



Stanhope Primary School

Newsletter – Autumn 2

Issued 5th December 2025



Dates for your Diary

Thursday 11th December (afternoon) – Reception Christmas Nativity Performance, **2pm start**
Please be aware that parking may be tricky that day. If you can park further field (St Andrews Church / Fox Lines Car Park) and walk that would help lift the congestion locally.

Friday 12th December – Christmas Jumper & Christmas Lunch Day

Thursday 18th December – School Trip to Aldershot Pantomime @ Princes Hall (late finish at 4.30pm)

Friday 19th December – Last Day of Autumn Term, finish at 3pm

Monday 5th January – INSET day (no children in school)

Tuesday 6th January – Children back to school

Friday 6th February – Maths Workshop & Stay & Play @ 2pm **(save the date)**

A Message From Mrs Kennedy

The end of autumn term | The children have done such an incredible job settling into school life this term and we have seen such progress in the children, particularly in their independence, with more and more children saying goodbye to their parents at the wooden gate (rather than the classroom door). We will continue to embed routines and good learning behaviours over the next term, and we are all looking forward to seeing the rapid progress of the children.

Thank you for your partnership and support too. The stay and play sessions have been wonderful and well-attended and the work you are doing with the children at home to support their phonics and early reading is making a difference. Thank you.

The next few weeks are going to be very busy with Christmas activities, and the children are starting to get tired from a term. We are making adjustments at school to ensure periods of calm so that the children can enjoy all the exciting things the festive season brings, including our Nativity on 11th December and wearing a Christmas Jumper on Friday 12th December!

Parents' Evening | It was wonderful to see all the parents who attended parents evening for an update on how their children have settled this term. There will be another parents' evening in the spring term and we look forward to sharing the children's progress again then.

Lost Uniform | With only 60 children at school, we had hoped that our lost property would be at a record low, but we still find jumpers and cardigans at the end of the day with no names on them. Please make sure you write your child's name clearly on everything, and check that it doesn't wash off! This way we can re-home uniform. Please could you also check your uniform at home to see if you have anybody else's uniform as some named uniform has gone missing!

Attendance matters | This half-term our school attendance has been **93.2%**, which is below the national average of **94.8%**. This has dropped since my last newsletter. We understand that children have been suffering with colds and temperatures this term – it's been that time of year! However, let's all make an effort together to get that percentage up next half-term. **Every moment counts.** We want to give children the best chance we can by being at school every day. Please help us by:

- Avoiding booking holidays during term time

- Scheduling appointments outside of school hours wherever possible
- Only keeping children at home when they are genuinely unwell

Good attendance gives children the best opportunity to learn, make progress, and be part of our school community. For those children who have a 'persistently absent' attendance figure (below 90%) we will be in contact to see what we can do to support you.

The attendance percentage also includes arriving at school on time, at 8.30am the children begin a morning activity, that is integral to their development – missing this not only disrupts their calm, regulated start to the day, but also means they are missing that learning.

Parking Update

A little update from what the school have been doing regarding local parking issues. I have met with:

- Grainger
- Hampshire School Travel Planning Team
- Police
- Wellesley Residents Committee

Through these discussions, we have been looking at:

- An official parking agreement at St Andrews Garrison Church / Fox Lines Car Park, which Grainger will set up a contract with – this will provide parking within a 10-minute walk of school
- Some additional safety features around the school (a bollard at the entrance to the pathway to the school gate)
- Clear signage around the local area (to help indicate which bays can be parked in)
- Future parking within Wellesley for visitors to the community facilities (yet to be built) and the play park outside Stanhope (yet to be built).
- Occasional visits from the police around pick up and drop off to enable a sense of safety, considering recent local events

Whilst this doesn't resolve the situation for everyone, there is a clear sense of partnership of working with many stakeholders to find possible solutions.

In the meantime, thank you for responding to our plea for considerate parking. We all want a safe route to school and your recognition in doing your bit to support the bigger picture is important. There are still a handful of parents who are not parking considerately (following the highway code, for example parking in front of dropped kerbs), and I would ask that you work with us to ensure we are doing our bit for a safe local area.

Applications for school places Sept 2026

Our tours have now finished for parents who are looking at Reception places for September 2026. If any friends, neighbours or families are interested in a place, please encourage them to call the school.

Term dates for 2025-2026 & 2026-2027

[Click here](#)

Good Citizen Awards

It has been wonderful to celebrate the children's achievements outside school! Thank you to the parents who have emailed in. The children receiving the awards have been so proud and their classmates have been so supportive.

If you have an example of how your child has demonstrated our school values outside of school and shown what wonderful citizens they are in the wider community, please do email in!

Success Honesty Inclusivity Nurture Empathy

They can receive either a:

- **Bronze star badge** – for showing our values at a household level
- **Silver star badge** – for showing our values at a community level
- **Gold star badge** – for showing our values at a national (or even international) level

Here's a table showing examples of how children can demonstrate our SHINE values:

Value	Bronze Badge - Household	Silver Badge - Community	Gold Badge - National
Succe ss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Learning a new skill (e.g. tying shoelaces, riding a bike) Practising reading or times tables regularly Setting and achieving a personal goal 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participating in a local sports club and showing commitment Performing in a community event (concert, play, etc.) Completing a sponsored challenge for charity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Winning or being selected for a regional/national competition Achieving a high-level award in music, sport or other activity Raising significant funds for a national charity
Hone sty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Admitting to a mistake without being asked Returning something they found to a family member 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Returning lost property to its owner in the community Speaking truthfully to help resolve a community issue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reporting something important that helps others Being an 'upstander': Standing up for truth
Inclu sive	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Going above and beyond to include others in play Inviting a family member to join in their activity Sharing toys or games fairly with family members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Befriending someone new at a club or activity Recognising and standing up for someone being excluded Helping to organise an inclusive community event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting change for inclusion or accessibility in a wider context Helping with a project that brings different groups together
Nurtu re	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping to care for a pet, sibling or plant Helping with household chores without being asked Showing kindness to family 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Volunteering at a care home, animal shelter, or similar Helping a neighbour (e.g., gardening, shopping etc) Community litter pick 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organising or leading an environmental or care project Raising awareness or creating resources that help others learn to nurture
Empa thy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comforting others Noticing when someone needs help and offering support Making a card or gift for someone who is sad 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Helping someone in the community who is struggling Raising money for a local cause Writing letters to elderly people or those in hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting a cause that helps vulnerable people Fundraising or volunteering for an international charity

How to nominate your child:

If your child has demonstrated one of our SHINE values outside of school, please email info@stanhope.school with:

- Your child's name and class
- Which SHINE value they demonstrated
- A brief description of what they did
- Which level you think it represents (bronze, silver, or gold)

I will celebrate these achievements with the children, and badges will be presented on Fridays.