

# Stower Provost School Newsletter

24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another busy week at school. Read on to find out more.

## **RWI Books**

If your child is in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 then they are likely to be sent home with reading books from their phonic sessions, which are Read Write Inc Books. After completing a 3 or 5 day read of a book, (dependent on their group), the book will be sent home, along with one or two supplementary books which build on known reading knowledge and skills. Parents/carers are strongly encouraged to read daily with their child/children.

Reading is the basis of so much and your help and support is needed, giving all children the opportunity to reach expected reading mile stones. We are noticing a decline in adults reading with their children at home. This is also reflected in national data from the National Literacy Trust whose data states there has been a 19% decline in parents/carers reading to their child, with only 50% reading with their child daily. At the time of setting up our phonic scheme, the programme cost around £15,000, a considerable amount of money for the school. We have noticed that some books are being returned in a poor state e.g. water damaged, creased or crumpled. If books need replacing following their return, I am sorry to say, parents may be charged for replacements, as the school budget cannot cope with multiple replacement purchases. Replacement books will be charged at £5 per book.

## **Sporting Events**

At Stower Provost we try to enable children to compete in a variety of sporting events, however we do rely heavily on parental/carer support linked to transport. It has come to our attention that there is dwindling support volunteering to transport their own, and helping others, with getting to events. School staff are not covered by their insurance to transport children to events.

Should the situation continue, then the school will be forced to either refrain from attending some events, or having to cut free clubs with the finance being directed to hire transport to and from events.

## **Governor vacancy**

A reminder that we have two vacancies for co-opted governors remaining on the governing body, so if you know of anyone who may be interested, or you are considering the possibility yourself, do please get in contact.

## **THIS WEEK**



### After School Club

Mrs Bewley has been busy in After School Club teaching children how to willow weave. This week the children have learnt how to create a crown and wands. Due to the enthusiasm about this crafting activity, should your child wish to join in the fun, Mrs Bewley will carry out willow weaving on a Wednesday.

Booking a week in advance is needed, as the willow needs to be soaked for 5 days! A reminder that booking is also essential both for Breakfast and After School Clubs.

### Bicycle Festival

On Monday, a group of children from Years 4, 5 and 6 attended a Bikeability Festival in Slades Park, Bournemouth (which has its own velodrome). The children had the opportunity to learn to skateboard with a team of pro-skateboarders, ride recumbent and side-by-side tandem bikes with Pedall, and learn practical biking skills with the Bikeability Team. After practising their practical biking skills, such as signalling and manoeuvring, the children were then taken out for a ride around the



park. It was a brilliant afternoon with the children trying lots of new things and showcasing some hidden talents.



### Cricket Festival for selected Year 3s and 4s

A team of cricketers from Year 3 and 4 were hosted at Gillingham School for a Dorset Cricket – Cricket Festival. The children took part in a carousel of cricket-based activities focused on their bowling, batting and catching skills. The children had a brilliant time with the help of the Sports Leaders and Izzy from Dorset Cricket.

### Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April - Circus Skills

The Friends of Stower Provost (PTFA) kindly financed all children to experience a circus skills session throughout the day today. The weather was kind enabling afternoon groups to enjoy skills on the field. Skills included balancing, hola-hooping, balancing on a low wire and plate spinning. Much fun was had by all, and my thanks to the Friends of Stower Provost for funding the experience.

### NEXT WEEK

#### Big Bag Friday – 1<sup>st</sup> May

There's another Big Bap Friday next week. A reminder that baps cost £2 for a sausage or bacon roll and £3 for a bacon and sausage bap. Orders in by Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April please. To reduce wastage, I am cooking to the numbers gathered, so it is unlikely there will be spares on the day – sorry!

### SPORTS

A reminder that children should come in sports kit on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The pool water is yet to receive full clearance from the water quality testing, so we hope swimming will take place on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May, the day we return to school after the bank holiday weekend. Please ensure children have a swimming costume, towel, swimming hat and goggles in school.

