

The Stretham Scoop



Friday 14th February 2025

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

Mr Sweeney's shout out:



Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy Friday, Valentines Day and Feel Good Friday all rolled into one! This half term is a short one, but always feels much longer than it is! Reflecting back on our half term, it has been busy, full of learning, excitement and new opportunities and we continue to be incredibly proud of every member of our school family. A huge thank you to all of you who attended parent consultations this week, it was lovely to see purposeful and positive conversation taking place and everybody working together to help our children to be the best they can possibly be. It was also great to be able to chat to some of you in more depth; thank you for your time.

Assemblies over the last two weeks have continued to focus on having a growth mindset and trying to persevere through adversity. We looked at how as young babies/toddlers, we all had to show resilience to learn to walk and no matter what, we would get back up again! We've then looked at how we can apply this to all we do as we grow up; acknowledging that this isn't always easy to do! In addition to this, we explored how a range of well known individuals, including Sir Lewis Hamilton, Richard Branson and Rosie Ayling-Ellis, have faced challenges and shown sheer grit, resilience and 'bouncebackability' to achieve their goals. We then looked at our own ambitions and discussed how these can change over time. Please do talk to your children about their ambitions; they wowed us and the sky is most certainly the limit for them!

It's been a busy two weeks of learning across the school. Ladybirds have been feeling the love this week and the aroma of biscuits has been wafting through the building! They also spent a wonderful forest schooling session with their buddies this morning. We are so very proud of the maturity shown by both year groups! Year 1 have been classifying animals into different groups and have learnt a fabulous song to help them remember; they'll share this with you at home! Rabbit class have been learning about fairy tales and then applying this knowledge into writing their own; they are brilliant! Year 3 have been busy with D&T this week and creating their own castles. They are engineering works of art! Robin class have been challenging themselves with their multiplication tables and Year 5 have enjoyed completing their installation art projects. They were inspired by installation artists Cai Guo Qiang and Yayoi Kusama and their explosive and colourful styles. Year 6 have been working incredibly hard on their persuasive writing skills, leaving the staff very impressed with how convincing they have been!

Last Friday, the 7th of February, we celebrated NSPCC number day throughout the school! There were plenty of long carrots on show and a lot of complex mathematical thinking taking place. A huge thank you to Mrs Rayment for all of her hard work and planning to launch this and to all of you for your support too.

This week, children from Year 5 and Year 6 were visited by a staff member from Living Sport, who hosted a 'Dragons Den' style activity where the children worked in groups to create and then pitch their own extra curricular club ideas to a panel of judges. The winning group will earn £1000 for the school, which will be used to purchase resources for their club to start. Watch this space for the winning announcement!

Today has been "Feel Good Friday" at Stretham. It has been lovely to have music playing throughout the corridors, hearing children laughing, playing and talking about themselves and seeing smiles in every room across the school. From random dancing, to forest school visits, to parachute games to art and DT work, it has been lovely to see the children (and staff) take some time to 'just be.' This is something we will look to repeat next term too!

I hope you have a restful and enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing you all on the 3rd March 2025

Mr Sweeney and the Stretham team.



Superb Stretham Snippets:

- We raised £105.05 for NSPCC number day, thank you for all of your support!
- A huge well done to all of our Panathletes who represented the school last week at the Paanathlon competition.

'Achieving Potential Together As a School Family.'

- Compassionate - Curious - Courageous - Resilient - Inclusive



Safeguarding @ Stretham:

With half term approaching, it will hopefully be a good time for all of us to catch up and rest. With today being 'Feel Good Friday', we have been looking at the impact of sleep and rest on our mental health

The importance of sleep in mental health:

Sleep plays a vital role in your child's mental health and overall well-being. For primary-aged children, a good night's sleep is essential for emotional balance, learning and physical health. Yet, with busy schedules, screen time and excitement about the day ahead, many children don't get the rest they need.

Signs your child might not be getting enough sleep:

It's not always obvious when children are sleep deprived but some common signs to watch for are:

- difficult waking up in the morning
- frequent mood swings or irritability
- trouble focusing or remembering things at school
- increased hyperactivity or impulsivity

Experts recommend that for primary-aged children, ages 6-12, they should be sleeping for 9-12 hours per night.

Letters Sent Home:

Hedgehog Class Forest School sessions - Spring Term
Y6 Residential trip payment
EIFA Online Workshops
Medical/Dietary requirements - Year 6 Residential trip
Celebrating the Legacy of Stretham School on Friday, 7th
March 2025
Lunchtime Co - Dietary register

Attendance update:

This half term has been a difficult one with a lot of winter viruses and bugs making their rounds; we totally understand, however we respectfully ask that if your child has a cough or cold but is otherwise well, to please send them in. Well done to the following classes with the highest attendance figures this week

Hedgehogs: 97.4%
Kites: 97.6%

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:

7 March - Celebrating the Legacy of Stretham School
10 March - Performing Arts Week
14 March - Non uniform day - Rainbow Raffle donations
14 March - Treat Friday
20 - 25 March - Book Fair
28 March - Bikeability Level 1
4 April - Rainbow Raffle draw



Panathlon 2025:

Last week, a group of KS2 children attended the East Cambs Panathlon competition, and came first! They were an absolute credit to us all and we are so proud of them!



Staffing updates:

We say goodbye to Mr Coackley and Mrs Dillon who are moving onto new adventures. We're truly grateful for all you have done for our children and the school in your time here and you will be greatly missed. Please keep in contact and you're always welcome back!

A big welcome back and hello to Mrs Spencer who is teaching in Robin class following her maternity leave, alongside Mrs Woodman, after half term!

Parking outside school:

A gentle reminder that during school drop off and school pick up, please be mindful of our local residents and other vehicles when parking your car. We understand that parking is limited around us but ask that you continue to be considerate.

Thank you

A very happy birthday to...

Ravenna, Leo, Derrin, Bobby, Ralph, Kourtney, Minnie,
Lola, Ruby, Felicity H, Polly, River, Srihary



We hope you have a wonderful day!

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