

Spring 2 2025

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About It

Discover

The latest news and information from the staff and children at Stourport Primary Academy.



HEADLINES

Wow, what a Spring Term we have had at SPA! We've had Roman days, author visits, sporting trips, Mother's day celebrations, discos, House Rewards and of course Bennie the dog, to name just a few of the things that have been happening here. The learning that has been going on in school over the last 13 weeks has been phenomenal - we are so proud of all our children.

I would like to say a big thank you for all the support you gave us during our OFSTED inspection. We were particularly grateful to you, for being so accommodating about the sudden change of Parents' Evenings - something we know is very important to you all.

We have a lot of things going on in the Summer Term, so look out for the Summer Term dates' letter which will be shared with you very soon.

We hope you have a wonderful Easter holiday and get a chance to eat some chocolate and enjoy some sunshine. We will see you all again on Monday 28th April to start our final term of this academic year.

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What we've been up to!

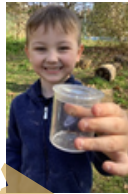
Mulberry & Elderberry Nursery -



Spring into action:

Our Mulberry and Elderberry nursery classes have been blooming this spring! We've been making the most of the sunshine, exploring the wonders of the natural world. From digging and planting in our garden to adventurous mornings at Forest School and the adventure playground, our little learners have been busy!

We've embarked on spring nature walks, becoming keen bug hunters, and even enjoyed feeding our feathered friends. Through these hands-on experiences, we're learning all about growing, the changing seasons, and the exciting transformations happening all around us. It's been a joy to watch our children blossom alongside the spring flowers!



Year 2 - Science & Vincent Van Gogh:

Year 2 have enjoyed a plant-based science experiment this term. We planted some seeds in different environments and watched how they grew! Some were in darkness, some exposed to light, some with water and some without. The children were fascinated to see how different environments have an affect on how things grow. We also got our Art on! We painted like Vincent Van Gogh, using different techniques to create our masterpieces!



Rainbow - Police & Nurse Visits:

Rainbow have been very busy this term learning about people who help us. Rainbow have enjoyed lots of experiences including: trying on different police equipment and even sitting in a police car, pressing the siren and flashing lights. We also had a visit from a nurse who talked to us about how nurses can help us, Rainbow loved exploring the medical equipment.



We have also found out about guide dogs and how to be safe around dogs. This activity was made even more memorable when we met Bennie the dog. Rainbow had lots of interesting questions for the vet when they visited too. What an exciting term!



Year 1 - Author Visit:

Author Visit - At Stourport Primary Academy we welcomed all six other schools from across the trust. We all came together to experience a visit from an author called Andrew Clover. He talked to the schools about how he came up with his ideas for his books and gave the children lots of ways to think of ideas for their own stories!



Year 3 - Author Visit:



Author Visit - This half term, Year 3 had the exciting opportunity to take part in a creative writing workshop lead by author Andrew Clover. Inspired by the detective Rory Branagan series written by Andrew, the Year 3s crafted their own stories rooted in crime and solving mysteries. We did this along with all the other Year 3 classes in The Trust, Oak and Sycamore were respectful to our visitor and demonstrated kindness when complimenting each other's work.

What we've been up to!

Year 4 - Roman Day:



Our Year 4 pupils' were transported back in time to Ancient Rome! A 'real' Roman soldier visited, bringing tales of emperors, battles and everyday life. Children were captivated by stories of gladiators and the mighty Roman Empire.

Hands-on activities brought history to life. Pupils learned about Roman clothing, tried their hand at traditional Roman games and even experienced the thrill of marching in Roman military formations.

The classrooms echoed with the sounds of battle cries, as our young soldiers practised their shield walls and spear tactics!

The day was a fantastic success, leaving everyone with a deeper understanding of Roman history and we had a whole lot of fun. A big thank you to our Roman soldier for bringing history to life!



