver Hoodies

This year the school have asked the PTFA to organise the Leavers' Hoodies earlier in the year, so that Yr 6's can wear them for longer. Parents and carers of all Yr 6 students will be contacted in October to place an order, and we are aiming for delivery early in the new year. Samples for children to try on will be made available at the Junior's office and we will confirm when they are on site. We strongly encourage students to try the hoodies on to pick the right size to avoid disappointment.

Stanford
Infants & Juniors
PTFA
FRIDAY OCTOBER 23RD 2026
CRAZY HALLOWEEN
HAIR DAY
Parents to make a donation via ParentPay or cash
at school gates on the day to take part.
SUGGESTED MINIMUM DONATION OF £2