

## BE READY, RESPECTFUL, SAFE and KIND

### HEADTEACHER

The week's weather has made playtimes so lovely and it has been brilliant watching the classes be able to utilise the field and more of our outdoor spaces!

World Book Day was a wonderful celebration of reading and enjoying getting comfy with a story. Thank you to Mrs Franklin for organising the day for us all the enjoy.

Our E-Safety workshop was attended by families yesterday evening. I speak as both parent and Head when I say it was incredibly useful and insightful to find out more. Thank you to Mrs Clayden and Mrs Earle for organising this for us all.

### IMPORTANT NOTICES



#### Children's Oral Health Experiences in West Essex

If you are a parent or carer in West Essex and your child visits an NHS dentist:

- What are your experiences of visiting a dentist with your child?
- What could be done to improve these services?
- What ideas and suggestions do you have?

Take part in the survey here:



07742 072740  
lily.boag@healthwatchesessex.org.uk

healthwatch Essex

Did you know? You can help us to raise money by donating old clothing/textiles into the designated bin in our staff car park!

### SPORT

Welcome to an incredibly busy half term with events coming thick and fast for all of our sports teams.

We started the half term off with the USSP cross country finals for our year 3 & 4 boys and year 5 & 6 girls with all competitors completing the tough course over at Carver Barracks with incredible confidence and determination whilst providing wonderful support to their peers throughout.

This week, Monday saw our year 5 & 6 hockey and netball team take part in a friendly @ HRS and a tournament at Felsted respectively. The friendly served as a fantastic opportunity for our team to compete against older children but also to get used to the pitch size ready for next week's USSP event. Our netball teams also enjoyed a fantastic event with a 1st and fifth place finish overall. On Thursday this week, our year 3/4 tag rugby squad represented the school at the USSP event over at Carver Barracks as they continued their fine form from the previous event winning or drawing all of their matches bar 1 resulting in a fantastic 6th place finish. Finally, to conclude an incredibly busy two week period, our KS2 archery team represented the school at the Dunmow family archery event at Felsted this afternoon - keep an eye on Class Dojo to see how they got on.

### AFSS

Greetings from the AFSS! We may have been little quiet lately but that doesn't mean that our momentum is wavering. If anything, we are putting extra effort into making this spring and summer extra fun for both children and adults at Stebbing! We are busy planning out Easter, sorting out the colour run, and organising a great summer event. If any of you are keen to help and are interested in joining us, please let any of the AFSS 'core members' know. Just to remind you these are Harriet, Lucy, Iida, Amanda and Jas. We hope to reveal some of the plans in the next Spotlight so keep your eyes peeled for more information then!



## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

	Friday 28th February	Friday 7th March
Wrens	Teddy & Finlay	Reggie B & Johnny
Robins	Sully & Rhys	Luna & Freddie
Kingfishers	Evelyn & Rainbow	Charlie B & Jack
Woodpeckers	Jenna & Fletcher	Freddy.S & Esmae
Kestrels	Eva & Fred & Poppy	
Ospreys	Charlie, Tilly & Oliver	Billy & Wren
Owls	Ji & Kaelyn	Zack & Darcy



## HOT CHOCOLATE WITH THE HEADTEACHER



	Friday 28th February	Friday 7th March
Wrens	Gracie L	Isaac
Robins	Joseph	Charlie
Kingfishers	Rhys	Stanley
Woodpeckers	Freddie. E	Lois
Kestrels	Dexter	
Ospreys	Amelia	Rose
Owls	Phoebe	Maya

## READING CHAMPIONS & PRESENTATION AWARDS

	Friday 28th February	Friday 7th March
Wrens	Ocean	Stebbing Reading Champion: Luna
Robins		
Kingfishers		
Woodpeckers	Stebbing Reading Champion:	Freddy. S
Kestrels		Genevieve
Ospreys		Alex
Owls		Mila

DATE	YEAR 6 AWARD	ATTENDANCE AWARD	LUNCHTIME AWARD	KEEP IT CLEAN AWARD
28.02.25	Vinnie	Owls		
07.03.25		Owls		

						
Date						
28.02.25	Woodpeckers	Kingfishers	Owls	Kingfishers	Ospreys	Kestrels
07.03.25	Woodpeckers	Kingfishers	Owls	Owls	Kingfishers	Ospreys



