



Aim high, work hard, be happy and successful

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very busy and joyful term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on some of the wonderful moments we have shared as a school community.

We are incredibly proud of our children for their fantastic Christmas performances. They showed confidence, enthusiasm and teamwork, and it was a pleasure to see them shine on stage. Thank you to families for your support and encouragement—these events are always very special.

We also thoroughly enjoyed the community Christmas sing song organised by Mrs Brown. It was lovely to come together and share festive cheer, and it truly captured the spirit of our school community.

A very special thank you goes to Mrs Bell's daughter and granddaughter for organising such a wonderful Christmas craft event in her memory. The event raised over £50 for Beds for Children, a charity close to Mrs Bell's heart. It was a meaningful and thoughtful way to remember her, and we are extremely grateful to everyone who supported this.





Thank you to all parents and children for the kind Christmas gifts and cards—it is always very much appreciated and never expected. We are also grateful for the generous donations for the Christmas fair, and to everyone who gave up their time to help on the day and support fundraising for school funds.

I would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to our hardworking and dedicated staff, who continue to go above and beyond for our children. Their commitment and care make a real difference every day.

We also say a fond farewell to Mrs Lockwood, who is retiring at the end of this term. We thank her for her care and dedication and service to the school and wish her every happiness in this next chapter.

Finally, I would like to wish all our children, families and staff a very happy Christmas and a healthy, peaceful New Year.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new term.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

INSET DAYS FOR 2025-2026

1st September 2025

24th November 2025

30th January 2026

22nd May 2026

20th July 2026

JANUARY 2026

5th January **SCHOOL OPENS**

28th January **Young Voices Concert**

Friday 30th January **INSET DAY. School closed to children for staff training**

13th February **SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR HALF TERM**



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Teaching Staff for 2025 - 2026

Nursery - Mrs Johnson

Reception - Miss Price

Year 1 - Mrs Brown

**Year 2 - Mrs Franks and
Mrs Marsden**

**Year 3 - Ms Gibbings and
Mrs Hughes**

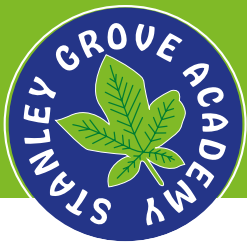
Year 4 - Mrs Hodgson

Year 5 - Mr Whipp

Year 6 - Mr Reynolds

Lessons start at 8:45. Please ensure that you arrive before this so that children can enter classroom prior to this. Gates will open prior to this to allow this to happen. As you know we have a breakfast club so these children use the playground and field prior to school opening so we cannot open the school site while these pupils are accessing these areas.

We will continue to enter at the field gate as this has created a calm entry to school and staff on the gates are able to see adults entering the school for messages and for safety. Please don't feel you have to queue outside school. As I have explained before, you are more than welcome to use the area near the scooter part, or come onto the field area near the path so you are not near the road whilst waiting to enter school. Lessons finish at 3p.m. and again, we will not be able to open more than 5 minutes before this due to children using the areas for their lessons. Thank you for understanding.



ATTENDANCE

The Importance of Attendance

Regular school attendance is one of the most important factors in helping children achieve well, feel confident and succeed both in school and later in life. Being in school every day allows children to build strong friendships, develop positive routines and make consistent progress in their learning.

Every lesson counts. When children miss school, they miss key learning that is difficult to catch up on. Over time, this can affect confidence, progress and attainment. Good attendance helps children develop resilience, independence and positive habits that prepare them well for secondary school, employment and life beyond education.

Our Attendance Expectations

We expect all children to be in school **every day unless they are too ill to attend**. If your child is well enough to get dressed and take part in normal activities, they are usually well enough for school.

Where possible:

- Medical and dental appointments should be arranged **outside of the school day**
- If an appointment is later in the day, children should **attend school before the appointment** and return afterwards where possible

New Attendance Initiatives

To celebrate and encourage excellent attendance, we are introducing some new initiatives:

Attendance Cup

Each week, the class with the highest attendance will be our Attendance Cup winners. Pupils in the winning class who have achieved **100% attendance**, will earn the chance to enter a **weekly raffle** for a special prize.

Attendance Star Jar

This has been working well in our school for some time now. When a class has a full class in school for the day, they will earn a star for their **Attendance Star Jar**. Once the jar is full, the class will enjoy a special treat to celebrate their commitment to being in school every day.

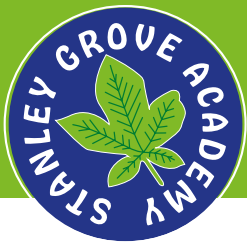
How Parents Can Help

Parents play a vital role in supporting good attendance by:

- Establishing strong morning and bedtime routines
- Encouraging children to attend even when they feel a little tired or reluctant
- Talking positively about school and learning
- Letting us know early if there are any worries or barriers affecting attendance

We understand that there are times when children may genuinely be unwell, and we appreciate open communication with families. Our aim is always to work in partnership with parents to support every child to attend regularly and thrive.

Thank you for your continued support in making attendance a priority. Together, we can ensure that every child has the best possible opportunity to succeed.



ATTENDANCE

**SCHOOL
TARGET**



100-95%
GOOD



94-85%
WORRYING



Below 85%
SERIOUS
CONCERN



YEAR GROUP	AVERAGE THIS YEAR	NATIONAL AVERAGE
NURSERY	92.6%	91.4%
RECEPTION	94.9%	93.9%
YEAR 1	97.0%	94.5%
YEAR 2	94.3%	94.9%
YEAR 3	94.3%	95.2%
YEAR 4	94.2%	95.1%
YEAR 5	92.8%	95.0%
YEAR 6	94.6%	94.7%

PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE ARE CHANGING!

With the introduction of the New National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes will come into force on 19th August 2024.

PENALTY NOTICES WILL BE ISSUED FOR

Term time leave: Penalty Notice Fines will be issued for Term Time Leave of 5 or more consecutive days

10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week period: A Penalty Notice may be considered/issued when a pupil has had 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10 week* period.

*School Week's

PER PARENT/PER CHILD

Penalty Notice Fines will continue to be issued per parent per child.

For example: 3 Siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent receiving 3 separate fines.

FIRST OFFENCE

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for a Term Time Holiday or Irregular School Attendance the Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days of issue, reducing to £80 if paid within 21 days**.

SECOND OFFENCE (within 3 years of the First Offence)

Where it is deemed appropriate to issue a second Penalty Notice to the same parent for the same pupil within 3 years of the first notice, the second Penalty Notice will be charged at:

£160 if paid within 28 days (no reduced fee for paying early).

(**Unpaid Penalty Notice's after 28 days may result in a parental prosecution)

THIRD OFFENCE (within 3 years of the First Offence)

On the third time that an offence is committed for either a Term Time Holiday and / or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, the case may proceed straight to Parental Prosecution under the Single Justice Procedure. If found guilty of the offence of 'Failure to send a child to school' the Magistrates can impose a fine up to £1000.