



## Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School

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Newsletter: [newsletter@stocksbridge-nur.sheffield.sch.uk](mailto:newsletter@stocksbridge-nur.sheffield.sch.uk)

Noticeboard: [www.stocksbridgenurseryinfants.co.uk/noticeboard/](http://www.stocksbridgenurseryinfants.co.uk/noticeboard/)

Facebook: [\(20+\) Facebook](#)

### What's happening in school after the Christmas break?

- School reopens on the 5th January for the Spring Term.
- Mr Barker will be teaching Class 5 Monday – Wednesday and Mrs Cann on Thursdays and Fridays.
- Miss Kane is teaching The Orchard on Monday afternoon.
- Sports club on Monday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Miss Kane is teaching Class 8 on Tuesday morning and Class 3 on Tuesday afternoon.
- Sewing club on Tuesday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Mrs Taylor is teaching Nursery on Wednesday.
- Gymnastics club on Wednesday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Miss Kane is teaching Class 3 on Thursday and Friday. Mrs Otten is on a course.
- Classes 3 & 5 are going swimming on Thursday morning – not at the same time. They will be escorted by their teachers and TAs, Mrs Townsend and Mrs Kaine. Four swimming instructors will meet us at the pool.
- Growing Wild club (previously gardening club) on Thursday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Miss Spencer is teaching Class 5 on Friday morning and Class 7 in the afternoon.
- Arts & crafts club on Friday 3:00 – 4:00pm.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas. Thank you for all your support over this term. Thank you for all the cards, gifts and baking we've



received this week. It's kept us all going!

### Attendance

Our target is 96%. This week's attendance is %

Class 3: 96%

The Orchard: 95%

Class 5: 93%

Class 6: 95%

Class 7: 96%

Class 8: 99%

### Well done Class 8

#### Punctuality

**We started the year so well and punctuality was great. It has slipped over the last few weeks with more children arriving late each day.**

Monday: 9

Tuesday: 8

Wednesday: 4

Thursday: 4

Friday: 5

Total: 30

**The winners of the 100% attendance random wheel spinners this week were:**

**Harriett Ottaway, Millie Hardcastle and Arlo Dransfield.**

**The winners of the 'on time every day' random wheel spinner this week were:**

**Olivia Stokes, Ori Carr and Jaxon Kimpton.**

### **Looking ahead to the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2026!**

- The assembly theme will be 'Feeling Proud'.
- Mrs Townsend is available to show parents around school on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January 10:00 – 11:00am.
- Miss Kane is teaching the Orchard on Monday afternoon.
- Sports Club on Monday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Miss Kane is teaching class 3 on Tuesday afternoon.
- Sewing Club on Monday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Mrs Taylor is teaching Nursery on Wednesday.
- Gymnastics on Wednesday 3:00 – 4:00.
- Classes 3 & 5 are going swimming again on Thursday morning – not at the same time. They will be escorted by their teachers and TAs, Mrs Townsend and Mrs Kaine. Four swimming instructors will meet us at the pool.
- Miss Kane is teaching class 8 on Thursday afternoon.
- Growing Wild club on Thursday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
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- Miss Kane is teaching class 5 on Friday afternoon.
- Arts & crafts club on Friday 3:00 – 4:00pm.

### **After school clubs – starting w/c 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026 (Rec, Y1 & Y2)**

Mondays – Sports club – 3.00-4.00pm.

Tuesdays – Sewing club – 3.00-4.00pm.

Wednesdays – Gymnastics club – 3.00-4.00pm.

Thursdays – Growing Wild club (previously gardening club) – 3.00-4.00pm.

Fridays – Arts & crafts club – 3.00-4.00pm.

All our clubs are on a first come first served basis. If any clubs are unavailable, please contact the school office and your child can be added to a reserves list.

**Tweak of the Week:** If you drop something on the floor, inside or outside, pick it up.

## School Menu Autumn/Winter 2025 (All school including Nursery)

Week 2	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main course	Pork sausage & mash with gravy	Beef pasta Bolognese & garlic bread	Roast Chicken with gravy, Yorkshire pudding & roast potatoes	Wholemeal margherita pizza & home-baked jacket wedges	Battered pollock & chips
Vegetarian main course	Veggie sausage & mash with gravy	Plant based pasta Bolognese & garlic bread	Quorn grill, gravy, Yorkshire pudding & roast potatoes	Macaroni cheese	Cheese flan & chips
Jacket potato and filling/pasta	Jacket potato with tuna mayo, cheese or beans	Jacket potato with tuna mayo, cheese or beans	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 or salmon mayo
Sandwich option	Ham	Ham	Ham	Ham	Ham
	Tuna mayo	Tuna mayo	Tuna mayo	Tuna mayo	Tuna mayo
	Cheese	Cheese	Cheese	Cheese	Cheese
Vegetables	Sweetcorn, broccoli, baked beans	Broccoli, cauliflower & carrots	Seasonal Greens & Carrots	Garden peas or sliced carrots	Garden Peas, Baked Beans
Dessert	Shortbread pin wheels & fruit slices	Chocolate fudge cake	Apple sponge & custard	Flapjack	Chocolate mousse

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

## Makaton – Signs of the Week

 	
Happy Christmas	Happy New Year
See if being signed here.	
<a href="#">Bing Videos</a>	<a href="#">Singing Hands: #MakatonMonday 2017 #1 - HAPPY NEW YEAR - in Makaton - YouTube</a>

## Phonics, Keyword and Reading at home.

The children will begin their daily phonics lessons in class next week. We use Monster Phonics. Information about the scheme can be found on our website. Each week we'll let you know what sounds (phonemes) the children will be learning and which keywords (sometimes called Common Exception Words or High Frequency Words) they need to have learnt to read and in Year One and Two to spell by the end of the week.

