



NEWSLETTER

23.09.26



Aim high, work hard, be happy and successful

MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,

I would like to extend a very warm welcome back to all of our pupils, families and staff as we begin another exciting academic year. It has been wonderful to see our classrooms and corridors full of energy, enthusiasm and smiling faces once again.

A special welcome goes to all of our new pupils and their families, as well as the new members of staff who have joined our school community this term. We are delighted that you are part of our school and look forward to getting to know you over the coming months.

Attendance Matters

One of our key priorities this year continues to be attendance. Every day in school matters, and regular attendance has a significant impact on children's learning, wellbeing and future success. During our recent assemblies, we have spoken with pupils about the importance of being in school every day, arriving on time and making the most of every learning opportunity.

We know that working together with families is vital in ensuring children achieve their best. Thank you for your continued support in helping us maintain high levels of attendance across the school.

A Mobile Phone Free Zone

We remain proud to be a mobile phone free school. This initiative supports our commitment to creating a positive learning environment where pupils can focus on learning, build relationships and engage fully in school life without unnecessary distractions. You will have seen our new posters displayed around the school, reinforcing this important message and helping pupils and adults on our site to understand the benefits of being fully present during the school day. We would ask our parents and carers coming onto the school site to put phones away to provide the role modelling and focus on interactions which we are fostering.

Staff Development and School Priorities

Our recent INSET day provided an excellent opportunity for staff to come together and focus on the areas that will have the greatest impact on pupils' learning and wellbeing.

Our professional development centred on:

- **Assessment to Inform Learning**, ensuring that teachers use assessment effectively to identify next steps and support every pupil's progress.
- **Doing Basics Brilliantly**, focusing on the fundamental skills that provide the foundations for success across the curriculum.
- **Safeguarding**, which remains at the heart of everything we do. As a Trust, safeguarding is a key priority and all staff undertake annual training to ensure that our children remain safe, supported and well cared for.

These areas will continue to shape our work throughout the year as we strive to provide the highest quality education and care for every child.





Celebrating Excellence

We are particularly proud to share that **Mr Reynolds** and **Mrs Turner** were recently recognised by the Trust for their outstanding contributions to our school community.

These awards reflect the dedication, professionalism and commitment that both colleagues demonstrate every day.

SEND Coffee Morning.

Thank you to Mrs Johnson for organising another SEND coffee morning supported by the family and carers hub this week. This session focussed on sleep and how to improve this for your child as well as other bespoke support requested. Feedback from the parents and staff was very positive. As always, if you have any concerns about your child or wish to speak to Mrs Johnson, our Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator, please get in touch or email SEND@sga.amat.org.uk

Friends of Stanley Grove.

We are hoping that we can run some additional fundraising activities during the year. We had some parents in our new Reception class that were keen to be part of this. If you are able to spare any time or have ideas for fundraising events and would be prepared to organise and run these, we would love to hear from you.



Looking Ahead

The year ahead promises many opportunities for learning, achievement and personal growth. We look forward to working in partnership with all of our families to ensure that every child thrives academically, socially and emotionally.

Thank you for your continued support. Together, we can make this another fantastic year for our pupils.



CELEBRATING AN INCREDIBLE YEAR OF ACHIEVEMENT IN 2025-2026!

