

# March 2025 Newsletter

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Stanley Common Church of England  
Primary School

## Another busy half term!

We have had a busy half term continuing to drive forward improvements for teaching and learning for our children, designing the curriculum to ensure all year groups needs are met within the mixed age classes. There has been a lot of work happening and we are ready for the Easter break but feel we are beginning to see the children benefit from this.

Our attendance last half term was above national average—this was mainly due to a significant improvement in the Infant class so thank you to parents and carers for getting your children to school every day.

We have booked some trips, year 3/4 will be going to the seaside for the day in July and Y5/6 will be attending a one night residential at Mount Cook in May. Children are very much looking forward to these adventures! After Easter, we will be booking a trip for our Infant class to but wanted to wait for the new teacher to start before making any decisions as to where they will go.

I have heard from Derbyshire County Council regarding the school crossing. They acknowledge the difficulties crossing the road but state that their preferred option is a school crossing patrol rather than a zebra crossing. The advert is live so if you know of anyone who would be interested, please ask them to apply.

We were fortunate that Mrs Greenhough was able to come into school and carry out some science investigations with the children in celebration of British Science Week—the children loved it and it was an enriching experience for them.

You may have noticed that we have been working on improving the outdoor learning area for the children by reorganising and sorting resources. This means that the infant children will be able to use this area after Easter for the first time this year and I am very grateful to the staff from our sister school, Firs, who have been across at weekends to tidy, take things to the tip and generally sort.

DDAT central team have been in to support with curriculum development and we are looking forward to continuing to work with them next term.

*In the Bible, John 10 vs 1:10 tell us that Jesus said, “I have come that they may have life in all its fullness.”*

*Life in all its fullness is about living a varied and full life - full of learning, growing, helping, reward, joy, excitement and caring for each other.*

## Staffing after Easter

Miss Williams has made the decision to leave Stanley Common at Easter to move onto new adventures. She has stayed at Stanley Common through some difficult times and has now decided it is time for her to start new adventures. I am very grateful to Miss Williams for ensuring an effective handover to me as the new Head and sharing her wealth of knowledge. We all wish her well and lots of luck for her future in whatever she chooses to do and I am sure she will keep her eye on us from afar as we continue the journey she has supported us in making.

After Easter our two new teachers are starting. Miss Barnes will be the teacher in the Infants and Mrs Bowers-Hoad in the juniors. Both are currently working in schools in Derby and Mansfield respectively. However, their Headteachers have been kind enough to allow them some transition time at Stanley Common so they can get to know the children prior to the Easter break. Both teachers will be in school on 28th March and then at the end of next week so will be around for you to come and meet at the end of the day.

Mrs Ellis has been successful in being appointed as Teaching Assistant so will be remaining at Stanley Common. We are so lucky that she has chosen to take that role as she is a qualified teacher. But she has fallen in love with the school!

We are expecting Mrs Forester back after Easter. She has been working from home due to having an operation on her foot and we are very much looking forward to her return. She will be joined on the admin team (our own Office Angels), by Mrs Kate Brown who joins us next week.

And finally, our Local Academy Committee (formerly known as Governors) have met to look at plans, finances and the strategic direction of the school. We are fortunate to have a full LAC, including our new Vicar, Christine French, who is looking forward to coming in to share worship and other activities in the school.

And finally, I won't be around in the last week of Easter as I will be accompanying a trip taking 12 children from our sister school to China. However, there will be a school leader in Stanley Common all week with Mrs Blurton covering my absence.

I wish you all a lovely and peaceful Easter and am looking forward to seeing continued improvements in the summer term



*This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24*

*He who gathers crops in summer is a prudent son. Proverbs 10:5*