



# Stapleford Abbotts Primary Academy Newsletter 1st December 2023



## SAPA news



What a great week we have had! Corridors are full of the joyful Christmas singing from our Preschool, Willow and Cherry classes as they practise Nativity songs and the Junior Leadership team have continued to deliver Confidence club and Reading club at lunchtimes.

Maths lessons are buzzing with problem solving and in maths meetings children are dipping back into previous learning as they revise prior knowledge and skills. Design and technology projects are in full swing as children have been designing and next week will be constructing structures. Photos will be added to socials.

## Young Writers Poetry Competition

Last half term, all children in Key Stage 2 explored the realms of poetry, creating poetry in a variety of different forms for the This is Me Young Writers poetry competition. Last week we received the wonderful news that over 20 children had been chosen to have their creations published in a book that can be purchased for a February 2024 release. Certificates, bookmarks and letters went home to parents on Friday which details how you can order a copy of your child's work! How amazing to have so many published poets within our school



## A BIG thank you to Norpar Flower and Christmas Barn

It is the season of goodwill to all men and as such we would share a story of kindness and goodwill that happened at the school this week. When we contacted Norpar Flower and Christmas Barns in Stanford River to inquire about getting a Christmas tree for the outdoor stage, the most wonderful thing

happened. A lovely lady called Joy not only offered to donate a tree to the school but instead insisted that we come down to her gorgeous home and choose a tree from her private forest to cut down especially for the occasion! Armed with a hand-saw and much enthusiasm, Mr. Neary and Miss. McCarthy arrived at Norpar and were privileged to get to not only meet Joy but pick the most fabulous tree which was felled by our very own lumberjack Mr. Neary!

Thank you again to Joy and her wonderful staff for allowing us



to enjoy your amazing forest and giving the children the most fabulous and (rather large) Christmas tree!

## **Hot chocolate with Ms Speller** - chosen children who have shown supersonic learning behaviours of Concentration, Independence, Resilience or Drive



### **Christmas Bake Sale - Friday 8th December**

Our wonderful School Council would like to run a Christmas bake sale next Friday 8th December 2023 to raise funds for some fantastic new Key Stage 2 adventure books for boys! As such, please can we appeal to any budding bakers in our midst to get those rolling pins dusted, eggs cracked, baking tins lined and get baking! All donations of fun christmas themed cakes, cookies, biscuits and sweet treats would be hugely welcome no matter how big or small, perfectly decorated or just perfectly imperfect! It's the taste that counts! **NO NUTS please.**



**On Friday children can bring in money to buy cakes in the afternoon and the sale will continue for half an hour after school for those hungry mummy and daddies.**

Small cakes - £1 each

Big cakes - £2 each

Cookies - 50p each

### **SAPA HERO - 100% Weekly attendance certificates**

We are so proud of how many of our SAPA HERO's we help out of their cars every morning with book bags and water bottles in their hands and big smiles on their faces. To celebrate our children who have been in

school everyday on time, we will be giving children who have had 100% attendance that week a special green attendance certificate each Friday starting next week. Children who get a 100% attendance certificate every week of this half term will be invited to join Ms Speller for a special end of term treat!

### **Cold and wet weather**

My, oh, my how the heavens have opened this week and it conveniently seems to happen at pick up time! As the weather becomes colder and wetter it is important that all children come in with their waterproof coats, hats, gloves and scarves (with names please!). If children do not have a coat and it is drizzling or cold they will be unable to go outside at playtime.





## Weekly class attendance

Willow -91.6%

Cherry - 90.1%

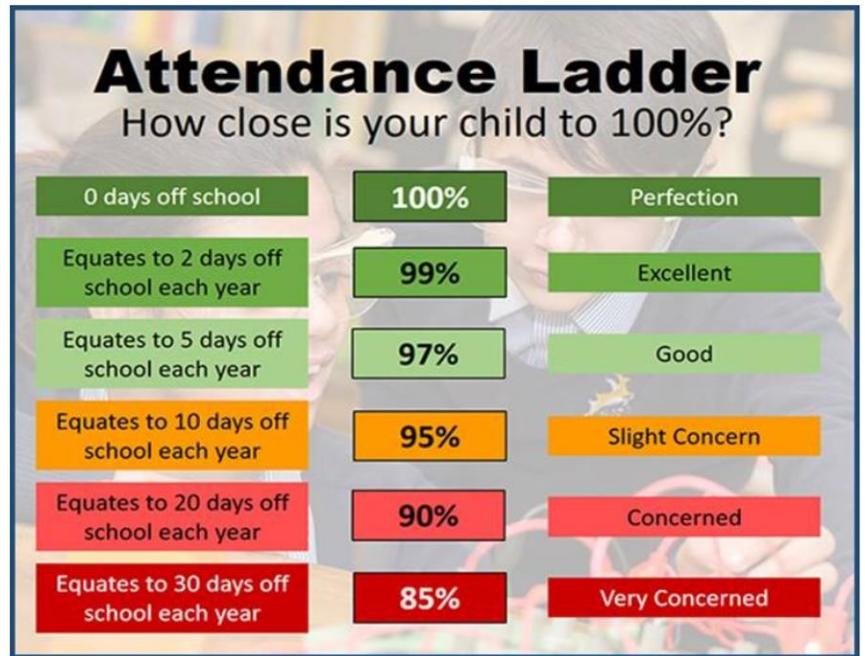
Ash - 92.3%

Sycamore -92.4%

Silver Birch -93.4%

Oak - 94.7%

The winner of the Attendance Cup was Oak who had 94.7% attendance this week. Our Academy target is 96%. **This week our whole school attendance was 92.1%**



**Mindful Mondays** - One of the most incredible ways to encourage critical thinking and self-exploration is to ask children thought-provoking questions. Hearing the responses and exchanging ideas can really expand our perspectives and leave us with important food for thought.

# Spotlight on Oak Class

It has been an absolutely smashing 9 weeks in Oak class with the children diving into their learning and making wonderful progress.

In our writing lessons we have created wishing tales, instructions, journey stories and currently we are using the story of Leonard and his experiences of moving from his beautiful home in Maroon Town to the cold streets of England in the Windrush Child to create our own diary recounts.

We have focused on place value, the four operations and fractions this half term in maths. It is clear the children all really enjoy maths and the air of competition with our 99 club arithmetic quizzing is buzzing with Ollie already on the 66 club! (66 questions in 10 minutes!)

In our foundation lessons we have explored the industrial revolution, marvellous maps, puppetry, electricity and so much more. The children have been creative and innovative with their designs and thoughtful and explorative in their experiments producing some wonderful work and interesting lines of questioning.

In reading we have journeyed through the life of a runaway orphan in Street Child and we currently walk alongside August in Wonder, seeing into a world of a child just starting school for the first time, who has a physical disability and is learning to navigate experiences he has never had before. It has been amazing to see how respectful, kind and thoughtful the children have been when discussing how difficult life must be for this character but also how his physical disfigurement does not define him or change his personality.



## Calendar Dates

### December

4th - Peter Pan Pantomime

4th - 6th Christmas book fair

6th - Christmas Journey Year 2

4th - Peter Pan Pantomime

18th - Christmas dinner and jumper day

Class parties and leaving party for Ms Speller

20th - Christmas service at the church

School closes at 12pm