

The Stretham Scoop

Friday 15th May 2026



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



Mr Sweeney's shout out:

Dear Parents and Carers,

Nearly half term, and the summer term is entering its final weeks (although it really does not feel like summer at all! if you look at the weather!) As I spend time in classrooms, I continue to be blown away by the children's positive attitudes to learning, their willingness to improve and the pride they are taking in their work. Our school is a wonderful place to be, with so much to offer, and I continue to feel an overwhelming sense of pride to be a part of the community.

Year 6 SATS

A huge well done and congratulations to Year 6 who this week have completed their KS2 SATs. In what has the potential to be a very stressful, challenging and emotional week, the children have been absolutely wonderful. Their tenacity, positive 'can-do' attitude, and reflective nature have been a joy to behold and they have smashed the week. As a school team, we could not be more proud of the children and they have well and truly earned their reward day today, with PGL to look forward to next week too! Well done Year 6; you are a credit to us all.

Applying our learning:

It has been wonderful to see children's knowledge developing, but it has also been great to see children applying this knowledge to a range of scenarios too. This week, Rabbit class have been developing their knowledge of capacity checking the volume of different containers and making accurate predictions. Wren class have been busy cooking up a storm and making their own savoury tarts! The smell around school has been delightful, although I'm disappointed I didn't get to try one! As a staff, we are always learning too. We have updated our anaphylaxis and allergy management training to ensure that we are up to date with the most recent legislation in school too.

New Site Manager

We are delighted to inform you that Mr Steve Barsby has joined the school as our new site manager. With a wealth of experience in the metropolitan police force, Mr Barsby brings a range of knowledge and organisation that is vital to the role. He has already made a huge impact in school and has spent time in forest school this week too. He is a great addition to Stretham and he is looking forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks (we've included a photograph so you can put a name to a face!)

Swimming Pool Update:

Mr Barsby has been busy in his first week here already! The swimming pool is in the process of being cleaned out and will then be filled. A huge thank you to those of you who volunteered to support with the preparation, but before we could even begin to make plans, Mr Barsby cracked on! We are hoping that, once water testing returns, we will be able to open the pool after half term. More information will follow in the next couple of weeks!

Roblox:

From many conversations recently, it has become apparent that many children are playing Roblox and other games online. Whilst this can be a positive social opportunity if monitored correctly, it can also lead to many hidden dangers. We wanted to share the following with you, just in case.

Understanding Roblox:

What parents need to know Many children talk about 'playing Roblox' as if it were a single game - but it's important to understand that Roblox is actually a platform where users create and upload their own games. This means that when children are on Roblox, they are not just playing one controlled experience, they can move between millions of different games, created by people from around the world.

Why does this matter?

Because Roblox is user-generated, the quality and safety of content can vary widely. While some games are creative and age-appropriate, others may include: Inappropriate language or themes not suitable for younger children Unmoderated chat features, where children can communicate with strangers User-created games with hidden content, which may not be obvious at first In-game purchases and pressure to spend money (using Robux) Attempts to move conversations to other platforms (a common online safety risk). Even when Roblox removes inappropriate content, new games are constantly being uploaded, which makes it difficult to filter.

I look forward to seeing you across the feast weekend!
Thank you for your support, as always.
Mr Sweeney and the Stretham Team



Mr Barsby

'Achieving Potential Together As a School Family.'

- Compassionate - Curious - Courageous - Resilient - Inclusive



Safeguarding @ Stretham:

Helping our children navigate sexism and misogyny

In recent years, schools across the UK have seen a rise in children repeating sexist language, stereotypes and harmful attitudes, sometimes without fully understanding what they mean. These ideas don't appear out of nowhere. Many children are encountering them online, often through platforms and personalities that can seem harmless at first glance.

Where are children hearing these messages?

Children of primary school age are increasingly exposed to content through:

- YouTube - Videos, 'shorts' and gaming content can sometimes include sexist jokes, stereotypes or influencers promoting harmful views about girls and women.
- TikTok - Short, fast-moving clips can expose children to trends or influencers who normalise disrespectful attitudes.
- Snapchat - Private sharing and stories can spread unmoderated content between peers.
- Roblox and Fortnite - Chat functions and user-generated content can sometimes include inappropriate language or ideas. The games available on Roblox can often encourage harmful attitudes.
- WhatsApp groups - Even younger children may be part of group chats where videos, memes or comments are shared without adult oversight.

How might this show up in school?

In the classroom and playground, these influences can appear as: Boys and girls repeating phrases they've heard online without understanding the meaning. Comments that suggest girls are 'less than' boys or should behave in certain ways. Exclusion or teasing based on gender. Increased use of disrespectful or sexualised language to other children and staff.

Often, children are not intending to harm - they are experimenting with language and ideas they've picked up elsewhere. However, it is important we address this early so it does not become normalised.

Letters Sent Home:

SRE Whole School
Rabbit Class Visit To Stretham Engine
Hedgehog Class Trip to Wicken Fen
Feast Parking on Sunday 17th May
May Half Term Holiday Voucher Scheme (sent to some)
Year 6 - PGL Gift Shop Payments
Year 5 - Message From Mrs Everest
Ladybird Class Update
Premier Education Holiday Camps

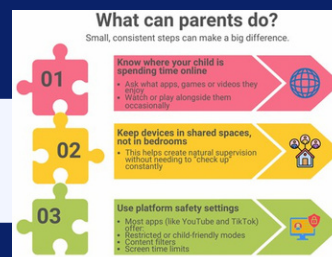


How to talk to your child about sexism and misogyny

These conversations don't need to be formal or difficult; the most effective approach is calm, open and ongoing. **Start with curiosity** "I heard some children are using certain words online - have you come across anything such as that?"

Keep it age-appropriate: Explain that sexism means treating someone unfairly because they are a boy or a girl. Emphasise kindness, fairness, and respect.

Challenge ideas, not the child. If they repeat something inappropriate, respond with: "That idea isn't fair - why do you think someone might say that?"



Key Diary Dates:

17 May - Stretham Feast Parade and Stretham Feast
18 May - 22 May - Year 6 Residential trip
22 May - Treat Friday
3 June - Year 4,5 and 6 Sandringham trip
4 June - Reception, Year 1,2 and 3 Sandringham trip
12 June - Treat Friday
16 June - Wren class trip to Wandlebury
19 June - Summer Fair
03 July - End of term Disco

Attendance update:

Well done to the following classes with the highest attendance figures this week which are above the 95% threshold:

Rabbit - 96.5%
Kestrel - 96.5%
Hedgehog - 96.1%

A very happy birthday to...

Alfie G, Harry Y, Harley C, Kingsley, Isla C, Katie P, Theo W, Ellie S, Sidney C



We hope you have a wonderful day!

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, Arbor 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.

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