

**Staveley and Kirk Hammerton Primary Schools**  
**Headteacher Newsletter 13<sup>th</sup> January**

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome back to the Spring Term and a (belated) very happy New Year to you all! The children are now well and truly settled into the new term and are starting to explore their over-arching theme of 'Where in the World?' Should you have any personal experiences or family traditions that are connected to our theme of 'Where in the World?' that you are willing to share with your child's class, then please do contact your child's class teacher. We are keen to gather the experiences of those in our school communities that widen the children's knowledge of our wonderful world.



**New Children and Staffing News**

A very warm welcome to our new nursery starters, Jack Vanden, Lilly Andrews, George Graham and Mairi Astill and their families at Staveley.

Also a warm welcome to our new children and their families at Kirk Hammerton; Claire and Eva Rusted-McArdle in Reception and Year 3, Victor Broquet in Year 5 and Lyn Xu in Year 6.



At Staveley, Mrs Hobbins will be leaving us at the beginning of February to take up a new role as a nanny. Mrs Hobbins has been part of the school community at Staveley for 8 ½ years and has worked alongside many children and teachers. Whilst we are very sorry to see Mrs Hobbins leave us, I'm sure you will join me in wishing her every happiness in her new role.

**Dates and Reminders**

Class 2 assembly at Staveley – 18<sup>th</sup> January at 2.45 p.m. – parents and carers very welcome

Parents' Evenings (both schools) – 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> February \*see note below please

Class 3 assembly at Staveley – 8<sup>th</sup> February at 2.45 p.m. – parents and carers very welcome

Class 2 worship at Kirk – 13<sup>th</sup> February at 3.00 p.m. – parents and carers very welcome

Celebration worship at Kirk – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February at **9.00 a.m.** – parents and carers very welcome

Celebration assembly, Staveley – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30 p.m. – parents/carers very welcome

**School finishes for half term – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> February**

**School begins for the second half term – Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February**

World Book Day – Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> March

Debating competition for year 6 children (Staveley) – Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March

Red Nose Day – Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Celebration worship at Kirk – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April at **9.00 a.m.** – parents and carers very welcome

Celebration assembly, Staveley – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April at 2.30 p.m. – parents and carers very welcome

***Please note the new time (not day) for the celebration assembly / worship during this term.***

**School finishes for the Easter holiday – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April**

**School begins for the Summer Term – Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April**



**\*Parents' Evening**

This year we would like the children in Years 5 and 6 to be part of the discussion during the Parents' Evening appointment. The conversation will still be mostly between the teacher and the parents/carers but will include the child. This is in line with their increasing accountability for their work and attitude towards their work. Appointments will continue to be made in the normal way but we would encourage you to bring your child along so that they can be part of the meeting.

Whilst we are happy for you to bring younger children along with you, we respectfully ask that they are equipped with a quiet activity to do whilst waiting for you and ask that you refrain young child from playing or using school equipment that is in the school hall. Thank you.

### National assessments for children in both schools



#### SATs for children in Year 6

The national SATs assessments will be carried out during the week of 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> May. It is essential that all Year 6 children are in school all week and we ask you to ensure that no absences are planned for that week. Children in both schools will be carrying out after school revision clubs in order to help prepare them for sitting tests in order that children feel confident about the process of taking some tests.

#### SATs for children in Year 2

During May the children in Year 2 will be carrying out some assessments which add to the teacher assessment information. These assessments will be carried out as part of the daily work in school and not carried out as formal tests. There is no need for your child to do anything in addition to their normal daily / weekly routine.

#### Phonics test for children in Year 1 and 2

Children in Year 1 will be carrying out an assessment regarding their phonics knowledge and ability in June. Again there is nothing additional that the children need to do in preparation for this assessment. This will happen in school as part of the normal school routine. Some Year 2 children will also be taking the phonics test – your child’s teacher will inform you if this is the case for your child.

### Children’s News

#### Achievements

##### Star of the Week and Effort Shields



##### Kirk Hammerton Stars of the Week

Class 1 Claire Rusted-McArdle  
Class 2 Charlie Bowes-Graham  
Class 3 Joe Goodwin

##### Staveley Stars of the Week

Class 1 Skye Vigurs-Pearson  
Class 2 Max Thompson  
Class 3 Luke Dennis  
Class 4 Daniel Atkins

#### Effort Shield

##### Kirk Hammerton Effort Shield

Arthur Hoggarth

##### Staveley Effort Shield

Eleanor Gibson

#### Writing Competition

Before Christmas, children in both schools took part in a writing competition. The entries were judged by 2 governors; Mrs Eaton judged the entries at Staveley and Mr Holt judged the entries at Kirk. The judges were asked to focus on the quality of the content of the writing in addition to presentation and handwriting. Judging of the entries was taken very seriously; Class 3 at Staveley entries were even presented anonymously! The children who won first, second and third places were presented with certificates on Friday last week. They have also been asked to choose another prize in recognition of their efforts. The winning entries are displayed in the halls of both schools and will be available to view on Parents’ Evening when you visit school to speak with your child’s teacher.



### **Writing Competition Winners**

	<b>Kirk Hammerton</b>
Reception 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Martha Main
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Luca Poran
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Esme Graham
Years 1&2 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Tessa Goodwin
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Olivia Main
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Joseph Long
Years 3&4 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Jan Gordan
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Beau Howard
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Archie Whittemore
Years 5&6 1 <sup>st</sup> place	Charlotte Burnett-Fisher
2 <sup>nd</sup> place	Seb Watkins-Wright
3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Barnie Bennett

### **Staveley**

Class 1 1 <sup>st</sup>	William Holmes
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Skye Vigurs-Pearson
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Laurence Denton
Class 2 1 <sup>st</sup>	Olivia Majkowski
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Timur Aktas
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Max Thompson
Class 3 1 <sup>st</sup>	Oliver Holt
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Emily Holt
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Freyr Procter
Class 4 1 <sup>st</sup>	Olivia Garner
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Evie Prophy
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Max Doswell

### **School Council News**

The School Councils in both schools will be meeting next week. Meeting dates have been planned in for the rest of the school year. We are hoping that contact can soon be made with the School Council of Castleton School in Leeds in order to share their practice. More updates from the children to follow.

### **Policies**

The governing body has adopted a revised policy related to attendance and absence. This policy is on the school website and can be made available from school (on request).

### **Bags2School**

The Bags2School collection will be next Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January. Please make sure any donations are received by the school office the day before collection.

### **Chinese New Year**

On Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January, the school lunch menu has been changed to sweet and sour chicken with noodles and prawn crackers in celebration of the Chinese New Year.

We appreciate the exchange of information that occurs between home and school; it is invaluable to know if there is anything significant that has occurred at home which may affect your child whilst they are at school. Please do continue to keep us informed!