## Higgins Toy Museum

Our Year 1 Puffins Class went on their school trip just before half term to Higgins Toy Museum. At the museum the children learnt about toys through the ages. Over the next half term they will be learning about toys from the past in more depth.





We have some exciting vacancies over at Shillington Lower School. Please see links below to our website and My New Term where you can apply for the vacancies.

Our website <a href="https://www.shillingtonstondon.co.uk/web/current-vacancies/617510">https://www.shillingtonstondon.co.uk/web/current-vacancies/617510</a>

Cleaner Supervisor - <a href="https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109480/EDV-2025-SLS-21917">https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109480/EDV-2025-SLS-21917</a>

Teaching Assistant - <a href="https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109480/EDV-2025-SLS-01446">https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109480/EDV-2025-SLS-01446</a>

Part Time Teacher - <a href="https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109480/EDV-2025-SLS-90938">https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109480/EDV-2025-SLS-90938</a>





On Monday we had a very special visitor at Stondon Lower School.

Alistair Strathern who is the Labour MP for Hitchin came and delivered our assembly. He talked to our children about what his job is, where he travels to, how he got his job and that he used to be a Maths teacher.

The children where then given the opportunity to ask questions. We were very proud of all our children who not only asked relevant questions but they all sat for a very long time.



#### Robins class news

We have had a busy start back to school for our last half term before we go to Year 1!

We have been learning new graphemes in phonics and are practising our blending independently when reading our words. We have been working back in our phonics work books making sure that our letters are consistently sized and we use finger spaces.

We have been looking at a new topic in Literacy and now know how to spot rhyming words. We have been reading 'Oi, frog' and 'Oi, cat' and using our listening skills to find the rhyming words.

In maths we are looking at sharing and how to correctly share a number or object evenly. We will also be investigating sharing with odd and even numbers.

We will be preparing for our trip on Thursday 12th June by looking at some life cycles of animals, including chickens and frogs. We are continuing our dance lessons with our dance teacher and enjoy having a free style dance session in a circle at the end.

#### Puffins class news

This week in Puffins class we have started a new book in English, 'Iggy Peck Architect', all about a boy who loves to build with interesting materials. As we have been reading the text, we have been recognising how different characters may feel at different points in the story. We've even been using the conjunction 'because' in our writing, getting us ready for Year 2. Next week we are going to become architects ourselves and design our dream houses to write about.

In Maths we have been using positional language. We have learnt how to use our left and right to describe position, using songs and actions to help us remember which is which. We have also been using the terms forwards, backwards, above and below and have started to describe turns.

In DT we have been using our value of perseverance to sew a running stitch! This has been a tricky skill to learn, so we have needed to use our Growth mindsets. Over the next few weeks, we are going to apply this skill to make our own coaster.

# Kestrels class news

What a lovely start to the term we have had in Kestrels.

In Maths, we have started looking at statistics, understanding how to read tally charts and tables. The children have taken to these skills quickly and we have been very impressed how well they have demonstrated this new learning.

In English and in History this week we have begun learning all about the Great Fire of London. We looked at what London was like in 1666. We used video clips from the Museum of London to learn more about the Great Fire and we began asking our own questions about what happened. The children have shown fantastic knowledge and enthusiasm for this subject which is lovely to see.

This week in Kestrels we have also been completing our SATs tests. The children have done such a fantastic job, showing off their skills and learning, and they should be very proud of themselves! We certainly are!

#### Toucans class news



This week in Toucans we have started our new story of the Pied Piper by Michael Morpurgo. So far, we have looked at the setting of the town of Hamelin and the terrible treatment of the children in the city

In Maths we are moving onto shape and our last topic of statistics after a very tricky couple of topics of money and time.

In DT we have started our exploration of mechanisms with the outcome to create our own moving books.

In Geography, we are studying the UK, and had an interesting time of naming the counties which somehow included Spain.

We are looking forward to an exciting end of term with lots of exciting topics still to come.

### **Hummingbirds class news**

We've only been back a week and we've already done so much.

In maths, we have finished with money and are now working on time. We've learnt a few ways to remember how many days each month has (ask your hummingbird about the knuckle trick!) and the space-filled science that explains the need for a leap year has been super interesting for us all. We are also working on converting analogue to digital and back again - very important in our modern screen-filled world!

Next week, we'll be learning about the 24 hour clock and how to convert to and from that.

In English, we are busy completing our stories and are learning the importance over taking our time with the editing process.

And as for our play rehearsals... well they are going very well! I have been very impressed with the thespian talents of our class- we can't wait to show you!

#### Join the Stondon Lower School PTA!

Stondon Lower School PTA is dedicated to enhancing our school community by fostering collaboration between parents, teachers, and the school administration. Our PTA organises events, fundraisers, and activities that benefit our students and create a sense of belonging.

#### Why Join?

- Voice Your Ideas: Contribute to school programs and events
- Support and Advocate: Help address student needs and improve resources.
- Build Community: Connect with other parents and educators.
- Make an Impact: Fundraise to support and enrich your child's education.
- Set an Example: Show the importance of community involvement to your children.

**Get Involved!** Contact us at stondonlowerpta@gmail.com or attend our next meeting on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> March. Every contribution counts!

#### Term Dates 2024-2025

Requests for term time absence will not be approved unless due to exceptional circumstances.

#### Summer Term

Tuesday 22nd April-Friday 18th July 2025

Half Term: Monday 27th- Friday 30th May 2025

Inset Days: Monday 7th April & Monday 21st

July 2025

#### Term Dates 2025-2026

#### Autumn Term

Wednesday 3rd September- Friday 19th December 2025

Half Term: Monday 27th October- Friday 31st

November 2025

Inset Days: Monday 1st and Tuesday 2nd September

2025

#### Spring Term

Tuesday 6th January- Friday 27th March 2026

Half term: Monday 16th-Friday 20th February 2026

Inset Days: Monday 5th January 2026

#### Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April- Friday 17th July 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th-Friday 29th May 2026

Inset Days: Monday 13th April 2026

## Diary Dates

Date	Event
12th June	Mead Open Farm -
	Reception
16th June	Sports Day—weather
	dependent
25th-27th June	Grafham Water—Yr 4
2nd July	British Schools Museum—Y2
9th July	Year 4 leavers ceremony
11th July	End of year reports—all years
15th July	Celebrations evening

More information on each of the above events and trips will be sent via Parentmail. However, if you have any questions please contact Mrs Addy in the office.