



Standens Barn Primary School

Flaxwell Court, Northampton, NN3 9EH

Telephone: 01604 413151

E-mail: head@standens.northants-ecl.gov.uk

helen.shipley@sbps.inmat.org.uk or louise.bates@sbps.inmat.org.uk



Website address: www.standens.northants.sch.uk

Follow us on Twitter: @StandensBarn / Facebook: Standens Barn / Instagram: standensbarnprimary

Headteacher: Amie James



October 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

What an amazing start to the new school year!

We have welcomed many new children and families to our school community, and I would like to offer a warm welcome to them all. They are all showing our BEST values and are off to a flying start- well done and happy school days!

Hampton Court Palace

On 27th September, Year 5 were historians and explored the home of Henry VIII whilst learning many new facts and applying their knowledge about the Tudors. The children were a pleasure to take and demonstrated BEST during the day, particularly Brave when they found out that there may be ghosts that haunt the palace. Thank you to Miss Butterworth and Miss Haines for organising such a wonderful day- these days take many months of planning and organising, most of which is often completed outside of their working day.

Cadbury World

On Thursday 10th October, our Year 4 children enjoyed their trip to Cadbury World as part of their current unit of work called 'Chocolate'.

Everyone enjoyed learning about the origins of chocolate, but they especially enjoyed going into the 4D cinema 2 times, taking part in the chocolate tasting and being given lots of tasty treats. The staff who went along were incredibly impressed with how enthusiastic and thoughtful the children were- everyone had a great time and made many happy memories.



Costs in schools

Over the past couple of years, we have seen a staggering rise in costs for our school trips both from the venues themselves but also with the price of coaches.

For many years, we have been able to subsidise the cost of these trips but, unfortunately, we are unable to continue to do this.

Whilst there has been an increase in the trips themselves, we have also been affected by a huge rise in our utility bill costs, staffing costs and a low birth rate (meaning we have got lower class sizes in some year groups which decreases the amount per pupil that we receive). Increased costs have not been supported by the government and these factors are affecting many schools nationally with many having to make difficult decisions to secure their futures.

I therefore wanted to express my gratitude to you all for supporting us in enabling us to provide your child(ren) with an excellent and varied curriculum and wider experiences. Without your willingness to pay the total amounts for these trips or donating money for our discos and Winter Barnanza, we would be unable to continue to provide these exciting opportunities.

We would also like to encourage you to sign up to our easy Fundraising page- it is incredibly straight forward to use. You just register, download the app. If you shopping online then use the app to navigate towards the shop of your choice where you place your order as normal but we then receive a donation for no extra cost to you.

We have hit £200 already and the money raised will help us to continue with some of our initiatives in school whilst lowering costs of trips and visitors.

If you have not signed up yet, please register at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/.../standens-barn.../>

HOW TO GET STARTED

Become an easyfundraiser

- 1** Sign up and choose a cause
Search for your favourite cause or choose one of our most popular.
You can also change your cause at anytime.
- 2** Download our browser extension
Our Donation Reminder plug-in pops up automatically when you shop to let you know when a donation is available.
- 3** Track your donations
You'll be able to see how much you've raised in your account and we'll send updates on when your cause gets paid.

Thank you for your amazing support!



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House Captains

This term many children demonstrated both Brave and Enthusiastic and put themselves forward to become a House Captain. House captains offer their support at many events including parents evenings, new open days, sports days and also meet with visitors etc. The applications we received were of an incredibly high standard, which made it very difficult for me and Mr Chalmers to decide on who the successful applicants should be. A huge well done to our new House Captains and Vice Captains- we look forward to working alongside you, watching you lead and continue to demonstrate BEST to our visitors and children.



UK Parliament

Earlier this month, we welcomed Mr Smith from UK Parliament, who led an interesting whole school assembly. He told the children about the rule of democracy, the role of our Government and how laws are discussed and passed between the House of Commons and House of Lords.

Our House Captains were MPs and Lords/Baronesses and our Speaker requested 'Order, order!' in the House of Standens Barn.

Mr Smith was very complementary about our school and sent an email to thank our children for being enthusiastic and engaged.



