

The Stretham Scoop

Friday 19th June 2026

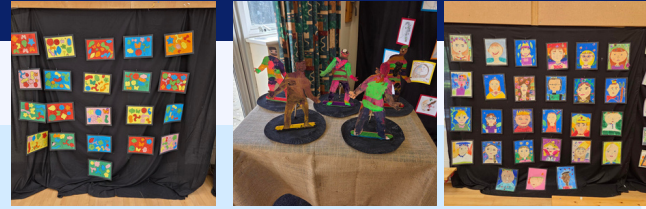


A bi-weekly round up of what's happening in our school!

Mr Sweeney's shout out:

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's feeling rather warm at the moment!! 4 weeks to go and it looks like a lot of this will be in the midst of a heatwave. We are aware that Tuesday, Sports Day, will be a warm one, so we will continue to monitor and make a call on Monday regarding this. Looking at the reports, it looks like our back up date is also due to be warm so we are looking at all plans to make this work as best as possible!



What's been happening in school.

It has been a very varied couple of weeks indeed at Stretham! Today, has of course, been Feel Good Friday, and it's been wonderful to see the children having a wonderful time in a range of creative activities and team sessions. Over the last two weeks, Year Six have been learning all about Macbeth and the character's motivations, whilst Year 5 have been exploring fulcrums in their Science unit and have 'made pigs fly!' Year 4 have been busy refining their knowledge about Ramadan and the growth of the Islamic faith in Ancient Arabia. Year 3 have been busy creating a variety of towers in their DT sessions. Rabbit class have been deepening their knowledge of the Stone Age and have shared some very impressive facts with me this week, and Hedgehogs have enjoyed a lovely walk down to the church, where they learnt a lot about our village institution. Ladybird class have been busy in Forest School making dandelion jam - it was delicious!

Phonics & Multiplication:

A huge shout out to Hedgehog class and some of Rabbits who have been busy undertaking their phonics check over the last 2 weeks - they have been absolutely wonderful demonstrating their phonetical knowledge and showing amazing progress. A huge well done to Robin class too, who have completed their multiplication check with great determination and enthusiasm. We are really proud of all of the children who really stepped up to some tricky questions!

Year 5 Singing at the Maltings

On Wednesday 10th June, Year 5 were invited to attend a singing workshop and performance at The Maltings in Ely. We enjoyed singing a range of songs from Disney classics to sea shanties and everything in between and were led by Mr Chris Parsons. Both he and the choral team at Kings Ely helped us to share all the songs we had learnt through our workshops and the morning session at The Maltings. Year 5 loved the opportunity to learn something new and to perform with other local schools as a choir. The children should be congratulated on their positive attitudes and beautiful singing. They also received really positive feedback from Mr Parsons and the Kings Ely team.

Art Gallery

As many of you will have seen, the children have been busy at work creating their own interpretations and artistic pieces influenced by different artists. It has been wonderful seeing the children so engaged with their learning and discussing the intent of these artists and the skills they have applied to create their work. Last week, we had a wonderful art gallery on display in the school. Some of the feedback from parents was wonderful:

"Inspiring - we didn't do anything like this at school."

"Very inspiring and great to see what they get up to, as well as other classes."

"Brilliant, what a great idea."

"It is great we are formalising artwork so the children can be proud of their self-expression."

A huge thank you to Mrs Spencer and the rest of the staff for their effort, enthusiasm and time in creating these pieces and the display. Year group winners have been selected and are on display at the Maltings, let's wait and see if they have any further success - I'm keeping everything crossed!

Tiddlywinks Update:

On Tuesday, the children took part in the unveiling of the plaque in the Topsy and Tim park. The children were a credit to us they stood and listened to the speech given before having some time to play. On Thursday, we celebrated Fathers Day. Dads were invited to come in and play and joining in with snack with a special treat of cakes and drinks.

Swimming Pool:

We are nearly there! All that we are waiting on is the microbiological testing (a legal requirement) but the turnaround of this has been slower than we envisaged. Mr Barsby is raring to open the pool for our swimming lessons to start., The pool is looking great. The moment we receive the test results, it will be all systems go!

I will see many of you at the Summer Fair this evening - having sponges thrown at me and then probably being gunged (because I'm sure Mr Cox and Kirby will be beating me in a race!) I must be mad! Whatever this warm weekend holds for you, I hope it is an enjoyable one, Look after yourselves.

Thank you for your support, as always.

'Achieving Potential Together As a School Family.'

- Compassionate - Curious - Courageous - Resilient - Inclusive



Safeguarding @ Stretham:

Supporting your child with transition:

Just like adults, children cope with changes and transitions in different ways. Some people breeze through with excitement and others feel anxious and need more support. At Stretham Community Primary School, we are very mindful of these differing needs so we plan our transitions to secondary schools and new classes carefully and with a great deal of thought. However, you as parents/carers play a vital role in making sure this is a positive experience for your children.

Here are some tips for supporting us with this:

1. Be positive! – How you react to change will strongly influence your child and if you feel anxious, so will they. Talk about the positive elements of change – new experiences, new opportunities, new topics and meeting new people.
2. Focus on the constants for your child, the things that will be the same. Those in EYFS through to Y5 will be moving class with their peers so their friends will still be with them, they will still see familiar adults and many routines will be the same. For those in Y6 moving to secondary school, they too will have constants in terms of life at home and, for some, they too will still be with their peers in their new school.
3. Look at our curriculum information on the school website to check out the topics they will be covering in their new year group to help them feel excited about the year ahead.
4. Listen to any concerns that are forthcoming but don't go looking for them – remember that most children will be excited about the move and are more than ready for it.
5. If your child is moving from KS1 to KS2, talk about what this will look like at drop-off and pick-up times – you could even do some practise runs!
6. Keep in touch with friends during the holidays so that those connections stay strong.

Letters Sent Home:

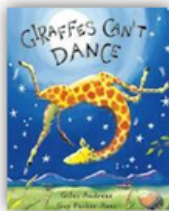
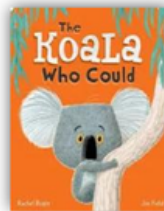
PSHE Questionnaire
UKS2 Production – Grossbusters – tickets (Year 5 and Year 6)
Message from Mr Sweeney
Sponsored walk – Tuesday 14 July 2026
Year 6 Yearbook baby photos
Hedgehog Class – Wicken Fen trip
Letter regarding Sports Day



Recommended reads...

As we approach the end of the school year, here are some books that might help support your child with transitions:

- **The Koala Who Could**, by Rachel Bright, "a funny tale for anyone who finds change a little bit worrisome"
- **The Lion Inside**, also by Rachel Bright, "a story about confidence, self-esteem and a shy little mouse who sets out to find his roar"
- **Giraffes Can't Dance**, by Giles Andreae, "a story about confidence, self-esteem and developing a positive mindset about trying new things"



Key Diary Dates:

23 June – Sports Day
23 June – Ely Arts Festival – Wren class
1 July – Reception, Year 1 – 3 Sandringham trip
3 July – End of term disco
6 – 7 July – UKS2 Production
8 – 10 July – Reception year Transition days
10 July – Treat Friday
12 July – Park Run
15 July – Hedgehog Class Wicken Fen trip
14 July – Sponsored walk
17 July – Last day of academic year

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 96.3%

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.

A very happy birthday to...

Lillie, Mosey, Ellie, Harry Y & Harry A
We hope you have a wonderful day!



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