



Primary and EYFS Parents News letter

19th March 2021

Dear Parents,

Welcome to this week's newsletter, and what a week it has been.

This week

It is a challenge to recap events this week in order, as we have had so much happening, but I will give it my best shot.

On Monday afternoon, after school, we were treated to some outstanding performances from the children in our annual Thai Music Concert. It really was a superb concert, the standard of play was remarkable, and the confidence of the performers and MCs was of real note. Well done to everyone involved, and thank you to the parents who joined us to watch.

On Monday morning we launched our World Book Week event, starting off with the first of our morning Story Picnics. Every year group in Primary and Early Years have had their story picnics this week, and we were pleased to be able to invite parents in to most of these.

Also on Monday many children had the opportunity to work with a Stephen Davies, who is a children's author, via Zoom. They learnt a lot of very useful tips for their own writing. Throughout the week there have been a number of well attended story readings by teachers and TAs in the library at break and lunch times, and Secondary teachers have been coming to read in our classes in Primary.

Wednesday was the last day for entries in our Stories in a Jar competition, and we have had an amazing number of excellent representations of the stories the children love to read.

Also on Wednesday we had our dress up as a book character theme day, and I think every member of the school got involved with that. It was a wonderful sight to see, and the children were very excited to be in their costumes for the day.

Today we had our assembly to reflect on the successes of the week and to celebrate the winners of so many competitions.

And on Tuesday Year 6 had a very good trip to the National Science museum, supporting their learning in their IPC topics.

It has been a wonderful, but tiring week, and I think all the children and staff deserve a restful weekend.

Next week

We have several events happening next week, which is the penultimate week of this term.

On Monday, Year 2 will be having a trip to Imaginia in support of their IPC topic.

On Wednesday Year 4 will be heading off to Khao Yai on their annual residential journey. I am sure they will be having a great time on that trip.

Also on Wednesday Ms Sophie will be hosting a Coffee Morning for Early Years parents to talk through the use and benefits of our online assessment tool Tapestry. I think Early Years parents will find this very useful and informative.

On Thursday Year 5 children will be visiting Ban Kong Por in support of their Thai culture lessons.

On Friday Year 3 will be going to the National Geological museum, and Year 4 will return from Khao Yai.

Sun Hats

Please ensure that your child has a sunhat for use at playtimes and PE lessons with them every day. The afternoon sun in particular can be very strong. Sun hats are available from the school shop. Please ensure that you label the hat with your child's name.

Car Speeds on site

There have been a couple of instances recently of cars being driven at excessive speeds on site. We do have 10kph signs to help remind you to drive slowly and carefully. This is in the interest of keeping all of the school community safe as we move around the car park areas and the school drive. Your cooperation is essential.

Parent Teacher conferences

Parent Teacher conferences will take place on Tuesday 30 and Wednesday 31 March for all Primary and Early Years classes. We anticipate most of these will be held face to face here in school, but Zoom meetings will be possible if you wish.

Teachers will be sharing appointment lists with you very shortly.

Upcoming events

Some other events this term that you will want to add to your diaries include:

Monday 22 March	Year 2 Trip
Wednesday 24 March	EYFS Coffee Morning focus on Tapestry.
Wednesday 24 – Friday 26 March	Year 4 Residential Journey to Khao Yai
Thursday 25 March	Year 5 Thai Trip
Friday 26 March	Year 3 Trip
Monday 29 March	KS2 Sports Day
Tuesday 30 March and Wednesday 31 March	Early Years and Primary Parent Consultation Evenings
Thursday 1 April	MP3 (Years 5 & 6) Concert
Friday 2 April	Songkran celebrations and last day of term.

As always, please feel free to see me or contact me about any issues concerning your child's education and experiences here at St. Stephen's. I hope you all have a really enjoyable weekend, and I look forward to seeing the children on Monday.

Kind regards,
Mr. Rob Bendall
Head of Primary.
(robert.b@sis.edu)