Magnificent Mind Champions

Our new Magnificent Mind Champions received training with Pacesetters earlier this term to ensure they understood their new role and how they can implement this in our school and support other children. Magnificent Mind Champions promote positive mental health and these enthusiastic children will be great role models in school and organise activities during lunchtimes for others to enjoy.



Well done to you all- you are super examples of leadership!

STEM school of the year finalist

We are so incredibly proud of our F1 in schools team who are finalists for the STEM school of the year at the Northamptonshire Education Awards. This is such a well-deserved recognition of the hard work and enthusiasm of all of those involved and we are so proud of their commitment and innovation. Congratulations to Mr High and Miss Haines for this wonderful achievement!

We are also excited to see Standens Stormers and Aerobarnamic Racers, this year's F1 in schools teams begin their team designs and we cannot wait to see your designs and how fast your cars will travel on the race track at the regional finals. Good luck!





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Goodbye

It is with a heavy heart that we are also saying thank you and farewell to Miss Patterson. She is leaving us to begin a well-deserved opportunity as Pastoral Head of Year at a local secondary school. We are so proud of Miss Patterson and her determination to show BEST and try a new challenge. However, we will miss her very much- she has made a significant difference to our children and her care, kindness and fun have been wonderful qualities to have around us. Thank you so very much, Miss Patterson!

BEST

In assemblies this term, we have introduced BEST to our new children and revisited our values with those who know them well. We have discussed what it means to be **Brave, Enthusiastic, Safe and Thoughtful** in all areas of our lives and how these values should be demonstrated to all of those we meet and by all of those in our school community- children, staff and parents/carers.

These are values that can also be used in the home- consistency helps children to understand boundaries and BEST can be useful reminders if they are perhaps not following your expectations but can also be used as reasons when offering praise and rewards.

The children have signed their BEST class agreements, and we will continue to embed BEST in all parts of school life everyday throughout the school year and remind our children that **'The true test of BEST is how we behave when no one is watching'**.

Our Friday assemblies are one of my favourite parts of the week, I really enjoy seeing our children succeed and be Brave enough to share their accomplishments with the rest of our school. During this time, we celebrate class attendance, both in and out of school achievements, home learning and our BEST of the week children.

This term we have also celebrated our first Bronze award winners- this means they have achieved 50 smiley faces so well done to them!



NO OUT SIDERS

'All different, All welcome'

No Outsiders

Our school continues to celebrate being a No Outsiders school- we encourage inclusion and acceptance and remind our children that we are **'all different, all welcome'** to prepare them for the world in which they live.

We hold regular whole school and class-based assemblies with follow on lessons which look at examples of diversity and inclusion that exist round us.

The lessons allow our children to debate comfortably and safely whilst acknowledging that different ideas exist, and we are all different but we all belong.

This term, the children have been sharing and discussing the following books with their teachers:

Reception: Hello Hello
Year 1 and 2: How to be a Lion
Year 3: This is Our House
Year 4: Red Crayon Story
Year 5: The Girls
Year 6: You Need to Chill

Open days

For those with children who are celebrating their 4th birthday on or before 31st August 2025, it is that time already when you need to begin thinking about their primary school places. We understand that this can be an emotional time, for both you and your little one, but we really do look forward to welcoming you at one of our open days/evenings.

Please also share with friends, families and others who may be looking for a primary school place- we are so proud of our school and all that we offer #BEST



Standens Barn Primary School

open day

Prospective new Reception children and their Parents

September 2025 admissions

If you have a child that is turning 4 on or before 31st August 2025 we invite you to come along to visit us on one of the following days:

- Tuesday 15th October at 5pm
- Wednesday 16th October at 10am – during school day
- Wednesday 6th November at 2pm – during school day
- Wednesday 6th November at 7pm – to be confirmed

Please telephone the school office on 01604 413151 to book your day and time.

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.





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Reminder- Cycling to school

It is wonderful to see many of our children walking, cycling or scootering to school and, whilst we actively encourage this, we want to ensure that all children understand how to keep themselves safe when doing so. Please remember that, if your child would like to bring their bike or scooter into school, they **must** wear a helmet. Thank you for your understanding and co-operation.

