

# The Stretham Scoop



Friday 6th June 2025

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

## Mr Sweeney's shout out:



Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the final half term of the academic year! The weather has been mixed and it certainly has been a slightly 'bumpy' start to term with the swimming pool and wi-fi in school causing us a few headaches and worries. Thankfully, both are rectified now and running smoothly! This half term is an incredibly busy one with Sports Day, move up mornings and a range of trips planned. I cannot believe that we've only got a few weeks left until the summer holidays; where does the time go?

As I mentioned, there are lots of trips, activities and events planned for the forthcoming half term, but the last week of term was busy at Stretham with trips taking place and visitors joining us too!

On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May, Hedgehog Class enjoyed a fantastic trip to South Angle Farm, making the most of the lovely sunny weather. The children were full of excitement as we arrived and were warmly welcomed by the friendly staff. Throughout the day, we had the chance to meet and learn about a wide variety of animals, from curious goats and enormous pigs, to alpacas and even a tenrec! The hands-on experiences were a highlight, with many children getting the opportunity to feed and stroke the animals. The sunshine made our picnic lunch extra special, and there was even time for playing and exploring the farm grounds. It was a wonderful day full of smiles, learning, and fresh air. A big thank you to South Angle Farm for such a memorable visit, and to all the staff and parents who helped make the day run so smoothly.

On Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> May, Stretham welcomed visiting author C.S. Clifford. Over his two days at the school, our Steve worked with all of our children completing either oral storytelling activities, building descriptive writing skills or creating free-write fantasy fiction (with a few sneaky editing tricks taught along the way too). The children enjoyed their sessions with Steve stating how 'fun writing is!' It was lovely to see so many of our pupils joining in with our reading and writing for pleasure ethos whilst also developing important skills. Well done everyone for your positive attitudes and 'give it a go' approach. Before C.S.Clifford completed his final day with us, he stated what a lovely school Stretham was, how engaged all the pupils were and how dedicated staff were to every child. It was a pleasure to receive such glowing feedback from a former teacher and current author who visits so many schools. Well done Stretham!

This week, Year 6 have been testing their resilience, teamwork and problem solving skills (and how waterproof their clothing is...!) at Caythorpe Court. I was lucky enough to visit the children on Wednesday and it was an absolute privilege and pleasure. The children's resilience, teamwork, empathy, care and maturity shone through and I know this has been the case all week. Members of PGL staff stopped me frequently to compliment our Stretham children; we certainly couldn't be prouder of them - they are a testament to ourselves and their families. On a personal note, I thoroughly enjoyed the high ropes (even though I am slightly nervous with heights) after being told by the children 'Your assemblies talk about resilience a lot, so now it's time to show us how it's done!'

Back at school, we've hit the ground running. Ladybird class have been colour mixing and creating their own paintings using whichever colours they chose. The artwork they produced was phenomenal! Rabbit class have begun their learning on the Stone Age in their history topic and reading the text 'Stone Age Boy.' Wren class have had a wonderful week ending with creating their own savoury tarts (I managed to have one too - thank you!) Robin class have been working really hard on their multiplication skills and learning all about Ancient Islam, their knowledge is incredible!

Thank you for your patience with the reopening of the swimming pool. It has certainly been a labour of love, but we are very happy to now have it open and running. A huge thank you to those of you who have supported efforts with testing, ensuring children have their kits and for maintaining their excitement. There may be the odd session or two that could be cancelled due to weather or chemical levels, but we are hoping that these will be few and far between. The plan is to keep the pool open in the first half of the Autumn half term too, to ensure we maximise its use!

As always, we are around if you have any thoughts, queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher in the first instance or myself if there is anything that I can assist with. I hope that you have a restful, peaceful and enjoyable weekend and we will see you next week.

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



*'Achieving Potential Together As a School Family.'*

*- Compassionate - Curious - Courageous - Resilient - Inclusive*



**Safeguarding @ Stretham:  
CAMHS:**

The Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS) provides outpatient assessments, support and treatment for children and young people up to the age of 18 experiencing moderate to severe mental health problems. They aim to provide help to children and the wider family, including those living in foster care, those who are adopted and young people living in children's homes. The service may see children on their own, with parents or wider family and they may also see parents on their own.

Children and their families referred to the service may be experiencing a variety of problems including:

- > Eating difficulties
- > Emotional feelings such as loneliness
- > Fears and anxieties
- > Parents having problems managing their children or concerned that their own difficulties are affecting their children
- > Relationship difficulties
- > Traumatic experiences

The service is also available to help children, adolescents and their families with mental health issues relating to physical or learning disabilities.

Before any discussion takes place we have to gain consent from parents which may be done via a face-to-face conversation, email or phone call. Likewise, if you have a concern about your son/daughter and wish to talk to us about this, please get in touch. In some cases, we may agree that a full referral to CAMHS may be the best way to support you and/or your child. At this point a form will be submitted and an assessment appointment at the clinic will be offered.

**Letters Sent Home:**

Lunchtime Co Theme Day menu Tuesday 17 June 2025  
Year 3 Trip to Wandlebury  
Summer HAF Programme  
Education Inclusion Family Advisor June newsletter  
Swimming timetable and Parent letter

**Attendance update:**

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

Hedgehog Class - 98.9%  
Kite Class - 96.9%  
Rabbit Class - 96.7%  
Robin Class - 96.5%

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:**

Lunchtime Co Themed menu - King's Birthday - 17 June 2025  
New Intake Parents Evening - Wednesday 18 June 2025  
Wren Class - Ely Arts Festival - Friday 27 June 2025  
Wren Class trip to Wandlebury - 24 June 2025  
Rabbit Class trip - 02 July 2025



A very happy birthday to...

Riley, Rosa, Keira, Logan, Kaiden, Aaron J, Harry W



We hope you have a wonderful day!

**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.**

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