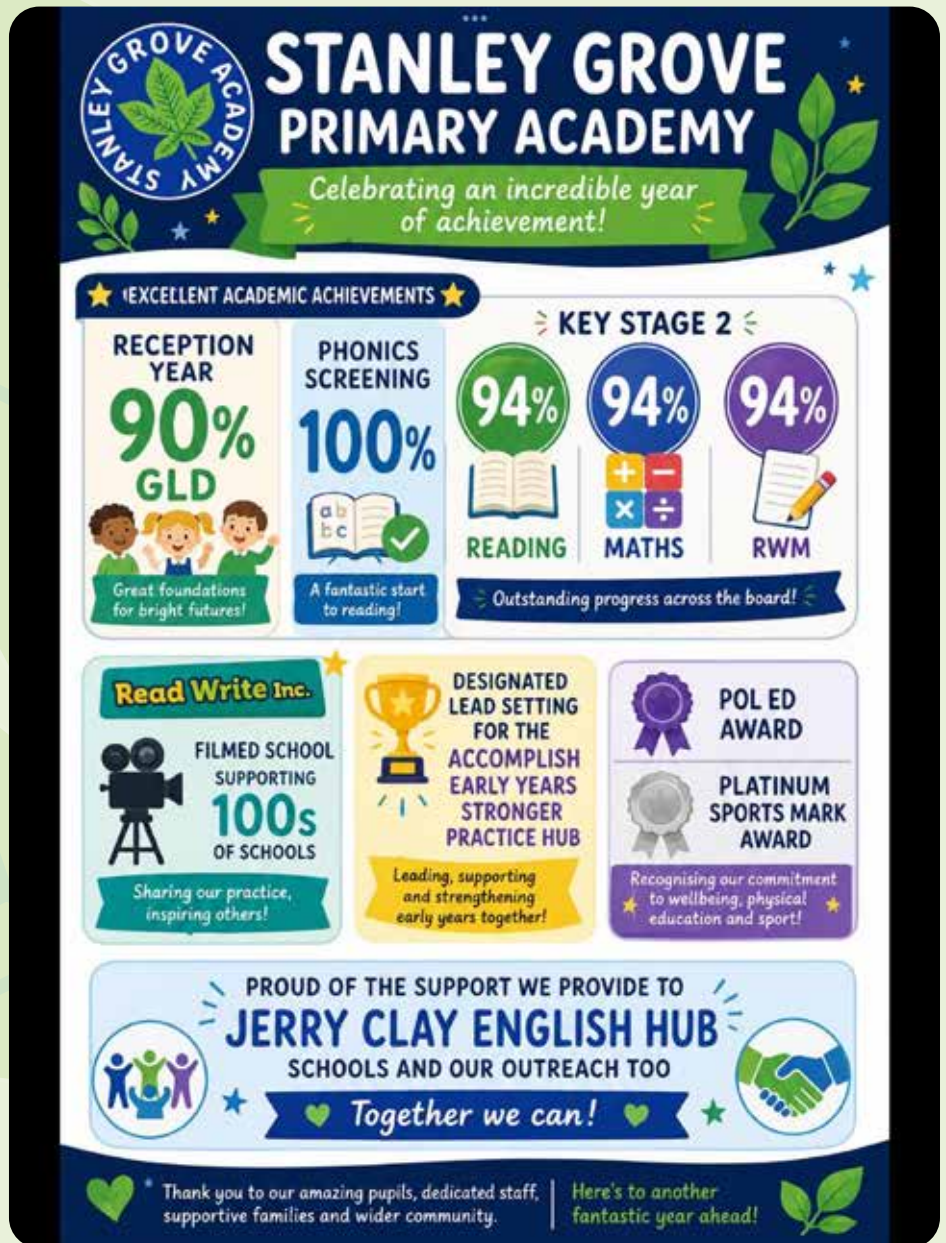
As we start a new academic year, I feel it is important to reflect on the achievements at Stanley Grove Primary Academy from last year; we are incredibly proud of the achievements of our pupils, staff and wider school community.

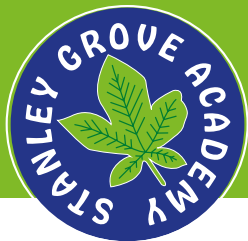
Our Reception children achieved an outstanding 90% Good Level of Development, while 100% of pupils passed the Phonics Screening Check, giving them a strong foundation for future learning. Key Stage 2 outcomes were equally impressive, with 94% of pupils achieving expected standards in Reading, Maths and Writing.

Beyond academic success, we continue to be a Read Write Inc. filming school, supporting hundreds of schools through shared best practice. We were also recognised by the DfE to be the lead school for the Accomplish Early Years Stronger Practice Hub.

We also celebrated achieving the Pol-Ed Award and Platinum School Games Mark, recognising our commitment to wellbeing, physical education and sport.