Reminder- Parking

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you all to be Safe and Thoughtful when collecting or dropping your child(ren) off.

We understand that it can be very stressful in the mornings when we have to be in multiple places but it is vital that **ALL** car drivers remain courteous to all of those in our community and that they also drive and park within the law to ensure we do not hurt or harm anyone.

The Highway Code Rule 243 states that it is illegal to stop or park near the following:

- near a school entrance (including zig zag lines)
- anywhere you would prevent access for Emergency Services
- at or near a bus or tram stop or taxi rank
- on the approach to a level crossing/tramway crossing
- opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space
- near the brow of a hill or hump bridge
- opposite a traffic island or (if this would cause an obstruction) another parked vehicle
- where you would force other traffic to enter a tram lane
- where the kerb has been lowered to help wheelchair users and powered mobility vehicles
- in front of an entrance to a property
- on a bend
- where you would obstruct cyclists' use of cycle facilities

Uniform information

We believe a school uniform gives our children a sense of belonging and encourages them to feel proud of the school they attend and it is wonderful to see that the overwhelming majority of you follow our school uniform policy.

Our PE uniform ensures that our children continue to represent our school and ethos of BEST, that they look smart and feel part of a bigger school community.

When children wear their school uniform we are always proud of how smart they look and we want to maintain this standard on PE days.

PE uniform should **ONLY** be worn on designated PE days or as directed by the class teacher and **not** on any other days. *The PE kit should also be worn for before/after school sports clubs.*

The PE uniform can be purchased via the Goodies app or you can buy the equivalent from alternative shops as long as it follows our expectations.

Our PE uniform consists of the following:

- plain white t-shirt or the **NEW** school t-shirt with owl logo
- black jogging bottoms or leggings
- black shorts (or green shorts if you already have these)
- black hoodie with school owl badge
- trainers or plimsolls
- hat for sunny days

Our uniform expectations are as follows:

- green cardigan or jumper
- fleece or cardigan with school owl logo (ordered through the main school office)
- white polo shirt or white plain white shirt or blouse
- grey or black trousers or tailored shorts (not sportswear)
- grey or black skirts or pinafores
- green gingham summer dress
- black flat school shoes (**not** white or coloured trainers or sandals in the summertime)
- rucksack/school bag or book bag with school owl logo (ordered through the main school office) to carry school items
- draw string bag with school owl logo (useful to carry trainers in if your child wishes to change footwear at lunchtimes to play football or to carry spare trainers for PE which can get muddy during the winter months)

*Children should **not** wear jewellery other than stud earrings and/or a watch. Children should also **not** wear black or any other types of jeans or leggings. ALL jewellery, including stud earrings, MUST be removed on a PE day or your child will not be able to participate.*



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We have had a fantastic first term and we are looking forward to what comes next throughout the rest of this academic year!

Thank you for your ongoing support and helping us achieve a great start and for being BEST!

I hope you all enjoy a restful break and we will see you at 8:50am on Monday 4th November.

Mrs Amie James
Head teacher

Please continue to check your emails, our school website and social media for updates about the curriculum offer for your child and about what they are learning. We regularly send out information, especially at the beginning of a new school term. I would also encourage you to ask your child about what they have been doing- we have the pleasure of talking to them about their school experiences and they are open, honest but also very enthusiastic!

Reminders:

To keep all our children safe, the play equipment/trim trail on our school playground is not to be used before and after school. The equipment is only supervised during playtimes, lunchtimes and specific PE lessons.

Please remember the car park is shut between 8:30 and 9:10 and from 3:00 until 3:30, unless you hold a disability badge/permit for vehicles which needs to be displayed clearly. Our caretaker will open the school gates when it is time to do so.

Please ensure you park safely and thoughtfully and NOT on the zigzag lines or in the school car parks (the areas both inside and outside the gates).

Please remember that if your child would like to bring their bike or scooter into school, they must wear a helmet.

We are committed to BEST and treating you with respect and courtesy and to be Thoughtful to you all. Our staff also have the right to work in a safe environment, so we ask that you treat them thoughtfully and with respect and courtesy. Offensive behaviour will result in you being asked to leave and may result in prosecution.