



# VILLAGE VOICE



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## Holidays

Christmas Holidays - 22nd Dec - 2nd Jan 2026

Half Term - 23rd - 27th February 2026

Easter Holidays - 3rd - 17th April 2026

Half Term - 25th - 29th May 2026

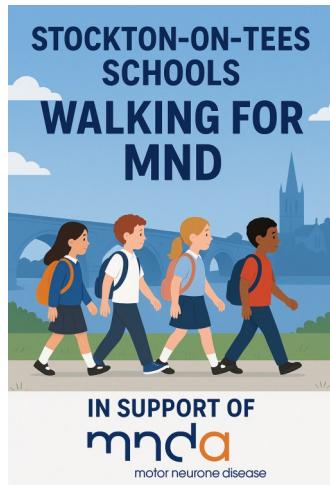
**\*\*We finish for summer on Friday 17th July 2026\*\***

## REMINDER

**PD Day on Friday 28th November**

### Can You Help?

We are currently working with all primary and secondary schools across Stockton to take part in a special event supporting the incredibly worthy MND



charity. More information will be shared soon, but in the meantime we need your help.

If anyone is able to follow a simple knitting pattern to create a heart, please speak to Mrs Nixon. The event will be taking place on 27th March.

### Online Safety

Just a reminder to parents that you can find information on how to keep your child safe online at the following link:

[Keeping children safe online | NSPCC](#)

### PD Days for 2025/26

Monday 1st June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026

### Wellies & Shoes

Due to the cold weather, if your child is wearing wellies to walk to school, please also bring in a pair of school shoes to wear indoors.

### Packed Lunches

Just a reminder for parents/carers to cut any fruit and vegetables in your child's packed lunch. To avoid any choking hazards it is recommended to cut fruit such as grapes and cherry tomatoes in half.

### Later Gators

Later Gators is our after school club that runs until 6.00pm. It costs £12 per day. Later Gators runs everyday after school, even the weeks when there are no other after school clubs on (the end and beginning of new terms). You can book your child onto Later Gators via your ParentMail app.



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## Nursery

This week in Nursery, the children have been busy building their number skills! They have been practising counting, using number names in play and developing their subitising skills. The children explored all areas of the nursery and especially loved making playdough objects to match the corresponding numbers. It's been wonderful to see their confidence with numbers grow through hands-on, playful learning!



## Year 3 & 4 Athletics Festival

Some of our Year 3 and 4 children participated in an Athletics festival. They were all wonderfully behaved and competed fiercely. Well done to all involved!



## Reception

We're thrilled to have won this week's Attendance Award – well done everyone!



In Literacy, we're finishing our Star in a Jar stories and writing our own endings. Miss Begley took our books to show teachers from another school, and they were so impressed with the children's writing. You can support your child at home by writing Christmas lists, encouraging them to sound out words independently.

In Phonics, we've learned the digraphs ng, nk, and wh. Try reading and writing words with these at home!

A big thank you for keeping up with home reading records – it's wonderful to see how much the children enjoy their books. Don't forget: books are changed on Mondays, but book bags should be in school every day.

In Maths, we've been learning about "one less", linked to the rhyme 5 Little Snowmen, and are starting to write simple number problems like  $5 - 1 = 4$ .

We are so proud of all the children's hard work and enthusiasm – keep it up! Thank you for your support at home, it really makes a difference.

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## Year 1

This week, Year 1 have finished their retell of Rapunzel. It is great to see the progress they have made with their writing and are starting to become much more independent writers with the use of their Phonic knowledge. In Maths, we have focused on number bonds to 10, they are such an integral part of our Maths knowledge and we've worked so hard!



Our Nativity is coming along and we are really starting to sing the songs loud and proud. We can't wait for our loved ones to come and watch us perform very soon! In PE we have used the gymnastic apparatus, it's so fun being able to climb and balance from a height! Please could parents and carers help to ensure that children all have a PE kit in school for each week so they continue to enjoy their PE lessons.



## Year 2

This week, the children have continued learning how to use commas in lists and they have applied this skill to their own writing. During maths lessons, the children have been adding and subtracting 2-digit numbers with growing confidence, and they are using a range of strategies to check their answers. The Nativity rehearsals have continued at pace, and the children are working hard at school and home to learn their lines. It has been wonderful to see how confident the class are when they deliver the script.

## Year 3

Year 3 have begun to start investigating information reports as they will be writing one on a fox over the coming weeks. In Maths they have been consolidating their column addition, subtraction and multiplication knowledge. In PE, Gymnastics moved on to working with apparatus and the children were mindful of staying safe and listening carefully to instructions. Our singing practice ready for Snappy Christmas continues and hopefully the children will be in fine voice next week when they perform.



PIC COLLAGE

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## Year 4

This week in Year 4 we have been drafting our writing for our next big write, alongside working on fractions and arithmetic in Maths. In Art we have created some tessellation patterns each individual to the next which are going on display on our Art wall and in Science we continued learning about Predators, Prey and Producers. Even though it has been a short week, all the children have worked extremely hard and we are (as always) proud of their efforts - well done Year 4.



## Year 6

We started making our crafts for the Christmas fair this week and everyone loved seeing their creations become a Pom Pom! Once we mastered the skills, we started getting creative with our designs!

'I had a great time doing it, but the cutting was hard to do!' Nancy

'It was tricky, but we did it.' Lydia

'It took us a while, but we did it in the end.' William

'It was a good craft for the fair!' Alfie

## Year 5

In Science this week, we have been exploring the solar system and investigated how long each planet takes to orbit the Sun. They enjoyed comparing the different orbital times and discovering what makes each planet unique. In English, we practiced writing messages from a father to his son, inspired by themes from our new class book. In French, we learned how to ask for and name different beverages. Year 5 had great fun practicing their new vocabulary and even created their own mini e-books to showcase their learning.

It's been a busy and exciting week full of creativity and curiosity!



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## KS2 Dates for your calendar

Snappy Christmas (Year 3 and Year 5)	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December Afternoon at Thornaby Pavillion (more details to follow)
Christmas Fair	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 3:00pm
Year 6 Bikeability	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> – Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December (Year 5 – 27 <sup>th</sup> April 2026)
Year 6 Residential meeting (Howtown)	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 3:15 – 3:45
Year 6 Christmas crafts afternoon	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2:00 – 3:00
Year 5 Residential meeting (Robinwood)	Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 3:15 – 3:45
KS2 Christmas movie night	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> December 3:15 – 4:45 (more details to follow)
KS2 Christmas carol singalong	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2:30 – 3:00

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