We remain proud of our support for schools through the Jerry Clay English Hub outreach work. These achievements are a testament to the hard work of our pupils, the dedication of our staff and the continued support of our families. Together, we can accomplish great things!





ATTENDANCE

SCHOOL TARGET

97%

WHOLE SCHOOL AVERAGE THIS YEAR

95.1%

Attendance Matters

Although Stanley Grove Academy continues to be one of the most popular schools in Wakefield, attendance remains an area we are determined to improve. The majority of absences continue to be the result of holidays taken during term time, which can have a significant impact on children's learning, confidence, friendships and overall progress.

Regular attendance is one of the strongest indicators of future success, and we ask for your continued support in ensuring children attend school every day unless they are genuinely unwell.

We are currently working closely with the Local Authority to provide parents with clearer information about the impact of term-time holidays and the procedures that follow unauthorised absences. We hope to share this guidance with families before the start of the new academic year.

YEAR GROUP	AVERAGE THIS YEAR	NATIONAL AVERAGE
NURSERY Y1	87.5%	91.5%
NURSERY Y2	90.6%	93.3%
RECEPTION	95.7%	95.5%
YEAR 1	95.7%	95.8%
YEAR 2	96.6%	95.9%
YEAR 3	97.8%	96.1%
YEAR 4	91.2%	96.0%
YEAR 5	96.0%	95.8%
YEAR 6	95.2%	95.5%

100-95%
GOOD



94-85%
WORRYING

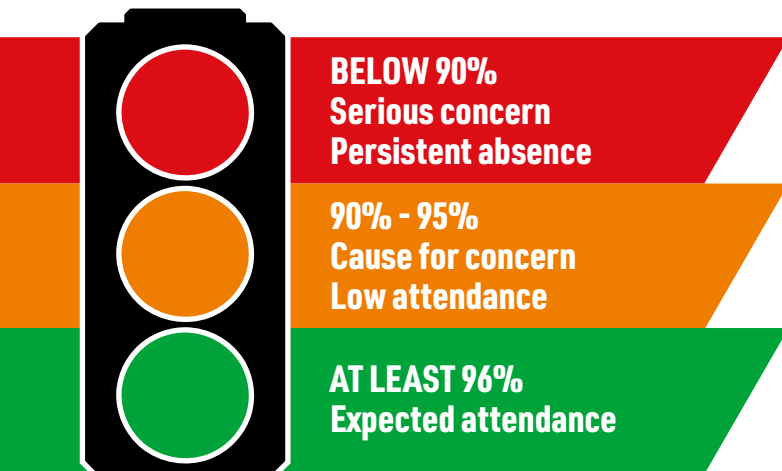


Below 85%
SERIOUS
CONCERN





Attendance Matters



EVERY DAY COUNTS...

Learning is a progressive activity. Each lesson and each day builds on another. If your child is absent for lessons that include demonstrations, discussions, experiments and other participation activities as part of the daily learning activities, they are missing learning that cannot be made up.

BENEFITS OF GOOD ATTENDANCE

- Pupils with good attendance generally achieve higher grades.
- Pupils with good attendance generally enjoy school more.
- Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.
- Good school attendance helps to develop other responsible patterns of behaviour.

SOME RISKS OF POOR ATTENDANCE

- Pupils are likely to miss learning activities that their classmates have taken part in, which could mean they fall behind.
- They miss out on social interaction with friends/classmates - this can have a negative effect on the wellbeing and self-esteem.
- Low attendance is associated with anti-social behaviour and poor learning behaviours

THE LAW AND YOU

The Law states (Education Act 1996, Section 7) that all children of compulsory school age must receive an appropriate full-time education. As a parent/carers, you are legally responsible for making sure your child receives an effective education. Failure to ensure your child attends school regularly could lead to intervention from the Missing Education & Child Employment Service which has the power to implement:

Fixed Penalty Notices • Prosecutions • An Education Supervision Order

TERM TIME HOLIDAYS

It is not a parental right to take their child on holiday during term time.

