

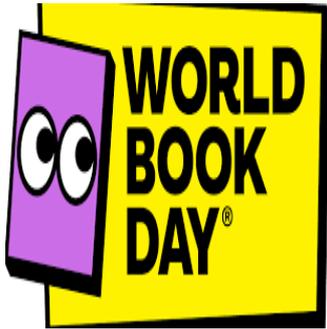
STONDON LOWER SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2026

Upcoming dates to remember



Friday 27th February: Number day - children can choose to come to school 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 .



Thursday 5th March: World Book Day - Children are invited to come to school dressed as their favourite book character. Children will be writing about their favourite book and character explaining what it is about their book that makes it their favourite. It will therefore be useful if your child has the book with them in school.

No football kits please, these can be worn on Wear Bright or Number

Year 3 & 4

RBA French visit



We had some visitors from Robert Bloomfield last week. Some year 8 students came to teach us the French alphabet - they were really good and played lots of fun games with us. We sang songs and even played some traditional French playground games



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Class learning updates from our lovely teachers

Robins – Miss Bellinger



We have had another busy and exciting time in Reception and are so proud of all the children's hard work! In Maths, we have been learning about 4-sided shapes. The children have been exploring the properties of squares and rectangles and have been learning about what makes them the same and what makes them different. We have talked about how both shapes have four sides, but that squares have four equal sides, while rectangles have two longer sides and two shorter sides. The children have enjoyed spotting these shapes in our classroom and environment. We have also begun looking more deeply at the numbers 6, 7 and 8. The children have been exploring different ways to represent these numbers, thinking about how they can be made using smaller numbers, and building confidence with counting and recognising them. In English, the children have been busy writing their own books all about things they like. We have been so impressed with their ideas and enthusiasm. They have worked hard to use their phonics knowledge to write words independently and are becoming much more confident at writing simple sentences. The children have continued to make fantastic progress in phonics. They have been working hard to learn and recognise their sounds and are becoming more confident when blending to read and segmenting to write. We are especially proud of how well they did in their recent assessments – well done everyone!

Puffins – Miss Ralevic



In Year 1 this week, we have been working incredibly hard! In English, we have been doing some independent writing, using everything we have learned to show what we can do. We have been using "and" to join our ideas and adding adjectives to make our writing more interesting and detailed.

In Maths, we have been solving missing number problems, using counters and number lines to help us find the answers.

In Geography, we have learned about the difference between human and physical features. We even went outside to explore the features of our school and identify what was human and what was physical. Have a great half term!

Kestrels – Mrs Lampshire and Mrs Lagah



This week has been full of exciting learning in Kestrels class. In English, we started a new unit on non-fiction writing, and the children have loved writing about their favourite animals. They worked hard to include lots of clear, interesting facts to inform the reader in an engaging way.

In Maths, we've been getting to grips with our 2 times tables and beginning work on division. Division can be tricky, so the children enjoyed a practical lesson sharing items between plates to really understand how dividing works.

We've also been busy celebrating Children's Mental Health Week, exploring the theme of belonging by creating beautiful "Island of Belonging" artwork. On Safer Internet Day, we discussed staying safe online and the use of AI, including voice assistants.

At home, parents can support by practising the 2 times tables and encouraging children to share facts when reading or researching animals.

Toucans – Miss Cormack



This week in Toucans Class, we've been really busy with some exciting learning. In English, the children have completed their story settings and character descriptions, using adjectives, prepositions, and lists to bring their ideas to life. We've also focused on adding dialogue into our writing to capture the reader's attention and make our stories more engaging. The students have worked hard on this, and it's been wonderful to see their creativity shine through. In Maths, we've been exploring measurements in metres, centimetres, and millimetres. The children have learned how to convert between different units of measurement, and they are becoming more confident in using these skills to solve real-life problems. It's been great to see their progress as they apply what they've learned.

In History, we've wrapped up our Stone Age topic, which the children absolutely loved. They've been fascinated by the tools, food, and way of life during this time. The excitement is building for our upcoming trip, and we can't wait to see the children's enthusiasm as they experience history first hand. As we approach the holidays, I encourage all parents to continue reading with their children at home. It's a fantastic way to keep up the momentum of learning, and I'm sure the children will enjoy sharing their stories with you. Happy half term!

Hummingbirds – Mrs Read



We have been busy in Maths this week learning about the perimeter of rectilinear shapes.

We have figured out ways to calculate a missing length and are now beginning to look at regular and irregular polygons and how we might work out the perimeters of these shapes.

After half term, we will be moving on to fractions so keep practicing those times tables Hummingbirds - they are going to come in useful! In English, we have been revising speech punctuation as we are hoping to show off these skills in a future story we have planned!

In Art, we are preparing for an amazing piece where we will be using a couple of different printing techniques - we are inspired by the Geometric Period of art that took place in Ancient Greece. We can't wait to show you!

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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>

For any parent of Stondon who is successful in this role, you would be entitled to free after school club for your child/ren.

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

Charity this Easter

Each year the Garden House Hospice in Letchworth run their 'Charlie Chick' campaign spreading joy with their cheerful chicks which are stuffed with Crème Eggs in order to raise funds for the hospice.

This year we have again been asked to help sell some Charlie Chicks. They are £1.50 each for chicks without a hat and £2.50 with hats. The lovely little chicks are currently living in the school office.

Each Friday afternoon after half term, some of our wonderful Year 4's will be in the front playground with the chicks if you would like to purchase one. You can play by cash, scanning a QR code or by text.



Coordinated by the UK Safer Internet Centre

saferinternetday.org.uk

On Tuesday we celebrated internet safety day. The aim of the day is to raise awareness of a safer and better internet for all, and especially for children and young people.

We constantly talk to the children about keeping themselves safe (this is one of our school rules) and this includes online. The day helped us to recognise all that we have learnt in our IT and PSHE lessons.

Useful resources from the UK Safer Internet Centre:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers>

Top tips for children and young people

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026/top-tips-for-young-people>

You can find more information here:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2026>

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

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 2026

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

Diary Dates

Date	Event
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
Parent/teacher consultations	Tuesday 24 th March
Parent/teacher consultations	Thursday 26 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.