

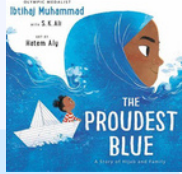
The Stretham Scoop

Friday 15th November 2024



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

Mr Sweeney's shout out:



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are nearly in December and I, personally, could not be more excited! The winter months are my favourite time of year and there's something quite refreshing about cold morning dog walks, frosted grass and strong coffees! It is also almost time for the return of my daily Christmas jumper rotation (my wife is much less excited about this than I am!) School is certainly a hub of activity and excitement with nativity rehearsals, Christmas fayre preparations and winter themed activities all in full force.

It was absolutely wonderful to welcome so many of you into school on Tuesday 26th November for our Christmas craft afternoon. Whilst it feels a bit soon to be discussing Christmas in November (but is there such a thing as too soon?!) it was lovely to hear the buzz around the school, the laughter and joy and warmth and enthusiasm of all involved. The school now looks absolutely superb with decorations made by the children adorning many areas. I know that I say this regularly, but events such as our craft afternoon and carol concert are unique to Stretham and help to contribute to the wonderful school, ethos and environment.

Our School Games Active Crew (4 children from year 5 & 4 children from year 6) joined lots of other schools and went to Soham College for their leadership training. The day was busy with a variety of activities to increase their knowledge of the 'School Games 6 Values' whilst also increasing their self-confidence. The children were fantastic all day, showing great positivity and were wonderful role models by planning and delivering physical activities to KS1 children in Soham. Now, back at our school, they will begin to use their new skills and self-belief by helping promote and deliver physical activities across our school!

In assemblies this week, we've looked at 'being fair' and what 'it's not fair,' actually means. We then also read 'The Proudest Blue' by Ibtihaj Muhammad, which explores the themes of tolerance and compassion. The children's understanding and empathy was **amazing**.

The school has been alive with discussion around dragons this week! Every class has, as part of their final writing piece of the term, written a description of a dragon of their own design. Check out Charlie in Year 6's writing: 'The small, tiny dragon shone in the moonlight, as it walked slowly and curiously out of the bush. As it walked towards me, it sounds like a rich man's pocket - jingle, jingle, jingle! The dragon was only the size of a rabbit yet it was still majestic. It's gold, shiny body closer to me and I noticed it's dark grey eyes...All of a sudden, it started running towards me like a maniac.'

Key Stage One had a fantastic 'Superhero Day' last Friday. It was so lovely to see the children in a plethora of outfits (we were also very impressed with Mrs Bowen's disco ball helmet too) and fully engaged in an exciting day! I know for many it will be a real highlight of their term.

Today, we say a fond farewell to Mr Kirby who has been running our wraparound sessions, PE lessons and activities at lunchtime. Mr Kirby has decided to leave Premier Sport to pursue a different career avenue. We will miss him greatly and wish him all the best in his future! We also welcome Mrs Smith to the team as our school caretaker - she has made a positive start and is getting to know the school already!

I look forward to seeing many of you at the PSA Christmas Fair and the Christmas light switch on this evening. I also hope to see lots of you at our book fair over the next few days too. We hope you have a wonderful weekend - the countdown to Christmas is well and truly on!!

Mr Sweeney and the Stretham team.

Superb Stretham Snippets:

- A big well done to Frank in Hedgehog class who has raised over £180 for our school pool fund by completing his own triathlon - amazing work Frank!
- Running club have been making great 'strides' with their fitness and speed over the last few weeks. They've reached the point where they are consistently moving for 10 minutes without stopping - a huge amount of progress! A big shout out to Naz in Year 4 who ran a mile in 9 minutes today! Amazing work!
- Our house captains are currently undergoing training to run their own assemblies over the next couple of weeks; their determination and enthusiasm is **amazing**.

'Achieving Potential Together As a School Family.'

- Compassionate - Curious - Courageous - Resilient - Inclusive



Safeguarding @ Stretham:

Cyber bullying is any form of bullying which takes place online or through smartphones and tablets—adults and children can be victims of this form of bullying so we have to be vigilant. The impact of this bullying can be wide reaching from feeling frightened and intimidated, being the victim of fake gossip or rumours, having photos or videos posted about you, being on the receiving end of language that causes offense and an argument, and threatening behaviour to name a few risks. In addition, people with malicious intent can use the internet for grooming of young and vulnerable people, fraud, stalking, exclusion, an blackmail. The internet and social media can be fun and can bring many educational and personal benefits but adult and child alike we must protect ourselves from misuse. For more information go to www.bullying.co.uk

Attendance update:

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

Ladybirds: 98.2%

Hedgehogs 96.7%

Rabbits: 99.1%

Wrens: 100% !!!!

Robins 99.5%

Letters sent home:

Christmas Jumper Day - Friday 13th December

Reminder: Book Fair - Thursday, 28th

November, Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd
December

School Telephone lines down

Christmas Carol Church service - Friday, 20th
December

KS1 Nativity Production - ticket requests

Parent Coffee morning - Tuesday, 3rd December

School Lunches:

As you are aware, we have recently moved to a new catering team through Lunchtime UK. We are now two weeks into their new menu and on the whole, the lunches seem to be a hit! We are, however, aware of some days or meals where the standards have not been as consistently high. We are working closely with the lunchtime team to rectify this but ask if you have any further questions or concerns to either join them for their coffee morning next Tuesday or let us know via the school office. We want to get this right for all of the children!



Key Diary Dates:

2 December - Book Fair

3 December - Book Fair

3 December - Coffee morning for Parents

6 December - Christmas Disco

10 December - KS1 Nativity Production

11 December - KS1 Nativity Production

13 December - Christmas Jumper Day

20 December - Christmas Carol Church Service



A very happy birthday to...

Isabella E, Monty, Hannah C, Lacey, Alfie, Garrett, Marius, Evelyn,
Matilda E, Romy, Charlie

We hope you have a wonderful day!



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