Once the pool is up and running, children will experience a field activity and swimming on Mondays and Tuesdays. Children will access an hour of PE on both days, with 30 mins spent in the pool and 30 minutes spent focusing on the the a given field or court sport.

PE & swim days are:

Oak	Monday	Tuesday
Chestnuts	Monday	Tuesday
Beech	Monday	Tuesday
Hazel	Monday	Tuesday

### CLUBS

A free lunchtime club runs on a Monday and Tuesday for children, lead by Prime Sports. This is currently a turn up and enjoy club, however if numbers go over 18 on a regular basis this will become a booked session, yet continue to be free.

Please book slots using the links provided or via the school office

Clubs	Day & Time	Year Group	Led by	Cost
Lunchtime sports	Monday 12.30 – 13.00	All	Prime Sports	Free
Lego Club	Mondays 15.30 – 16.30		Miss Buxton	Cost per half term (see link for cost) <a href="https://kwclubs.ecwid.com/Stower-Provost-Community-School-Monday-Dorset-Spring-Term-1-2026-Monday-p624603022">https://kwclubs.ecwid.com/Stower-Provost-Community-School-Monday-Dorset-Spring-Term-1-2026-Monday-p624603022</a>



In Maths we have continued to learn about tenths and hundredths can be presented as fractions, decimals as well as visually. While in French we have reviewed and extended our animal vocabulary. A highlight this week being, not only to return to Tokes Farm, but also to experience our first class violin lesson with the Dorset Music Service and Mrs Ely.



### BEECH

This week's writing focus is Hercules, where the children have been writing a diary entry as if they themselves are Hercules in this story. In Maths this week, Year 1's have been working on commutativity in addition. Year 2's have been also continuing to develop their understanding of fractions of shapes and amounts.

In other learning, the children have been learning about parts of an animal and what they are used for. The children have also been looking at comparing images of street views (Art) and our Schools historical timeline (History).

### HAZEL

It has been a busy week in Hazel Class, our chicks have now all hatched and we have Popcorn, Chickadee and Fuzzy; the children have enjoyed holding them and learning about looking after them. We have been learning about different animal habitats and homes, with the children making their own animal homes. We have also been learning to sort animals by scales, fur or feathers and what this means for their features and the foods that they eat. In Maths we have been consolidating number bonds to 6, doubles and odds and evens. In Literacy we have been using Dear Zoo to write sentences with verbs and adjectives.

### DIARY DATES

Dates in **red** have been added to the diary list this week.

Date	Time	Information
29 <sup>th</sup> April	15.20	Big Bap Friday orders in
1 <sup>st</sup> May	08.30	Big Bap Friday
12 <sup>th</sup> May	All day	Year 3 & 4 trip to the Roman Baths, Bath.
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	15.30	Half term starts, no After School Club
1 <sup>st</sup> June	8.40	Second half of term starts
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	08.20	Big Bap Friday orders in
5 <sup>th</sup> June	08.30	Big Bap Friday
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Afternoon	Sports Day – 13.15 KS2 and 14.15 EYFS and KS1
1 <sup>st</sup> July	15.00	Chestnut violin performance (parents/carers welcome)
1 <sup>st</sup> July	08.20	Big Bap Friday orders in
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	08.30	Big Bap Friday
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	15.00 – 16.30	Summer BBQ (if wet 10 <sup>th</sup> July)
6 <sup>th</sup> July	16.00	Summer Play
9 <sup>th</sup> July	14.00	Summer Play
21 <sup>st</sup> July	14.30	Leavers Assembly
21 <sup>st</sup> July	15.20	End of Term (No ASC)

21 <sup>st</sup> July	15.20 – 16.45	Leavers swim and feast
22 <sup>nd</sup> July	All day	INSET

Best wishes,

*Ailsa B-Hirst*

Mrs B