Holidays in term time will not be authorised, unless there are exceptional circumstances and you have completed a holiday request form in advance.

If you choose to take your child out of school for an unauthorised holiday you could receive a penalty notice of £80, per parent, per child.

CAN I GET SUPPORT?

Absolutely! We appreciate the unavoidable events that affect our pupils and their families.

We believe that the most effective way to ensure your child remains on track is to work together to maximise support in their/your time of need.

Our caring and dedicated staff are committed to making sure your child is happy and getting the best out of their time at school. Talk to us.



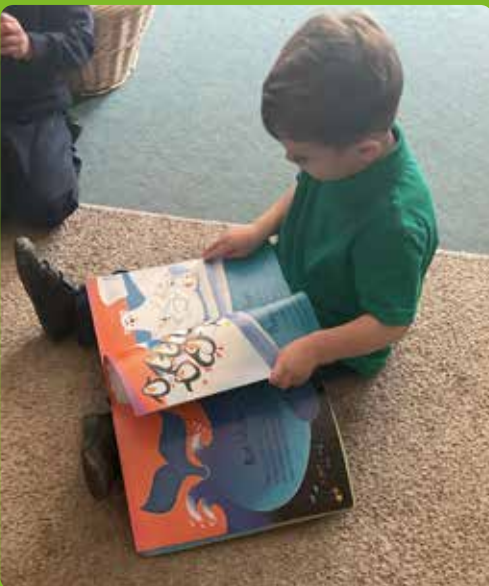
NURSERY

Nursery have been busy exploring our unit and making the most of resources available both indoors and outdoors.

We are so very proud of the children and how well they have settled into Nursery life. They are becoming familiar with our routines, building confidence and independently accessing the different areas of provision.

We have also begun exploring painting and colour mixing outdoors. The children have enjoyed experimenting with different colours, textures and materials, developing their creativity and curiosity through hands-on experiences.

It has been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence and enjoying their learning each day!



RECEPTION

We have had a wonderful start to the new school year and would like to give a very warm welcome to all of our new Reception children! Over the past few weeks, the children have been busy settling into their new classroom, learning our routines and making lots of new friends. We have been exploring all of the different areas of our classroom and outdoor provision, learning how to look after our environment and becoming increasingly confident and independent.



Hello everyone! My name is **Miss Mackie** and I will be starting with reception in September! I am so excited to meet you all and create some lovely bonds and memories together. This is such a special time for all the wonderful children starting school this September so it's my job to make sure all your children love, thrive and flourish here at Stanley Grove!

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS



YEAR 1

Year 1 have settled in wonderfully and made a brilliant start to the new school year! We have really enjoyed our repeated reading sessions, exploring lots of fantastic books by our Author of the Month, Rachel Bright. The children have loved joining in with familiar phrases, retelling the stories and growing in confidence with each reread.

In Science, we have been busy learning all about our five senses. We put our learning into practice during an outdoor walk around school, using our senses to explore and discover the world around us. What a fantastic start to **Year 1**.



PIC•COLLAGE

KEY STAGE 1 NEWS



YEAR 2



In **Year 2**, we have used drama to really immerse ourselves in our new core text.



Year 2 loved our introduction to Rocksteady. Some of us are very excited to get into our new bands and to start rocking.



Every Friday we do Fab Fact Friday to see if we can retrieve the knowledge we have previously learnt.



In music, we have started a unit about Rock music and have been playing tuned percussion along to our new song.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 3

We have been enjoying DEAR time in **Year 3**.
We have lots of opportunities to read during the week.



In Maths **Year 3** have been learning how to partition 2 and 3 digit numbers.

Year 3 have been using the Ipads to access TTRS multiplication app.



Year 3 have had the privilege of whole class yoga sessions this half term.

KEY STAGE 2 NEWS



YEAR 4

Maths

Great work in **Year 4** maths lessons on place value using place value charts and part-whole models.



Fluency

A great start in **Year 4** with our class text 'The Wild Robot'. Super work reading with a rule.