Year 5 - Geography Field Trip:



Year 5 had lots of fun on their geography field trip to the historic Witley Court, where they put their map-reading skills to the test! Exploring the site, the children navigated their way using maps, identifying key landmarks and features.

They also honed their observational skills by creating detailed sketch maps of the site. They engaged in insightful conversations with a knowledgeable site member, learning about the dramatic changes Witley Court has undergone over the centuries. This hands-on experience brought their classroom learning to life, allowing them to connect with the past and develop a deeper understanding of geographical concepts.



Year 6 - STEM Workshop:



Children in KS2 enjoyed a STEM workshop earlier this term where they used K'Nex to design and make a digger. The design brief stated that their model must include a moving loader or hauler, 4 wheels and a seat for the driver. There were some fantastic designs with winners chosen in each year group. The overall winners were Jacob and JJ in Y6 who will go on to represent the school at the next stage of the competition in June.



Honesty



Teamwork



World Book Day was a great success, children enjoyed dressing up as their favourite book characters. The 'Dress a Plate' competition was very well-supported, with entries including: Harry Potter, Rapunzel, Scarecrows and Fairy Tales to name but a few.



There were many winners overall and Mrs. Maybury had the difficult task of selecting the winners. Children won a new book and some sweet treats. Well done to all who entered.



Overall Attendance



Our school's attendance is a key factor in ensuring all our pupils reach their full potential. Regular attendance allows children to benefit from all the learning opportunities offered in the classroom.

Currently, our school's overall attendance rate is 92.5%. While we appreciate the efforts of all families in prioritising attendance, the national average for primary schools stands at 94.8%. We are working hard to close this gap and need your support!



WE CAN DO IT

ATTENDANCE NEWS:

Congratulations to our top-performing classes this Term:

- **Elm Class** with a fantastic attendance rate of **95.8%!**
- **Fir Class** with an impressive **95.3%!**
- **Ash Class** with a commendable **95.1%!**



These classes have demonstrated excellent commitment to learning, and we encourage all other classes to strive for similar results.

Every day counts! Even a few missed days can impact a child's learning. We understand that illnesses occur and we appreciate you informing the school promptly when your child is absent. Let's work together to ensure all our pupils have the best possible chance to succeed.



Punctuality:

Getting to school on time is crucial for a successful day of learning. When children arrive late, they miss important instructions, disrupt the class and can feel unsettled.

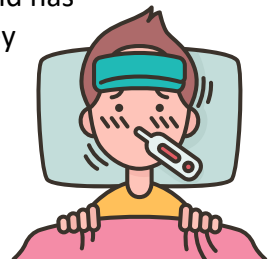
At our school, we strive to create a positive learning environment from the moment the bell rings. Please make every effort to ensure your child arrives at school promptly. A few minutes late each day adds up to lost learning time.

Did you know? That being late by 15 minutes each day is the same as missing two weeks of learning each year!

Illness:

We understand that keeping children healthy and in school can be a balancing act. To help clarify our policy regarding illness and attendance, please note the following guidelines:

- **Coughs and Common Colds:** Children with a mild cough or common cold may attend school. We understand these are common and often linger. We will monitor children and contact you if we have any concerns.
- **Temperature or Sickness Bug:** If your child has a temperature of 38°C or higher, or if they have experienced vomiting or diarrhoea, please keep them at home for at least 48 hours after the last episode. This helps prevent the spread of illness within the school.



We appreciate your cooperation in helping us maintain a healthy learning environment for all our pupils. If you are unsure whether to send your child to school, please do not hesitate to contact the school office for advice.

Kindness

Respect

SAFEGUARDING NEWS:

What Parents need to know about **SCREEN ADDICTION** - taken from the NHS website.

Things to Look out for!

Lack of sleep:

7 out of 10 children said they had missed out on sleep because of their online habits and 60% said they had neglected school work as a result. It is important that children get the sleep they need in order to focus the next day.

