

# The Stretham Scoop



Friday 21st March 2025

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

## Mr Sweeney's shout out:



Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been another busy fortnight at Stretham, but a fortnight full of purpose, excitement and positivity! I have spent the last week, in particular, reflecting on what a jam-packed year it has been so far, but also looking back with a smile at how much we have all achieved together as a school family.

Last week, we thoroughly enjoyed our Performing Arts week with a real focus on developing our self-esteem and our understanding of ourselves. The week kicked off with a real bang with Jonathon and Cam from 'Rock Kidz UK' joining us and converting our school hall into a live 'concert.' It was really heart-warming to see children (and staff) dressed as rock stars and fully embracing the music, dancing and message of 'You're Awesome So Be Awesome' across the day. A personal highlight for me was most certainly winning the air guitar competition (but I'm not sure how as some of the children absolutely shredded their air guitars!) I know this is something that will live long in many of our children's memories and was a fantastic start to the week. Jonathon and Cam both commented on how superb our children were and have asked to come back again in the future!

We were dubious that anything could follow on from that, but Tommy from Rocksteady did just that on Tuesday! Although it didn't feel right being back in school uniform, the energy in the hall continued to be electric as Tommy demonstrated a range of different instruments and how they can work together to create incredible music. He then worked with both KS1 and KS2 to explore these instruments further and some children also got the opportunity to play too! Tommy also commented on how wonderful our children are! Rocksteady music lessons start on Monday and we have been blown away by the up take of these too; thank you.

Whilst there was a lot of rock music being played around school, we also were treated to a wonderful performance from our school choir on Tuesday. Hearing them sing brought many of the staff to tears and they excelled again yesterday evening at the St Mary's Church concert. We are so lucky to have such a talented choir and are very grateful to Mrs Woodman and Mrs Jovulero who have worked incredibly hard with them!

Towards the end of the week, we were joined by Jack from Jack Stinton Dance Company who shared that anyone can dance and worked with all of our classes to create their own routines about being ourselves. We were also joined by a wind quartet who played a range of music from classical to pop and had the hall bouncing and clapping along. It was an absolute joy to see so many children, talking about music and performance and explore how they can develop their skills to partake in the arts more regularly. Drama and Music is a huge personal passion of mine and it had a transformative impact on my education, to hear children talking about it with such passion is incredibly moving. Thank you to all of our guests, volunteers and our children for fully embracing the week.

It's been a busy week for trips and visitors too with Kestrel class enjoying their time at West Stow on Wednesday, learning all about Anglo-Saxon living. It was wonderful to hear you all making links from your learning at school too. Hedgehog class also had a visit from the Animal Experience this week and I've heard they got to meet a snake amongst other exciting animals. (I'm glad I wasn't in the hall at that point!)

Here's hoping the weekend weather stays as wonderful as it has been this week! A weekend of swimming and football awaits for our family (at least I don't have to subject them to a Liverpool game this weekend!)

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



### Superb Stretham Snippets:

- A huge cry of 'break a leg' and enjoy to Heidi, Evie, Isabella, Jessie and Martha who are performing in the Stretham pantomime of Aladdin next week; you've got this!
- For anyone willing to sponsor Milla (as mentioned in our last newsletter) the link to do so is: [https://www.justgiving.com/page/milla-joy-superhair?utm\\_medium=FR&utm\\_source=CL](https://www.justgiving.com/page/milla-joy-superhair?utm_medium=FR&utm_source=CL)

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## Safeguarding @ Stretham:

Here are some useful safeguarding acronyms that you may or may not be aware of:

**DSL** : Designated Safeguarding Lead (Mr Sweeney is Stretham's DSL and Mrs Yeoman, Mrs Everest and Mrs Woodman are our DDSLs - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads)

**MASH**: Multi -Agency Safeguarding Hub

**CP**: Child Protection

**CiN**: Child in Need

**KCSIE**: Keeping Children Safe in Education

**PREVENT**: Part of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy to stop people being drawn in to extremism

**CAMHs**: Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

**SEND**: Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

### Gaming:

It has come to our attention that many of our children are online playing with/against each other regularly on a range of games. Are you aware of the conversations they are having? Is the language being used appropriate? Most consoles and online gaming platforms offer a transcription service where the chat is recorded via text; it may be helpful to have this on at times.

### Letters Sent Home:

Aladdin Performance at Stretham Parish Rooms  
Reminder - Year 6 Residential trip - payment deadline  
Reminder of Book Fair and clarification on payment procedure  
Data collection - Arbor  
Premier Education - HAF Easter letter  
"Understanding my teen" webinar

### Attendance update:

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

Rabbit Class - 96.3%  
Robin Class - 97%  
Kite Class - 96.1%

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:

22 March - PSA Craft event  
24 - 25 March - Book Fair - 3.20pm - 4.00pm  
28 March - Bikeability Level 1  
4 April - Rainbow Raffle Draw  
4 April - last day of term  
23 April - first day of Summer Term



A very happy birthday to...  
Archie T, Tallulah, Ashley, Bryony, Matilda

We hope you have a wonderful day!



### Stretham Sports Superstars

It's been a busy couple of weeks for sport at Stretham too with our children partaking in three competitions organised by our local school sports partnership.

Last Tuesday, 11th March, a group of our Year 5 and 6s attended a netball competition at Kings School, Ely. They progressed the more they played and received a lot of positive comments about their teamwork and support of each other; this resulted in them receiving the teamwork award which we are incredibly proud of them all for achieving and demonstrating our school values of compassion and resilience beautifully.

On Wednesday 19th March, a group of Year 5/6 girls took part in a tag rugby competition having only had a few training sessions together. Again, their teamwork and resilience was praised by staff members from other schools.

Finally, today, some of our Year 3/4 children have attended a netball tournament and have done us proud with their incredible teamwork and enthusiasm. Well done everyone!

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