



Standens Barn Primary School

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Headteacher: Amie James



December 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow, Term 2 has been full of wonderful opportunities and exciting events- what an amazing end to 2024!

Year 6 Residential Trip

In November, many of our Year 6 children attended a residential trip to Grafham residential centre.

The children all demonstrated BEST throughout their time away. It was fabulous for us to see them face new challenges and for us to share in their enjoyment when they achieved new things. The children were incredibly happy and made many wonderful memories, which we know will stay with them for a long time.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the staff who left their own homes and families so your child could have this experience. The staff also demonstrated BEST and showed such care and kindness to all the children and each other throughout the duration of the trip.



Reception Nativity

The children in Giraffes and Zebras performed 'The Wiggly Nativity' and what a superb job they did. It was so impressive to see the youngest members of our school saying their words and singing so enthusiastically whilst being so Brave on a stage in front of lots of grown-ups and the rest of the school. We are so proud of them- well done to all involved!



NSSP Athletics events

Children in Year 4, 5 and 6 recently participated in an Athletics competition organised by the Northamptonshire School Sports Partnership. The children demonstrated BEST by bravely and enthusiastically taking part in many new events whilst showing such a great team spirit and encouraging their peers.



Parents Evening

In November, we held face to face parents' evenings to provide you with an opportunity to come in and talk to your child's class teacher.

Parent's evenings are an important and valuable opportunity to discuss your child's progress and to talk about next steps with the class teacher. We would like to say thank you to those who attended- it was so fabulous to see you all and we thank you for your ongoing support. I would like to say thank you to Dolce who provided you all with samples of meals and desserts.

Finally, I would also like to say a huge thank you to our House Captains who were wonderful examples of BEST. They welcomed our families, guided them around the school, answered questions and made refreshments for our teachers. They were absolutely brilliant, and I was so proud of them!





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STEM school of the year finalist

In our previous newsletter, I shared our pride about being finalists for the STEM school of the year at the Northamptonshire Education Awards. The awards ceremony was on Friday 29th November and, whilst we did not win, we are so proud that the achievements of the F1 club were recognised.

We may not have come home with an award, but we definitely came home with our heads held high. It was a recognition of the hard work, enthusiasm, commitment and innovation of all of those involved.

Many congratulations to Northampton Academy who were proud winners- we are so pleased that many children in our locality have access to the amazing STEM facility and we know that we will continue to build the foundations to learning in readiness for their secondary education.



Goodbyes

We are also saying thank you and farewell to staff from across the school.

We are saying goodbye to Miss Toseland, Mrs Hamilton and Mr Chalmers. All of whom have played a significant part in school life at SBPS for a number of years- their commitment and dedication has been wonderful, and we are so incredibly grateful for all they have done. They will be greatly missed by all of us here and we wish them the very BEST of luck.

We are also saying farewell to Mrs Mellish and Mrs Quarton who are leaving us to spend more time at home and to embrace new opportunities. We would like to say thank you for their continued hard work and support and wish them well for the future.

Our final goodbye is to Mrs Drummond who is leaving us to begin a well-deserved opportunity as a Designated Safeguarding Lead at a local secondary school. We will miss her very much- she has made a significant difference to the lives of many of our children and families and we would like to thank her for all she has achieved during her time at SBPS.



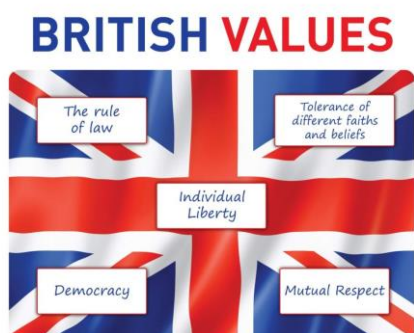
BEST

In assemblies this term, we have focused on anti-bullying week and how we can keep ourselves and each other safe. We have discussed the importance of **STOP** (Several Times On Purpose and Start Telling Other People) and how sharing and showing kindness should be an important focus for us all.

Linked with our No Outsiders learning, we have also discussed our Protected Characteristics and how we should be tolerant of each other's differences and how it is important for us to support those with disabilities. We celebrated the success of Chris McCausland on Strictly Come Dancing and used his story to focus on those with visual impairment. We discussed how he has demonstrated BEST and how his time on the show, and our discussions, are linked with our British Values:

'You have to do new things. If it is something that is scary what is the worst that can happen?'

'People with disabilities are way more resilient, creative and good at problem solving than people think.'





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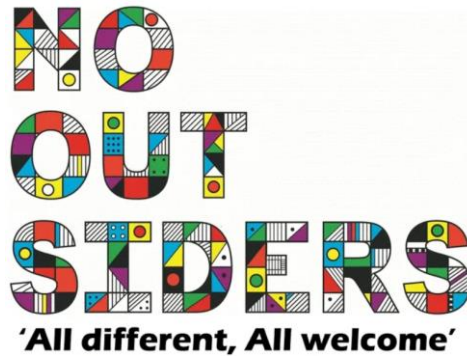
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No Outsiders

We are so proud to be a No Outsiders school- we actively encourage and teach our children to remember that we are **'all different, all welcome'**. We continue to encourage respect and tolerance 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: The Family Book**
- Year 1 and 2: What the Jackdaw Saw**
- Year 3: We're All Wonders**
- Year 4: When Sadness Comes To Call**
- Year 5: The Boys**
- Year 6: You're So Amazing**

Open days

For those with children who are celebrating their 4th birthday on or before 31st August 2025, we continue to encourage you and new parents and families to contact us to arrange a tour of our school.

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.

Please 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

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

We look forward to welcoming you to our school.



Thank you

We are passionate about the importance of children attending school daily and on time, but this can only happen with the support of yourselves.

We want our children to access all areas of the curriculum and the opportunities and experiences on offer and they can only do this if they come to school. Our current whole school attendance is excellent and above national average, and we want this to continue in January 2025.

Holidays will not be authorised, and absence of this nature may result in a penalty notice from the Local Authority (please see our attendance policy for further details). We will also continue to monitor, contact yourselves or conduct home visits during times of absence.

I would also like to say a huge thank you to those who have completed our parent survey- the feedback we have received is incredibly positive and your suggestions for areas for development will be discussed during our senior team meetings.

I hope you all enjoy a restful break and a wonderful Christmas time. We look forward to welcoming you back on **Tuesday 7th January 2025 at 8:50a.m.**

With very BEST wishes for a happy and peaceful new year.

Mrs Amie James
Head teacher





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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.

Reminder- Parking

Please 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