# WRENS



# ROBINS



Our Wrens Explorers have been on a trip to the continent of Africa. Together we have shared experiences of travelling to a different country by Aeroplane or Ferry. We have really enjoyed our Topic Book: Handa's Surprise. Our simple sentence writing was all about the cheeky animals and the fruit they snatched. In Forest School we have noticed a lot of changes in our surroundings. We have been talking a lot about the seasons and how plants grow. The Wrens have been climbing the Grandmother tree, noticing buds forming on her branches. It is such a wonderful space for them to showcase their understanding of the world and the changes within it. Our PSHE lessons has been all about listening carefully and respecting the choices of our friends. Playing Simon Says and Listening Games has been a fun way to put what we have learnt into practice. In Maths we have been exploring Length and Height. We have compared our height to the animals we have been reading about. Wrens have enjoyed many tasty treats with a lovely fruit tasting experience with Miss Summers and pancakes with Ms Osborne. Using our Phonics we were able to describe and write about taste, instructions and recipes.

Robins have worked exceptionally hard over the past couple of weeks to produce the most amazing 'Ten Little...' stories. We have been thinking about digging deeper when writing sentence by adding more detail to our sentences. Some children have even commented on when they think an author has dug deeper when reading their story book. We are in the process of create 3 class books. The Robins worked their hardest to use their best presentation when writing in a pen. It was VERY exciting. In maths we have been learning about number bonds to 20. We have explored how our number bonds to 10 can help us and had the challenge of finding out how many number bonds to 20 there are. It is very important for the children to become fluent with these number facts as they will help them when learning other skills in maths. World Book Day was great fun and we loved reading outside in the sunshine at the end of the school day. It was exciting to see the children's costumes and their cosy pyjamas. Keep reading at home and writing in your child's diary to help them become a reading star at the end of each week. Reading little and often supports fluency. Have a great weekend!



# KINGFISHERS



# WOODPECKERS

In Maths we have started our money topic. We discussed value and symbols. We have focused on ordering and making the same amount in different ways. In English we have been carrying out purposeful research in order to create our animal fact files. We agreed that in order to know if it is purposeful we must read it and understand it, before writing it. We have highlighted and discussed any new or unusual words along the way, whilst ensuring we only look for information linked to our subtitles. Science links beautifully to our English topic this half term, where we are exploring 'Animals including humans'. We have focused on animal groups and identifying their shared features. Kingfishers had fun going around their scootering assault course. The sun was shining and warm for us! Kingfishers really enjoyed their Great Fire of London day. The children had the opportunity to reenact the event and turn themselves into important people from 1666.

Firstly - **Thank you parents!** Some of the money you kindly donated during our Xmas performances and at our Xmas Craft Market has been spent. As planned Woodpeckers now have a fresh, soft and very comfy sofa cover in class, to replace the ripped, grubby one that had been here for years! Thank you! They also have some cushion inners that fit our cushion covers well, and some pretty decor accessories jazzing our cosy book area up a little bit more. We are not totally certain what we want to do with the rest - it may involve a class book, some cuddly comforts, games or educational play resources. One thing we do know is that we're each taking one pound of it to the Village Store with us during this half term, for our Community Month kindness task and PSHE economic wellbeing; hands-on learning. Finally - a polite & friendly reminder parents about your **secret mission** ! These need to come into school no later than Wednesday 2nd April, so everyone can see them together at the same time and so we can use them for some work. See the letter sent last half term for more information or email me at my Stebbing email address.




We have welcome a new Kestrel over the last two weeks, Eva, who has fitted into our class beautifully. It's like she has always been with us! We have also been really bust starting lots of new units of work. We have started by learning a poem called 'The Sound Collector' where we have explored rhyme and rhythm. This week, we have taken what we have learnt and created our own poem about sounds within a school. We then performed them using various musical instruments. In maths, we have been learning all about length and perimeter. The children have loved measuring using trundle wheels as well as exploring how to measure the outside of different shapes. In Science, we have started our unit on states of matter. The children have explored the ways in which particles move in these different states by acting them out and created an experiment to prove that materials can change state. Our new Geography topic is river! So far we have started to learn about rivers through our guided reading sessions as well as creating our own water cycle wheels. The children have learnt the terms evaporation, precipitation and condensation. Our highlight of the last two weeks though has been World Book Day. It was lovely to see so many of you dressed up either through an inspired book character or to enjoy bedtime stories. We also loved exploring the book 'The Bear and the Piano'.

