

The Stretham Scoop

Friday 16th May 2025



A bi-weekly round up of what's happening in our school!

Mr Sweeney's shout out:



Dear Parents and Carers,

A huge thank you to all of you for your continued support, especially as we've reached the end of a very busy half term. Your dedication to your children's education is truly appreciated, and it makes all the difference in creating a positive, vibrant school community. I say this often, but Stretham is a wonderful place to be and I'm very grateful to every member of our school community and the support you give us and each other.

This week has been particularly eventful, and we want to take a moment to celebrate some outstanding achievements:

Congratulations to Year 6 for completing their KS2 SATs this week! Their superb attitude, collaboration, teamwork, empathy, and care for each other were simply astounding. We are incredibly proud of how they came together as a group, supporting one another through the week. The maturity you've shown across the week and the ability to show such 'stickability' is a testament to you all. These tests don't define who you are as a person, but what they have confirmed is what we already knew - you are a group of outstanding individuals. Well done, Year 6; we are so proud of you.

A big well done to our Year 2 and Year 3 tennis players who attended a competition this week. We received fantastic feedback on their attitudes and how they represented the school. They demonstrated great sportsmanship and were excellent ambassadors for our school.

Over the last two weeks, we have also focused on important themes in our school assemblies:

- We marked VE Day and discussed the significance of the day, exploring why we celebrate and the importance of wearing red, white, and blue to show unity and remembrance.
- This week's assemblies have also focused on friendships and relationships, highlighting the importance of resolving problems through communication and empathy rather than avoiding or arguing. It's a valuable lesson that we discuss regularly, especially when we consider ourselves as a school family. We've spoken at length that it's okay to fall out, it's how we fall out that is more important!

It's been a busy two weeks in classes, with lots of exciting and engaging learning opportunities taking place. Ladybird class have had a fantastic time in forest schooling, making dandelion jam; unfortunately, they didn't share any with me! Hedgehog class have been exploring their five senses, with a focus on taste testing - it was very amusing to see their reactions to different tastes, too. Rabbit class have been absolutely flying with their knowledge of fractions and are now confident in identifying halves, quarters, thirds and even two quarters of amounts! Wren class have been focusing on healthy living in their PSHE sessions and have looked at the positive impact of exercise and how to keep our teeth healthy too! In Robin class, Year 4 have enjoyed their skipping challenges this week and all of them have improved from the start of the session. In Computing, they have been learning how to edit photos by rotating, cropping and cloning different parts of images. The children have been really engaged in these sessions! With the beautiful weather we have enjoyed this week, Kestrel class have been able to participate in plenty of hands on learning both inside and out in Maths, English and Art. They completed outdoor perimeter and area activities; created musical posters for our Feast float and created our own black out poetry. Finally, we know how busy Kite class have been all week with their KS2 SATS but they had an enjoyable Friday building dens and enjoying a range of treats (both at breakfast and this afternoon) to reward them for their amazing effort. A **huge** thank you to the PSA for buying our breakfast items for the week!

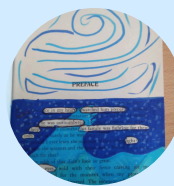
We're excited to let you know that the swimming pool should be open when the children return after half term, all being well. We will confirm this once we return after the break, at the latest.

Looking ahead, we're thrilled to be hosting the Colour Run this evening. We can't wait to see many of you there, enjoying the fun and supporting our school community. I am hoping that I'm not the one who is the most covered...!

Of course, it is Stretham Feast Weekend, this weekend and we have a float as part of the celebrations, as usual! For those who are part of the float, please meet at 12:45pm at St James's Church.

Lastly, a reminder that Thursday, May 22nd is the last day of this half term. We hope you have a restful and enjoyable break, and we look forward to welcoming the children back after the half term.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.
Mr Sweeney and the Stretham Team



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Safeguarding @ Stretham:

Recently, we've been made aware of the following concerns:

◆ Children Playing Safely After School:

While we encourage outdoor play and know how valuable time outside can be for children's health and development, we'd like to remind families to ensure children are supervised appropriately, or are clear on expectations for safe and respectful behaviour if they are playing independently, we have had a range of reports of fighting and general unkind behaviour towards other children.

◆ Knocking on Doors Asking for Money:

There have been reports of children knocking on doors in the local area asking for money to buy ice creams. While this may seem harmless, it can make some members of the community feel uncomfortable. Please speak with your child about the importance of not asking others for money and help them understand appropriate boundaries.

◆ Inappropriate Language and Behaviour

We've also been informed about instances of inappropriate language and unkind behaviour between children around the village, but particularly at the recreation ground. We ask all parents to reinforce the values of respect, kindness, and inclusion with their children. As always, we expect our pupils to uphold the same high standards of behaviour in the community as they do in school.

💬 Let's Work Together

We encourage parents and carers to talk to their children about these matters and help us promote safe, respectful, and positive play outside of school. If you witness or hear of any safeguarding concerns, please don't hesitate to contact the school so we can follow up appropriately.

Letters Sent Home:

Message from Mr Sweeney
RSE letter and leaflet
Year 6 Residential trip Kit list
CCC HAF voucher scheme
Bikeability Level 2
Reminder - Hedgehog Class trip
Visiting Author at school

Attendance update:

Well done to the following classes with the highest attendance figures this week:

Robin Class - 95.7%

Rabbit Class - 95.5%

Kite Class - 95.4%

Hedgehog Class - 95.0%

Please ensure that you make the office aware of any absences by **9am**, at the latest, each morning. You can do this via email, the telephone or via our Studybugs app. We now have a dedicated absence line, which is sent directly to the office email too. Please use the method of communication that is most convenient for you.

Key Diary Dates:

Hedgehog Class trip - 20 May
Visiting author - 21 - 22 May
Year 6 Residential trip - 2 - 6 June
New Intake Parents evening 18 June



A couple of brief updates:

Before/After School:

Can we please ask, again, that when entering/leaving the school grounds that you please use the footpath when entering the school grounds from, particularly at the front entrance. We have lots of deliveries and vehicles entering and exiting the school car park and it's not safe to be walking, cycling or riding scooters across the car park. In addition to this can we ask that children and adults **do not ride bikes or scooters until off the school grounds**. We have had a few near misses recently with children almost colliding with other parents or each other. Thank you in advance for your cooperation with this.

Snacks in school/nuts

It has recently come to our attention that children have been taking snacks and other foods to the park before and after school. These have contained nuts and could have been potentially incredibly dangerous to both children and staff in our community if they had come into contact with them. Please can you ensure that nothing that may potentially contain a nut product is sent into school or in children's lunchboxes too? Can we please also reiterate that snacks at break time should be **fruit only**.

A very happy birthday to...

Alfie G, Kingsley G-G, Isla C, Katie P,
Ellie S, Louie E, Freddie H



We hope you have a wonderful day!

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