Loss of interest in other things:

Your child may become less interested in anything that does not include their device. You may notice that your child is missing school time and generally being less engaged with other activities in the home. It is important to discuss this with your child as soon as you notice a behaviour change.

TOP TIPS FOR PARENTS

Limit screen time:

In today's digital age, technology is an important part of a child's development so completely banning them from their device will mean they are missing out on a lot, including conversations and communication with their friends. Rather than banning them from using their devices, we suggest setting a screen time limit. Work out what you think is a suitable and healthy amount of time for your child to be on their devices for their school homework, so only set screen limits on recreational time on their device. Once you have established this, have the conversation with them to discuss why you are implementing a screen limit.

Lead by example:

Children model their behaviour on their peers, so if their parents are constantly on their device, they will see this as acceptable. Try limiting your own screen time and follow the same rules you have set for them. If you have asked your child to not use their device at the table, make sure you don't. Try setting house rules that the whole family abides by.

Remove devices from their bedroom:

Setting a rule about removing devices from bedrooms will help your child to get the sleep they need and be more focussed the next day at school. Even by having a device switched off in their bedroom, they may be tempted to check for notifications.

Encourage alternative activities: It may seem like an obvious solution, but encouraging children to play with their friends, read a book, or playing outdoors will help them realise they can have fun, without their device. Playing football, trampolining, camping, going for a walk or swimming are all healthy replacements for screen time. Try to join them in their outdoor activities to show your support.



Curriculum Corner

Reception

Next half term Rainbow will be exploring the world of 'growth'. We will be planting and caring for cress, beans and tomatoes which will help them learn first hand about what a seed needs in order to grow and about the process of growth.

Year 1

After Easter, Year 1 will be exploring the world of Tails, Teeth and Talons. In Science, we will be learning about how we can classify animals by their features and what they eat. In DT, we will be making a free standing chair fit for a tiger who will visit us for tea.



Year 2

Next half term Year 2 will be exploring Amazing Africa! In music we will be using computer software to create our own piece of music based on an animal. In Geography, we will be looking at the country of Kenya and the similarities/differences between there and the UK. We also will be studying the poem of 'The Big Five' and then creating our own African animal poem.



Year 3

Our next Year 3 topic will be Flow. We will be exploring the geography of rivers, focusing on how they shape the landscape. The children will learn about the meeting of the River Severn and River Stour in Stourport and will go on a trip to investigate how the land is used around these rivers.

We will also study tectonic plates and how volcanic activity has influenced the Earth's surface. Through hands-on activities and engaging lessons, the children will develop their understanding of these fascinating natural processes.

We look forward to an exciting and educational term!



Year 4

In the Summer term, Year 4 will be studying the topic Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. We will be learning about how humans impact the global environment and in particular, how we impact our immediate environment in Stourport.

Our English will be based on 'The Iron man' by Ted Hughes.

Science is Living Things and Their Habitats .

Year 5

Our next Year 5 topic will be 'Invaders and Settlers: Anglo Saxons'. We will be exploring King Alfred and researching whether he is worthy of being called 'The Great'. Our new class book will be 'Beowulf' which will be used as inspiration for our creative writing during this topic.

The children will also have the opportunity to take part in 'Bikeability' which is a chance for them to develop real life skills and learn about road safety.



Year 6

Next half term, Year 6 will continue with their topic, All Roads Lead to Baghdad. We will be particularly focussing on the tales of the Arabian Nights to help us with our creative story writing, we will also be studying Islamic Art and creating our own designs whilst developing skills in using a pair of compasses to create patterns with circles. During the week beginning 12th May, Year 6 will take their statutory SATs exams which they have been working hard for.

TALENT SHOW



To celebrate 'Comic Relief' this year, talented children performed in our amazing annual Talent show.

It was fantastic to see a range of children's known and hidden talents come alive across the school. Everyone who took part should be so proud of themselves. We watched a range of talents from joke telling to basketball skills.



Kindness

Respect