

STONDON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE 2026

Mead Open Farm - Reception school trip 2026

Miss Bellinger said “We had a fantastic time on our farm trip, which brought all of our learning to life! The children were amazed to see a calf that was just 3 hours old, and they loved feeding the lambs. We also enjoyed a bumpy tractor ride through the Highland cow field and had the chance to stroke some very soft bunnies. It was a truly memorable experience, and the children represented the school beautifully—well done to them all!”



Today we say goodbye to Mrs Carmichael who is moving to another school. Thank you for all your hard work and good luck from everyone at Stondon Lower School!

STONDON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE 2026

Class learning updates from our lovely teachers

Robins – Miss Bellinger



Following on from our "Sowing a Seed" topic, we have been learning all about animals on the farm. The children have explored how animals help us, why they are important, and why farmers care for them. We have also been learning about animal habitats, discussing how different animals live in different environments and how they have special features or adaptations that help them survive.

In Maths, we have been focusing on number bonds to 5 and 10, helping the children understand how numbers can be combined and split in different ways. We have also been developing our map skills, learning how to follow simple maps and talk about directions, linking this to our understanding of the world around us.

Puffins – Miss Ralevic



In English, Year 1 have started a new book called *We're Going to Find the Monster*. We used our imagination to think about what the monster might look like and drew our own monster pictures. We then described our monsters' using adjectives and practised using the word *and* to join two ideas together in one sentence.

In Maths, we have started learning to recognise different coins, and next week we will be learning to recognise notes.

In Computing, we have learnt how to log on to and log off the laptops using our own usernames and passwords. Logging on required us to persevere, as this was a brand-new skill that many of us had not used before. These skills are helping us to become more independent and get

Kestrels – Mrs Lampshire and Mrs Lagah



This week, Kestrels have been busy with their learning. The children finished writing and editing their own recounts about a special event and amazed us! We have now started reading a new book called *SuperJoe Does Not Do Cuddles*, and the children seem to be enjoying it so far. In Maths, we have started our new unit on position and direction. The children have been trying hard to recognise 'left' and 'right' and have been learning how to make different turns such as full turns, half turns and a quarter turns. Last week, the children planted their own runner bean seeds and have been excited to see the changes since then. Some have started sprouting, whilst others still need a little more time. In D&T, the children have been learning about wheels and axles and are very excited to design and make their own vehicles using recycled materials. If you have any small boxes that the children could use to make their vehicles, please keep them and bring them in next week. It's been a great week of learning in Kestrels this week!

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to our lovely Charlotte, who will be very much missed by us all. We wish her all the best at her new school.

Toucans – Miss Cormack



In English, Toucans have been writing an alternative ending to *The Iron Giant*. We have focused on using the power of three, onomatopoeia and zooming in on specific parts of a character's body to convey emotion. The children have produced some exciting and imaginative writing, describing trembling hands, determined eyes and pounding hearts to bring their stories to life.

In Maths, we have been learning about angles and lines, including vertical, horizontal, parallel and perpendicular lines.

In History, we have continued our learning about the Ancient Egyptians, exploring their beliefs about life after death and why it was such an important part of Egyptian culture.

We have also been busy practising our songs for the upcoming Summer Concert and are looking forward to performing for you soon!

Hummingbirds – Mrs Read



Last Friday, we enjoyed a full day of Design and Technology activities with an Italian theme. Throughout the day, we prepared and tasted a variety of delicious foods. We made our own ice cream, fresh pesto, and homemade pasta, all washed down with a refreshing glass of grape juice. The children thoroughly enjoyed developing their cooking skills and trying the food they had created themselves.

In PSHE, we have been learning about first aid and the importance of helping others in an emergency. We explored basic first aid techniques and discussed how to respond safely and responsibly in different situations. The children showed great enthusiasm and understanding during these practical lessons.

What Is Safeguarding?

At our setting, your child's safety and wellbeing are our highest priorities. You may hear us talk about *safeguarding* — but what does that mean?

Safeguarding is the action we take to protect children from harm, abuse, neglect, or exploitation, and to make sure they grow up in a safe and supportive environment.

It includes:

- Protecting children from physical, emotional, and sexual harm
- Preventing neglect
- Promoting children's health, wellbeing, and development
- Making sure children feel safe, listened to, and supported

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All staff are trained to recognise signs that a child may need help and to respond appropriately. We follow national guidance such as **Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE)** and work closely with local safeguarding partners when needed.

If we are ever concerned about a child's safety, we have a legal duty to take appropriate action. In most cases, we will speak with parents first. However, if we believe a child may be at immediate risk, we may need to seek advice or make a referral without prior discussion. Our priority will always be the child's safety.

If you ever have concerns about a child's safety — whether it is your own child or another child — please speak to our Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) or Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead (DDSL). We are here to listen, support, and work together with families.

Or you can contact the Integrated Front Door (Children's Services) on 0300 300 8585. Mon – Thurs 8.45am – 5.20pm Fri 8.45am – 4.20pm

Email: IFD@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk Out of hours: Social Care Emergency Duty Team 0300 300 8123

Bedfordshire Police Child Abuse Investigation Unit - 01234 846960.

NSPCC 0808 800 5000



Mrs Ciara Dumpleton

Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Nicola Foxall

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead



Mrs Hayley Lampshire

Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead

STONDON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 19TH JUNE 2026

Health and Safety

Please note the below to help your children safe

- If you're bringing a dog with you to collect your child please keep them on the lead even outside of our school grounds. Our gates are open and so dogs can gain access at any point.
 - With the improving weather, we are noticing children are using the trim trail at drop off and pick up without adult supervision. **Please do not let children use the trim trail.** The trim trail needs to be supervised by school staff only and at these times we do not have any adults outside.
 - To help everyone stay safe in the front playground **please do not** let your children
 - climb along the wall railings
 - climb on the buddy bench
 - climb on the bike and scooter racks
 - hang on the pipes
 - jump up and pull/dangle off the basketball net
 - climb on or over the black hand railings outside the front door
 - use of scooters, bikes or skateboards isn't allowed.
- All of these activities are causing damage in our playground and are unsafe for children to do.
- To help everyone stay safe please do not allow your children to practice gymnastics on the front playground.
 - Please could we ask that our playground is kept litter free .



We know how unpredictable the British weather can be. Please keep an eye on the weather forecast. Please ensure

- Your child has a water bottle with them everyday
- You're applying suncream before they arrive at school – we're unable to apply suncream for children
- Please send in your child with a sun hat for break, lunch and outside learning
- If your child is a hayfever sufferer, please ensure you're administering antihistamines before they arrive at school
- If your child suffers from hayfever or has a **medical condition**, sunglasses can be worn upon agreement with the school.
-

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Monday 22 nd June	Yr 4 attending Robert Bloomfield Production
Wednesday 24 th June	Sports Day
Friday 3 rd July	Transition day
Wednesday 8 th July	British Schools Museum – Year 2
Thursday 9 th July	Something for Summer – Year 3
Thursday 9 th July	Leavers assembly – Year 4
Thursday 16 th July	Summer Fair

Term Dates 2025-2026

Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April- Friday 17th July 2026

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

Term Dates 2026-2027

Autumn Term

Wednesday 7th September - Friday 18th December 2026

Half Term: Monday 26th October- Friday 30th October 2026

Inset Days: Thursday 3rd and Friday 4th September

Spring Term

Tuesday 5th January - Thursday 25th March 2027

Half Term: Monday 15th February - Friday 19th February 2027

Inset Days: 4th January 2027

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

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