



# Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School

Pot House Lane, Sheffield, S36 1EJ | tel: (0114) 288 3109

email: [enquiries@stocksbridge-nur.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@stocksbridge-nur.sheffield.sch.uk)

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Dear Parents & Carers

19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## LAST LETTER OF THE YEAR!

It's been a good one. It's been a challenge at times. It's been tiring for sure but there has been so much joy. The children make us smile and laugh out loud every single day. They touch our hearts.

In the last letter of the year in July 2023, I wrote about the huge national rise in the numbers of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Sheffield has definitely seen this rise. We have in our school. We are a very inclusive school for all our children. We know our children as individuals and little people and we tweak and change things all the time to make sure we are meeting their needs in the best way we can. For some of our children, the tweaks are huge and without a doubt, this has put us under pressure in terms of our capacity and financially too. The banter and camaraderie in school is strong. Just this week staff have been making up songs about losing their marbles! Just this week, the whole staff room emptied when a colleague called for some help with a child.

This year I have been working with the Local Authority (LA) so that our provision for our high needs SEND children is better funded. We have been successful. It won't pay for it all by any stretch of the imagination. Being honest, if the LA hadn't agreed the additional funds, we would not have been able to continue offering the levels of support we do. We simply wouldn't have had the money.

I have been a teacher for 33 years now and a headteacher for 18. By far, the last 3 years have been the most challenging I, and school have faced – because of the pandemic, because of the changing needs of our children, because of the financial pressures families and school have faced and because we are educating our children in a changing world where technology and screens play an important part. But that's not a negative. We are all better teachers and practitioners as a result of working our way around all the ups and downs. We have all learnt from one another, we have all become more resilient. I am lucky and privileged to work with this team of people. Every single adult in our school is here to do the best they can for the children but also for each other. If you want to see and feel what great team work is, look no further. It's a wonderful place to learn and to work.

The Y2 children did us proud yesterday with that amazing assembly. They have practised hard, led by our lovely Y2 staff. The sort of all 'rose up' and showed us the best side of themselves. It was funny, moving and a real celebration of their time with us here in school and their journey from 3 & 4 years old to now. I've put some photos on FaceBook and also on Seesaw as promised. If there is one you want in particular, let me know and I'll email it to you. Thank you for a being a lovely audience despite the whooping and the fist pumps. Whatever next?

Most of our Y2 children have brought home their books today. We have kept some as we may have a visit from Ofsted in the Autumn term and we would like to be able to show a whole year's worth of work. We will make sure they find their way to the Junior School once we have finished with them.

Today we have said goodbye to Chris. He has worked with us for a few years now. Chris came to us as our board games expert. He has worked with 100s of children during his time with us. He has helped children socially. He has helped children with turn taking, learning to lose, team work, developing confidence. He has worked with children who just kept falling out at playtimes and taught them how they can rub along together. This year he has supported some of our children in nurture, in the Sunny Room. He has formed lovely bonds with the children. He has been able to calm them sometimes when others



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have failed. I'm not sure we would have got through this year without him. He's off to do a similar role closer to home. We wish him well.

Mrs Bibby, our lovely Finance Officer, left us today. She's off to work as a School Business Manager and will be fabulous at it. Kirsty came to help us out when we were very short staffed in the office and she stayed. She has been wonderful to work with. We wish her well. We thank her for all she has given to our school and we will miss her organisational skills and super calm demeanour. This week we appointed Rachel Bellamy to the post of Finance Officer. She'll be here in September.

Mr Barker is having a baby in the summer – well Mrs Barker. He'll be here on the 3<sup>rd</sup> September to meet his new class and will then take paternity leave. In his absence Miss Bennett will teach Class 5 on Mondays and Tuesdays. The children met Miss Bennett as part of transition. Mr Barker will be back in school again on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> September.

I'd like to thank Sophie Crofts and Jenny Staniforth who have supported lots in Reception this year when colleagues have been absent. We have appreciated their flexibility and help.

Sophie is also a member of our wonderful FOSNI (Friends of Stocksbridge Nursery Infant) along with Emily and Mrs McGhee. Between them they've organised some lovely events for the children. Thank you, small but perfectly formed, FOSNI!

On Friday we celebrated great attendance this year and certificates were awarded. A special shout out to Riley Fleetwood, Bella Murphy and India Briggs who managed to avoid the bugs and germs and have 100% attendance.

Thank you and a huge well done to our choir who joined Bradfest last Saturday and sang their little hearts out. They enjoyed it too!

