

STONDON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 30TH JANUARY 2025

Spring Term

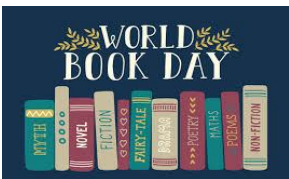
Our school is super busy over the Spring term and we have a numbers of events which the school celebrate. Please see below for further details:



Fri 13th Feb- Wear Bright Shine Bright- this day marks the end of Children's Mental Health week. Children are invited to come to school in brightly coloured sports clothes in return for a suggested donation of £1 (all money raised will go to CHUMS). Children will take part in a variety of wellbeing activities during the day.

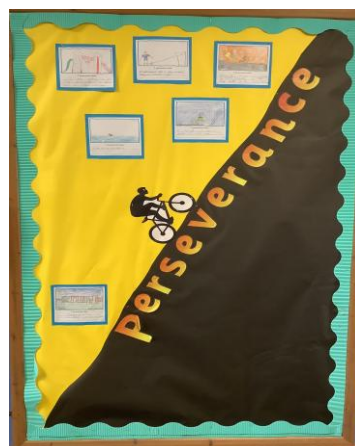


Number day- this falls on Friday 27th Feb. Children can dress up wearing a maths related t-shirt/ jumper alongside their school uniform. This could be a football shirt with a number on or a stripy top to represent parallel lines etc.



World Book day- Thurs 5th March. Year 1 and 2 will need to be mindful that they will have PE that day (no football kits please, these can be worn on Wear Bright or Number day). Details to follow regarding **if** children will be dressing up.

As mentioned in Mrs Dumpleton's Head Teacher update on Friday, our staff and children have transformed our corridor displays. Please see pictures below of their hard work



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Class learning updates from our lovely teachers

Robins – Miss Bellinger



We've had another fantastic week in Reception, full of exciting learning across the curriculum! In Maths, we have been exploring the **composition of 4 and 5**, developing a deeper understanding that numbers can be made up of different parts. The children have been learning that **1 is a part and 4 is a part**, and together they make 5. We have used practical resources and lots of hands-on activities to help the children confidently explain how numbers can be split and recombined. In literacy, the children have been busy **writing their own little books** all about **things they like**. They have shown brilliant enthusiasm and independence, using their **phonics knowledge** to help them sound out and write words. It has been wonderful to see how proud they are of their writing and how keen they are to share their books with others. We have also continued exploring our termly topic, **The Arctic**, and this week we have focused on **Arctic explorers**. The children were fascinated to learn about explorers such as **Scott and Shackleton**, and we have enjoyed talking about the challenges they faced and what life might have been like on their journeys.



Puffins – Miss Ralevic

In English this week, the Puffins have been inspired by the stories of *Ruby's Worry* and *Ravi's Roar*, to write their own recounts about how they've managed a worry or a 'roar'. We have been using our success criteria to make sure we include a title, illustrations and a capital letter for the pronoun 'I'.

In Maths, they have been exploring addition to 20. We have been practicing counting on and also using our number bonds within 10 to help us make links with our number bonds to 20. Please remember to keep playing Numbots at home to help develop fluency with addition within 10, as this really helps when moving onto addition to 20!

In Art we have been busy getting hands-on and a bit messy with clay! After exploring the artist Joan Miró and his work, we have created some imaginative sculptures influenced by his work.

Kestrels – Mrs Lampshire and Mrs Lagah



What a busy two weeks it's been in Kestrels.

We have revisited the story of Rapunzel and we have used the original to write our own versions. Using our computing skills we have practised logging onto the Chromebook with our own usernames and passwords and typed our stories. We have learnt how to change the front and the size of the letters.

In Geography we have been learning about the different parts of the U.K and identifying them on a map.

In Art we have been designing our own masks that have been inspired by Picasso.



Toucans – Miss Cormack

Toucans Class have been working hard across the curriculum and have been enjoying lots of exciting learning. In English, we are exploring *Alice in Wonderland*, using it as inspiration to create our own imaginative lands. The children are developing characters and writing detailed setting descriptions using their imaginations. In maths, we are learning to divide 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers with exchanging. This is a tricky concept, but the children are showing fantastic perseverance and putting in a huge amount of effort.

In World Views, the children have been learning about Islam, including how Muslims pray and celebrate important festivals. Our new spelling words will be available on Seesaw if you would like to practise at home, although this is not essential as we practise regularly in school. In history, we are continuing our Stone Age topic by learning the difference between tools and weapons and exploring the materials they were made from. This links closely with our science learning about rocks, helping children make meaningful connections between subjects.

Hummingbirds – Mrs Read



This week we are finishing our work on multiplication and division. We are now able to multiply a 3 digit number by a one digit number and know the methods and equipment that might sometimes help us with that. Soon we will be moving onto the new topic of length and perimeter.

In English, we have completed our work on an explanation text about a flying machine and have now returned to narrative writing with a new book called 'Starbird' by Sharon King-Chai. It is a beautiful story and we are really enjoying it so far.

In art, we have completed our project inspired by Albrecht Durer's 'Praying Hands' and are now turning our attentions to ancient Greek art. We will be working on a printed piece first and will be exploring different printing techniques.

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Vacancies across our Federation – Stondon and Shillington

Cleaner Supervisor at Stondon Lower School <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109469/EDV-2025-SLS-55087>

Teaching Assistant <https://mynewterm.com/jobs/109469/EDV-2025-SLS-88371>

Winter Clothing

Please make sure your child has with them a coat in school every day. Hats and gloves are also good for break and lunchtime (please label them!). Your child is welcome to wear base layers under their uniform if they are feeling chilly! **Please may we also ask that sunglasses are NOT bought into school unless your child has a medical need for them.**



Term Dates 2025-2026

Spring Term

Tuesday 6th January- Friday 27th March 2026

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

Inset Days: Monday 5th January

Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April- Friday 17th July 2026

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

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

Diary Dates

Date	Event
Year 4 swimming	Every Thursday this half term
Wear Bright, shine bright	Friday 13 th February
Young Voices -Year 4	Wednesday 25 th February
Number day	Friday 27 th February
World book day	Thursday 5 th March
Celtic Harmony	Friday 20 th March

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.