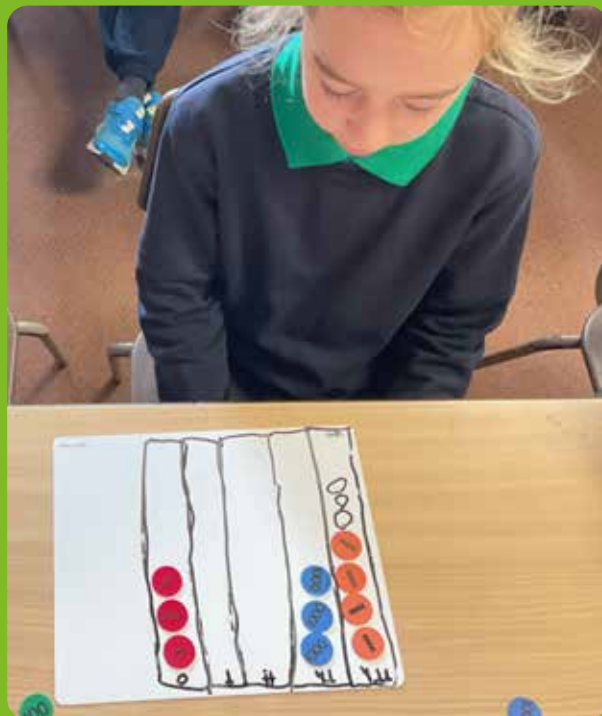
Drop Everything and Read (DEAR)

We love DEAR time in **Year 4**!

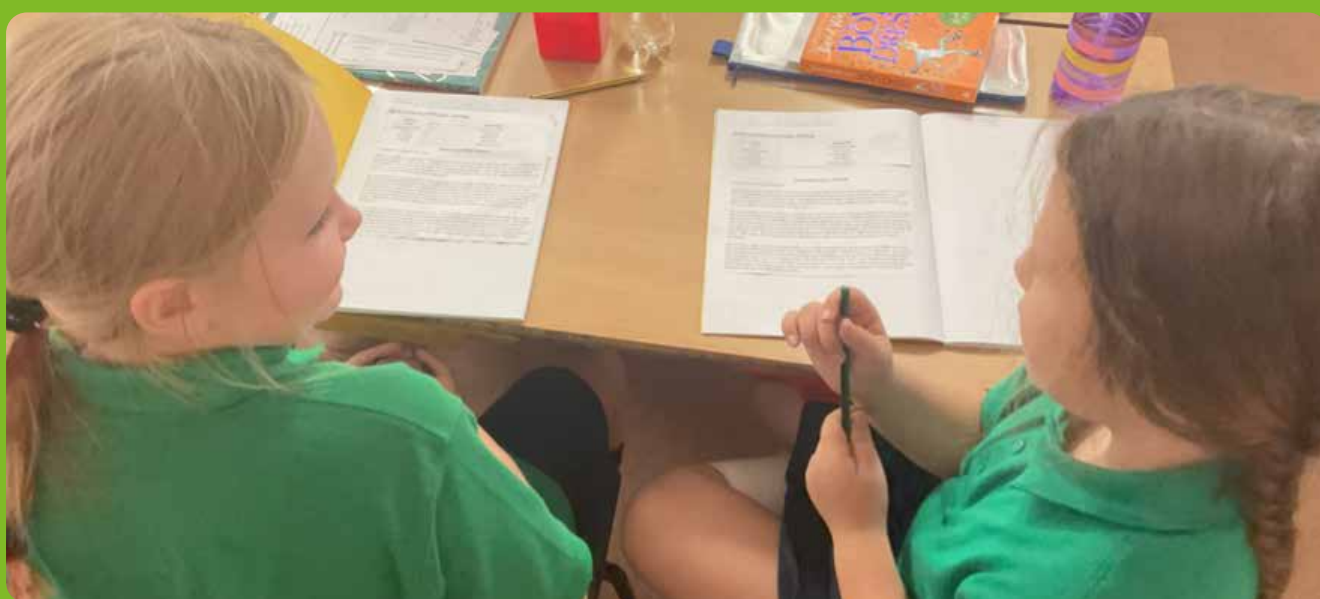


YEAR 5

As part of PE focus, individuals in **Year 5** have been focusing on Watching, Moving and Connecting. This has involved the children adapting their games, which focus on improving their hand and body control.



