



## Stillington Primary School

### Weekly bulletin Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2025



Good morning everyone,

What a brilliant first week back we have had at Stillington Primary school! Our pupils have delved straight back into their learning and enjoyed starting their new topics.

Our stay and play session will resume this Friday with Miss Thompson in the hall to explore our setting.



#### **Your help is needed with Tree Decorating**

Do you have an artistic flare for decorating trees? As part of our Fantastic Friday, the children created Christmas Decorations for the trees at Nunnington Hall. We are looking for parent or community volunteers to support the decorating of these trees on behalf of our school. The tree decorating will take place at Nunnington Hall on the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> November, between 11am and 2pm. Please contact the school if you are able to support us by decorating the tree. Your support would be greatly appreciated.

#### **FEAST Vouchers information**

This Christmas, FEAST is trialling a new, fairer booking process.

We know FEAST activities are popular, so to allocate places in a way more children can join in:

- Parents / carers can make their booking requests from **midday Monday 17th November**
- Places will be allocated from **Friday 21st November**

This window gives families a few days to browse activities and make their booking requests **before** any spaces are allocated and helps ensure as many children and young people as possible can take part. Parents / carers will receive confirmation if their child has a booking from Friday 21st November onwards.

After the first week, remaining places will be allocated on an ongoing basis.

#### **Waiting Lists**

Our activity providers will be using a Waiting List system to allocate places to the children and young people. In most cases the activity will not be full immediately. Our activity providers will allocate places to ensure as many children/young people as possible have access to at least one activity

For more information about FEAST, please visit the website. If you have any questions about FEAST or for support setting up / using your Holiday Activities account, email [support@holidayactivities.com](mailto:support@holidayactivities.com)

Have a wonderful weekend everyone!

Thanks,  
Miss Tordoff  
Head of School



**Stillington Community  
Primary School**



**Terrington Church of  
England VA Primary School**

# Wow Class work



## EYFS and Year 1 & 2 – Miss Allwood

We have loved having everyone back again this week!

In EYFS we have been exploring celebrations, we talked about Halloween that had just passed and we have been looking at bonfire night, we explored the meaning behind bonfire night and made some beautiful firework pictures.

KS1 have been getting stuck into their new book Little Red. They loved the slightly altered fairytale and we have really enjoyed looking together at the thoughts and feelings of different characters in the book.

## Year 3,4,5 & 6 – Miss Jackson

In KS2 this week we have had a good start to this half term. In English, we have started looking at a short film called ‘The Piano’ and we are looking at describing the characters. In maths this week, we have been carrying on with our 4 operations topics; Years 3, 4 and 5 have been doing addition and subtraction, whilst Year 6 have been looking at multiplication and division.

We have completed the Computing and DT work for this term in Autumn 1, so we are not learning those subjects this half term, we have replaced them with History and Art. We have been painting colour wheels in Art and in RE we are looking at the creation story.

# Parent News

## PSHE: Respecting Myself and Others

This half term in PSHE, we are learning about respecting ourselves and others.

In KS1 children will explore how to tell the difference between happy surprises and secrets that make them feel uncomfortable, and what to do if something feels unsafe or worrying.

We’ll also be learning how to resist pressure, ask for help, and use kind and respectful words when talking about what we have in common and what makes us unique.

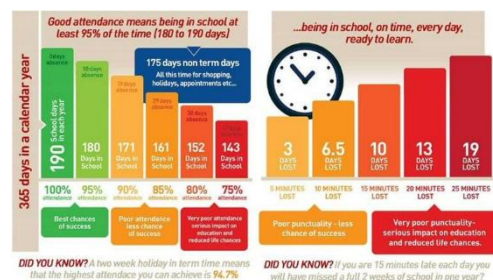
In year 3 and 4 children will explore the difference between teasing, hurtful behaviour, and bullying, both in person and online. They’ll learn how to respond safely if they or someone else is treated unkindly. We’ll also talk about respecting differences and recognising the things we have in common.

In year 5 and 6 children will explore how to assess risks in online dares and challenges, and how to get advice or report concerns about their safety. We’ll also discuss what consent means, how our values link to our behaviour, and how to be a positive role model. Pupils will practise listening respectfully, sharing opinions, and handling disagreements or online discussions in a kind and constructive way.