Matt Collins, our Chair of Governors, resigned at the final meeting of the year last week. He has been wonderful to work with, a critical friend and a great support. We thank him for all the help he's given us over the years. In September, we'll be busy recruiting parent and co-opted governors.

Learn Sheffield have put together a SWAY with 'What's On' for children and families over the holidays. Here's the link: [Learn Sheffield Opportunities - July \(cloud.microsoft\)](#)

After the holidays...

Miss Palmer is getting married over the summer. Very exciting. She'll return as the same lovely person, just as Mrs Ellis. That will take some getting used to!

School re-opens for Year 1, 2 and existing Nursery children on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Our Reception children are having a staggered start and parents have the dates for their children.

We will figure out arrangements for sibling collection during that first week. Our older children will go along to the classroom of the youngest child in school so they can be collected from one space. It takes us a little while to get slick at this so please bear with us. Children who are going with childminders will be taken to nursery where they can be collected from. The nursery train, ably steering by Miss Marshall, has worked a treat this year.



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The last 2 ½ days have been busy for us as we pack up school again ready for more building work. We are having a new fire alarm, intruder alarm, fire doors and a whole host of things done over the holiday. In an ideal world, Mrs McGhee will remain in Class 7 (and not move to Class 6) but this will be dependent on the building work. An external door is being fitted to Class 7 and it really does depend on how well the work goes. We'll let you know on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup>!

		Drop off & collection point
Class 1	Miss Johnson, Mrs Costello & Mrs Veale	The space outside the school office.
Class 2	Mrs Ellis (nee Palmer) & Mrs Jennings	The space outside the school office.
Class 3	Miss Harrison, Miss Cryer & Mrs Hearnshaw	Drop off in the main playground and collect from near the steps.
The Orchard	Mrs Turner, Mrs Beal-Edwards, Miss Newton and Miss Whitworth	Drop off and collect from the external door to Class 4 – via the main gate into the playground.
Class 5	Mr Barker, Mrs Hutchinson & Mrs Moore	Close to the door on the top corridor.
Class 6 or 7	Mrs McGhee, Mrs McGrail & Mrs Parsons	Drop off at the gate to their class but collect from the playground near the path.
Class 8	Miss Miles & Miss Kane	Drop off and collect in the small yard via Alpine Road.

In September we'll let you know the days your child has PE. On these days they should come to school in their PE kits. We started this during Covid and it's something we have continued with. The children get longer to actually do PE!

**(A reminder, if you are thinking of having your child's ears pierced, please do so at the start of the summer holiday so this does not impact on PE lessons. We cannot tape up ears and children have to remove earrings which isn't advised for a number of weeks initially)**



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Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School is part of Peak Edge, which is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England with company number 11650747.



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Here's the menu for the first four days back.

Week 3	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Main course</b>	Pork sausage roll with baked potato wedges	Roast chicken with roast potatoes and gravy	Sticky BBQ chicken & vegetables with noodles	Fish fingers with chips.
<b>Vegetarian main course</b>	Macaroni cheese	Savoury Vegetable mince with Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes & gravy.	Home baked vegetable lasagne.	Cheese and onion roll with chips and tomato sauce
<b>Jacket potato and filling</b>	Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna mayo	Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna mayo	Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna mayo	Jacket potato with cheese, baked beans or tuna mayo
<b>Sandwich option</b>	Ham	Ham	Ham	Ham
	Tuna mayo	Tuna mayo	Tuna mayo	Tuna mayo
	Cheese	Cheese	Cheese	Cheese
<b>Vegetables</b>	Roasted peppers & sweetcorn & mixed fresh salad	Carrots, garden peas & mixed fresh salad	Green beans Carrots	Baked beans Garden peas
<b>Dessert</b>	Baked sponge with custard and apple slices.	Baked vanilla cookie	Chocolate cake	Flapjack

Yoghurt and fruit are also available each day as an alternative to desert along with a selection of breads, salads and fresh drinking water.

Thank you for all your support this year – for the events you've attended, the funds you've sent in to pay for trips, for supporting children with learning.

To the Y2 parents who are leaving us this time – we have been a part of your lives for the last 3-4 years (and for some parents many more). We thank you for everything you've done to support our school and we wish you well in the future.

We wish our Y2 children well, wherever they are off to next. Look after each other, do your best and be kind.

Thank you for all the cards, gifts and kind words that have been showered on us all this week. I hope you all have a lovely holiday and a well-deserved rest from the routine of school.

Yours sincerely

Jane Townsend, Headteacher



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