Year 5 have been focusing on the fundamentals of place value by using concrete manipulatives to deepen their understanding of number.



In Oracy, the children in **Year 5** continued to practise and refine the key vocabulary from the text, becoming experts in their meaning before exploring in depth the text extract.

YEAR 6

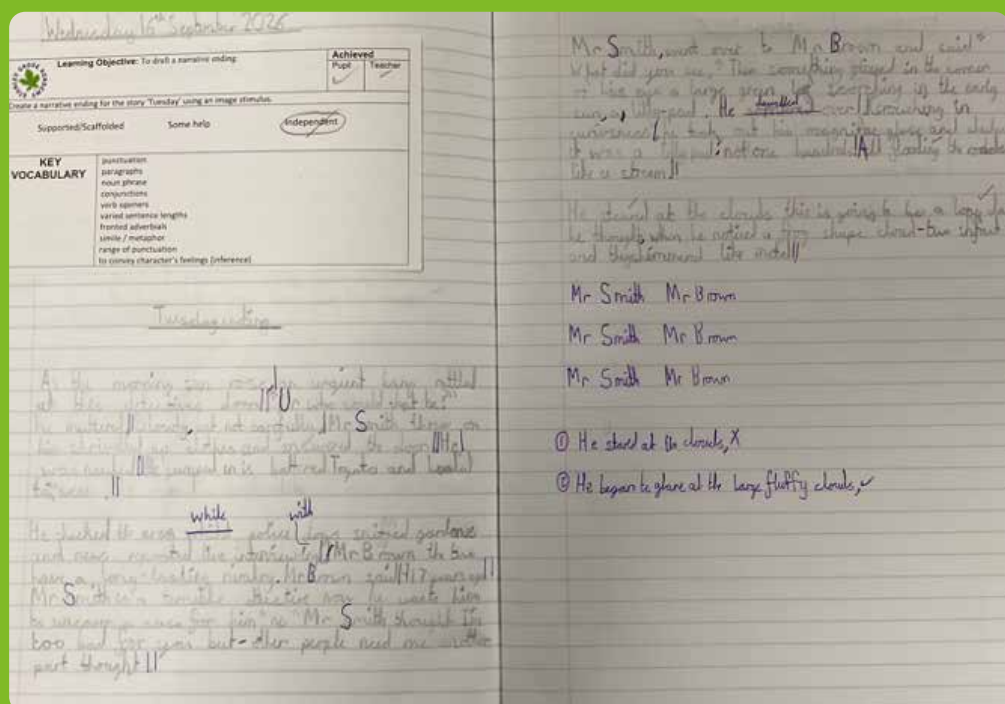


Outdoor Team Building

Year 6 enjoyed taking part in a range of outdoor games, including draughts and Four in a Row. These activities encouraged teamwork, communication and strategic thinking, while giving pupils the opportunity to build stronger relationships with their classmates in a fun and engaging way.

Writing and Editing

We have been extremely impressed by the high standard of writing produced across the class. Pupils have worked hard to draft, edit and improve their work, showing a growing understanding of how authors carefully refine their writing. Their dedication and attention to detail have resulted in some excellent final pieces.



YEAR 6



Artwork Inspired by Margaret Mee

Drawing inspiration from the renowned botanical artist Margaret Mee, the children created beautiful flower illustrations, paying close attention to colour, detail and accuracy. Their artwork demonstrated excellent creativity.



Junior Leadership Meeting

Following the allocation of **Year 6** leadership roles, pupils attended their first Junior Leadership meeting, led by the Headteacher. This was a valuable opportunity for children to discuss their new responsibilities, share ideas and begin making a positive contribution to the wider school community.





DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

SEPTEMBER

25th	Booknic on the field. Parents invited. 12-1 p.m. Bring your packed lunch and a book and enjoy a booknic on the field with your child/ren. (Weather permitting)
29th September to 2nd October-	Book fair in the school hall after school. Please come and have a look at the lovely selection of books available to purchase.

OCTOBER

6th	Year 4 visiting Stanley Marsh.
13th	SEND coffee morning. Please attend the coffee morning where you will be able to speak with SENDCo and other professionals and find out about services for your child. 9-10a.m.
14th – 16th	Year 5 and 6 Residential
19th	Attendance Reports to parents
23rd	Pumpkin competition. Please bring pumpkins to school to be judge by our Junior Leaders. Pumpkins to be collected at the end of the school day.
23rd	School closes for half term.

NOVEMBER

2nd	School opens
10th	SEND coffee morning. Please attend the coffee morning where you will be able to speak with SENDCo and other professionals and find out about services for your child. 9-10a.m.
23rd	Inset day. School closed to pupils.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

DECEMBER

8th	LKS2 performance 9a.m. Due to safety, 2 tickets per child with limited additional tickets on sale.
8th	UKS2 performance. 1:30. Due to safety, 2 tickets per child with limited additional tickets on sale.
9th	Reception Christmas performance. Due to safety, 2 tickets per child with limited additional tickets on sale.
	KS1 performance. 1:30 Due to safety, 2 tickets per child with limited additional tickets on sale.
11th	Autumn Reports to parents. (Reception to Year 6)
14th	Attendance Reports to parents
15th	KS2 party. Party clothes may be worn today.
17th	EYFS and KS1 party. Party clothes may be worn today.
18th	Community sing along. 2:30 – 3:15. Singing with the school choir and mince pies and hot chocolate on sale.

Friends of Stanley Grove.

We are hoping that we can also run some additional fundraising activities during the year. We had some parents in our new Reception class that were keen to be part of this. If you are able to spare any time or have ideas for fundraising events and would be prepared to organise and run these, we would love to hear from you.



2026-27 CALENDAR

END OF SUMMER HOLIDAY

Back to school - Thursday 3rd September 2026

AUTUMN HALF TERM

Holiday starts - Monday 26 October 2026

Back to school - Monday 2 November 2026

CHRISTMAS

Holiday starts - Monday 21 December 2026

Back to school - Monday 4 January 2027

SPRING HALF TERM

Holiday starts - Monday 15 February 2027

Back to school - Monday 22 February 2027

EASTER

Holiday starts - Friday 26 March 2027

Back to school - Monday 12 April 2027

SUMMER HALF TERM

Holiday starts - Friday 28th May 2027

Back to school - Monday 7 June 2027

SUMMER HOLIDAY

Holiday starts Thursday 22nd July 2027

BANK HOLIDAYS 2026-27

Christmas Day -
Friday 25 December 2026

Boxing Day -
Monday 28 December 2026

New Year's Day -
Friday 1 January 2027

Good Friday -
Friday 26 March 2027

Easter Monday -
Monday 29 March 2027

May Day -
Monday 3 May 2027

Spring Bank Holiday -
Monday 31 May 2027

INSET DAYS 2026-27

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Monday 23rd November 2026

Friday 29th January 2027

Friday 28th May 2027



SCHOOL INFORMATION

Teaching Staff for 2026 - 2027

Nursery - Mrs Johnson, Miss Smith and Miss Cullimore

Reception - Miss Price, Mrs Minie, Miss Cullimore and Miss Mackie

Year 1 - Mrs Marsden, Mrs Franks and Mrs Todd

Year 2 - Mrs Brown and Mrs Maroof

Year 3 - Mrs Hughes, Miss Slater and Miss Watson

Year 4 - Mrs Hodgson and Mrs Maroof

Year 5 - Mr Whipp, Mrs Turner and Mrs Bush

Year 6 - Mr Reynolds and Mrs Turner

Miss Webster HLTA - working across school leading phonics and classroom delivery.

Miss Way HLTA - working across school and classroom

Lessons start at 8:45. Please ensure that you arrive **before** this so that children can enter classroom prior to this. **Gates open at 8.30** 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.