## Attendance in School

We wrote to all parents last year to explain the Department for Education (DFE) introducing new attendance guidance for schools for managing and supporting school attendance. You might have also noticed that attendance has been in the news recently regarding children who are classed as persistent absence (attendance below 90%). Evidence suggests for some children who fall into persistent absence thresholds early in the term, they can struggle to improve their attendance throughout the academic year.

At our Schools we aim for children to achieve at least 95% attendance for a full school year. There are clear links between poor attendance and poor attainment. If children are absent from school, they may miss key learning opportunities resulting in gaps in their knowledge and understanding. This can



significantly impact upon their learning and development. Absence from school should only occur when a child is unfit to learn, where there is an exceptional circumstance, or when your child has a day of religious observance. If you have exceptional circumstances and wish to request a leave of absence during term time, please complete the request form available from the school office and return it as far in advance of the requested leave period as possible.

### **Support first**

The importance of regular attendance at school cannot be stressed enough. We will promote school attendance and provide support when a student is struggling to attend school. This may mean that we raise the issue of attendance even if your child has only had a couple of days off ill. This is not because we don't believe you. By working with you, the school can step in early to help to prevent patterns of absence developing. We may identify other underlying issues that are making your child reluctant to attend school and be able to help you and your child. For this to be successful we would ask you to support and work with the school.

### **National framework for penalty notices**

To provide consistency, the Government introduced a new national framework for schools and Local Authorities last year. All schools are now required to consider a fine when a child has missed 10 sessions (5 school days) for unauthorised reasons. Fines are issued by the Local Authority and with effect from August 2024, the fine for school absences for each parent will be £80 if paid within 21 days, or £160 if paid within 28 days.

In the case of repeated fines, if a parent receives a second fine for the same child within any three-year period, this will be charged at the higher rate of £160.

Fines per parent will be capped at two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, other action such as a parenting order or prosecution will be considered.

### **Term time holidays**

Students should not be taken out of school during term time unless it is unavoidable. Schools are required to consider requests for leave of absence in term time, the DfE guidance states a family holiday is not an acceptable reason for a child to miss school. If a student is absent for 5 days or more then the school is expected to refer the matter for the consideration of a Penalty Notice being issued by the Local Authority.

We have seen an increase in requests for holidays which is having a big impact on children's learning and wanted to point out to you what taking 5 days holiday in term time looks like in our schools.

**Maths** – 5 hours missed – Maths builds on prior learning each year to help children create that deeper understanding. Although our teachers address gaps in children's learning, making 5 hours up within school is impossible and addressing gaps missed, means time out of foundation subjects.

**English** – 7 ½ hours missed – English centres around a text in all of our classes. When children miss days, they can often miss key parts of the text or the build up to writing tasks or even the writing task itself which in some instances will not be built upon again until the following academic year.

**Phonics/SPAG (Spelling/Punctuation/Grammar)** – Nearly 2 hours missed – Phonics lessons at the early stages teach a sound a day and 5 days can mean 5 new sounds missed, impacting both reading and writing. SPAG Lessons can often be linked to English and children can be given the opportunity to use what they have learnt that day in their writing.

**Foundation Subjects** – Missing a week in a foundation subject misses a stepping stone which are topics that are only covered sometime once in every four years. Practical sessions can be missed which for a lot of children can be very beneficial to their learning.

For many of you, these will have little or no impact. However, if your child is struggling at school and you are worried about any aspect of your child's attendance, please speak with the school office member or our pastoral and attendance lead. We are here to explore what support can be provided to help your child to attend school regularly.

You can now monitor your child's attendance on the Arbor app. Letters from school will be issued half termly for children falling into the persistent absence threshold and termly for children falling below 95% and support arranged with our pastoral lead to look at support we can offer if attendance does not improve. We will also speak to children to support them to share any issues. Cases can be referred to the Local Authority at this stage and Fixed Penalty Notices may be issued.

## **Anti-Bullying Week**

Anti-Bullying Week 2025 will take place from Monday 10th - Friday 14th November, with the theme: Power for Good. This year the aim is to empower children and young people to use their Power for Good to speak out, support others, and build a world where kindness wins.

We'll be using resources from the Anti-Bullying Alliance to complete a whole school assembly, which you can also access if you'd like to learn more. Together, we'll be thinking about what bullying is, how to stand up to it, and how we can all help make our school a kind and respectful place.