We have welcomed two new Ospreys this week: Oliver and Billy. We hope they have enjoyed their first few days at Stebbing. The children have enjoyed learning about Quidditch and the skills to explain it clearly, which led to them producing some detailed and sophisticated explanation texts in their hot write. We have just finished our Maths unit on percentages and I was very impressed with how quickly the children grasped this new concept. We are looking forward to a new topic of perimeter and area next week. In Geography, it has been great to apply our learning about co-ordinates and locating places on the globe to finding local addresses and directions. In Art, we have looked at the work of artist Georgia O'Keefe and how she uses blending to create the smooth texture of her work. We are looking forward to practising the technique and recreating some of O'Keefe's work. The highlight for many (including me!) this week has been today when we have celebrated World Book Day. It is always a pleasure to see so many children inspired by and excited by books. I hope you and your child will enjoy sharing a story tonight. Why not look up 'The Bear and The Piano' on YouTube and let your Osprey show you what activities we have done today.



As we pass half way in the year, we start to gear up for the KS2 SATs papers and transition to secondary school! Owls class have continued their hard work in all aspects of school life and continue to make great progress both academically and personally. It was lovely to hear the buzz around the room on Monday as they discussed their secondary school allocations. Over the past two weeks, we have been working hard to put together a piece of writing to set the scene and describe a character in the short award winning film titled 'The Little Freak'. The children have engaged superbly with this unit and have produced some incredible pieces of writing that I think will blow you away when you come to read them in a few weeks time. In maths, the units get a bit smaller and shorter now as we have started and concluded our areas, perimeter and volume unit with the children smashing their hot maths assessment today! We have also been learning about the differences between human and physical geography and are embarking on a self-lead project to compare three different areas around the world. There is so much more to share but such little space to share it so I look forward to seeing you all at the upcoming family consultation meetings to share your child's achievements in all aspects of school life and for you to have an opportunity to flick through their books. This is also closely followed by the KS2 SATs information evening on Thursday 27th March where we will discuss everything SATs related!

  
**SEND@Stebbing**  
Next week is Inclusion Week!

Over the course of the week the children will have the opportunity to learn about different kinds of neurodiversity such as ADHD and autism and different physical disabilities. They will hear from their peers and guest speakers about a range of SEND themes. The week also coincides with Young Carers Action Day and workshops related to Sikhism. Our aim for the week is to develop the children's knowledge of additional needs, promote an understanding of equity and ensure all of our children feel valued and included at school.

Key events:

- Monday 10th - **Dress to Express!** All members of the Stebbing community are invited to dress in clothes that they feel most comfortable in and represent who they are (please ensure clothing is suitable for school).
- Monday 10th at 8.45am - **Parent session** on how your child can become an Inclusion Ambassador. Drop-in, no booking required.
- Tuesday 11th - **Neurodiversity awareness sessions**
- Wednesday 12th - **Young Carers Action Day - Wear wacky odd socks** to show your support for Young Carers.
- Thursday 13th - **Sikhism assembly and workshops** in KS2.

# EVENTS CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
March	Community Month
04.03.25	KS1 scooting workshop (AM)
06.03.25	Year <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> tag rugby finals
06.03.25	SEND family forum 2-3pm
06.03.25	E safety workshop for parents 6pm (Please email <a href="mailto:mrs.clayden@stebbingprimary.co.uk">mrs.clayden@stebbingprimary.co.uk</a> if you would like to attend).
07.03.25	World Book Day
10.03.25	SEND awareness week
12.03.25	KS2 Hockey Tournament
13.03.25	KS2 Netball Tournament
14.03.25	KS2 Girls' and Boys' Football Tournament
18.03.25	Family consultations 3-7pm
19.03.25	Family consultations 3-5pm
19.03.25	KS2 Panathlon Bowling Finals
20.03.25	Ospreys to White Hart for pizza making
20.03.25	Little Monster SEND session 2-3pm
21.03.25	Comic relief & Stebbing's Got Talent
21.03.25	Parents and community invited in to play! 2.30-3pm
25.03.25	Owls to Chelmsford Museum
25.03.25	Year 4 home safety workshop 10.30-11.30am
27.03.25	KS2 SATs information evening
28.03.25	KS1 dance festival 9.30-10.15am