Find out more on the Anti-Bullying Alliance website: [www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk](http://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk)

## Charity Day (Non-Uniform) - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November

Our schools charity this year will be Mind Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale. On Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> November children can come into school in non-uniform, for a donation of £1 for our chosen charity.

The children will be learning a little bit about how this charity helps support people who might be struggling and how supporting people with different activities such as Art Therapy or organising activities can boost their

mental health. The children will be taking part in lots of activities including reading, mindfulness colouring, sporting activities and talking about things they are good at and things to boost their mood.

Mental health affects us all, and sometimes a little support can make a huge difference. That's why Mind Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale have launched the Giz a Squid campaign — a fun, simple way to help people access vital mental health services.

For just £1, you can contribute to:

- 1:1 support session for people who are struggling
- Creative and physical activities that boost wellbeing
- Group workshops and community programs that make support accessible to everyone

Every squid counts! Even small donations add up to big impact when lots of people take part. Quick, easy, and meaningful — your £1 can help someone take a step towards better mental health today.

 Mind Scarborough, Whitby and Ryedale

Giz a Squid For Mental Health



## November Carbon Challenge

As part of our sustainability action plan, we are looking at ways we can reduce our carbon footprint within and out of school. Please see below for a challenge for November so we can all help reduce our carbon footprint.



Completed by: \_\_\_\_\_

**CUT YOUR CARBON**  
www.eco-schools.org.uk

### November is Cut Your Carbon month!

Eco-Schools is calling on young people across the UK to tackle carbon emissions, one simple action at a time. Complete these 6 challenges at home with family and friends to raise awareness and spark change. At the end of the month, we'll count how many of you joined in, add up the estimated carbon saved, and celebrate your amazing efforts!

★ **Stick this checklist on your fridge – and start cutting carbon today!**

- **Make three evening meals plant-based across the month**  
Meat production is responsible for around 14% of the world's greenhouse gas emissions, so make three evening meals plant-based and discover how delicious cutting carbon can be!
- **Make any three journeys 'active' across the month**  
Transport creates nearly a quarter of the UK's carbon emissions. Active travel - such as walking, scooting, wheeling, or cycling - doesn't emit anything! So, get active and ditch the drive!
- **Meal plan to reduce food waste for one week**  
Research suggests that the average person wastes 95kg of food per year! At each stage of the life-cycle of wasted food, from production to rotting at landfill, carbon is produced. Plan your meals, shop smart, and waste less – it's good for the planet and your wallet!
- **Lower your washing machine temperature to 30°C for three washes across the month**  
Washing machines are energy-hungry! Drop the temperature to 30°C for three washes this month and cut carbon without sacrificing clean clothes. Cool it to care!
- **Have a device-free day**  
Electricity makes up about 25% of your home's carbon footprint. Power down non-essential devices for one day – no gaming, no streaming – and rediscover the joy of offline fun!
- **Turn down the heating by 1°C for a week**  
Heating is the top source of home carbon emissions in the UK. Turn it down by just 1°C for a week, layer up, and show your love for the planet – one cosy jumper at a time!



## **Parents Evening: Reminder**

We have our Autumn term parents evening on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 5-7pm and Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> November 3:30-5:30pm for all year groups. To sign up for parents evening, there will be a paper register on the door each morning for you to choose your desired slot.

## **Booking Clubs on Arbor**

If your child attends breakfast or wraparound care clubs, please could we ask that the club is booked in advance on the Arbor Parent Portal. To do so:

- Log in to the Arbor Parent Portal online or download the App and enter your email and password
- On the home screen look for the 'activities' heading and click on 'clubs'. Available clubs will appear and those that your child may already be attending
- Click on the relevant club you would like to book for your child
- On the club page click 'register for this club', select the period you would like your child to attend and the specific days or sessions
- Review your selections and click 'confirm registration'
- Consent may be required to finalise the booking
- **Please note you may have to top up your account before Arbor allows the booking**

If you have further questions on how to book clubs on Arbor, please contact the school office.

<b>Dates for the Diary</b>	
<b>Parents Evening</b>	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>Charity Day – Non-Uniform</b>	Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> November
<b>Open Event</b>	Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> November - 4:00-5:30pm