It's really important that the children practise at home so that they keep up.

Term 2 Week 2	Reception	Year One	Year Two
<b>Sounds/Phonemes</b>	ow	Ew k before y l e	Possessive apostrophe
<b>Keywords</b>	look now down	Good took book looks looking, car dark park hard garden found round around mouse shouted	Review of Common Exception words.

Moonsieer  
Phonics

## Supporting reading at home.

You can't go far wrong listening to an [Oxford Reading Tree Christmas story](#).



**Tweak of the Week:** If you drop something on the floor, inside or outside, pick it up.

# Word of the Week



magi



## Meaning

- The wise men are also known as the Magi.



## Challenge

Over the holiday find out what they took gold, Frankincense and Myrrh to Jesus

***CELEBRATING WORDS***



# What Parents & Educators Need to Know about TECHNOLOGY ATTACHMENT

## WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

In today's digital age, children are increasingly forming emotional and habitual attachments to their devices. With 96% regularly accessing the internet and nearly half engaging in live streaming or content sharing, their online presence is greater than ever. This guide explores the phenomenon of technology attachment in young people and offers expert advice on fostering healthier digital habits.

### WIRED FOR REWARD

Children's brains are particularly sensitive to reward-based stimulation, and some digital platforms, especially those offering quick-hit content like short-form videos, are designed to exploit this. The instant gratification of likes, comments, and rapid scene changes triggers dopamine release, making these interactions highly addictive. Over time, this may contribute to changes in attention patterns and a reduced inclination towards activities that involve prolonged focus or delayed gratification, such as reading, problem-solving, or creative play.

### NIGHT-TIME TECH HABITS

Screen use late into the evening can disrupt natural sleep patterns by suppressing melatonin, the hormone that regulates sleep. Children engaging with stimulating content may experience delayed bedtimes, lower sleep quality, and increased fatigue during the day. Additionally, fear of missing out (FOMO) on online interactions can cause anxiety and resistance to logging off, creating a cycle of late-night engagement and tired mornings.

### SHAPED BY SCREENS

For many children, digital spaces have become a key arena for identity exploration and expression. Social media encourages them to curate their image carefully, with likes, comments, and shares serving as social validation. This environment can be self-referential to online feedback, making children vulnerable to comparison, self-doubt, and pressure to present a perfect version of themselves, even when it doesn't reflect reality.

### DIGITAL WORLD DANGERS

The Internet can expose children to unfiltered content, some of which may be inappropriate, misleading, or harmful. Cyberbullying, exposure to harmful lifestyles, and online predators are all risks children face, often without fully understanding the consequences. Misinformation can shape distorted worldviews, while constant comparison to others can erode self-confidence. Without guidance, children may internalise these digital dangers, impacting their emotional and mental health.

### DIGITAL DEPENDENCY BUILDS

Devices often become digital comfort blankets. In moments of boredom, anxiety, or loneliness, children may instinctively reach for screens to self-soothe. This reliance on digital distraction limits their ability to develop healthy coping mechanisms, such as mindfulness, conversation or physical activity. As the habit builds, their dependency may displace real-world experiences and emotional resilience.

### FRIENDSHIPS & FILTERS

Technology transforms how young people socialise, often replacing face-to-face interaction with text-based or image-based communication. While messaging apps and social media enable connection, they may also limit emotional expression and the development of essential interpersonal skills, such as tone recognition, empathy, and reading body language. As a result, some children may become less confident with exchanges in person and more reliant on digital personas to navigate friendships.

## Advice for Parents & Educators

### READ THE ROOM

Pay attention to behavioural changes that may signal unhealthy tech attachment. This includes mood swings, increased secrecy about online activity, withdrawal from family time or hobbies, and visible distress when separated from devices. These cues can indicate deeper emotional reliance or even exposure to distressing content. Early recognition allows for proactive support and meaningful conversation.

### DON'T WAIT, REACH OUT EARLY

If a child's relationship with technology starts affecting their emotional wellbeing, school performance, or social connections, don't hesitate to seek help. Open up discussions with teachers, pastoral staff, or digital wellbeing professionals. Early intervention is key, and a supportive network can provide tools, resources, and reassurance for both children and adults navigating this evolving digital landscape.

### SHAPE DIGITAL BOUNDARIES

Create a balanced digital environment with clear guidelines on when and how devices can be used. This includes screen-free zones (e.g. bedrooms, dining tables), app restrictions, and time limits. More importantly, involve children in these decisions and explain the reasoning behind them, even reflecting upon your own digital use so they can see it's something we all have to manage. Turning boundaries into a dialogue, not just directives, helps build trust and encourages self-regulation.

### SET THE STANDARD

Children often model the behaviour they see. When adults demonstrate healthy digital habits, such as prioritising face-to-face conversation, balancing screen time with other activities, and using devices with purpose, children are more likely to follow suit. Share your own positive uses of technology and invite children to do the same. This collaborative approach helps demystify tech use and encourages responsible engagement.

### Meet Our Expert

Philippa Walthamell is an award-winning educator, author of *The Digital Ecosystem*, and founder of Education and Digital Bridge. Digital Bridge supports the relationship between families and technology, empowering everyone to be balanced and digitally well. With over 15 years in digital education and wellbeing, she supports families, schools, and governments to build balanced and safe digital cultures.



The National College

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**Tweak of the Week:** If you drop something on the floor, inside or outside, pick it up.



## Rainbow Raffle

The winners of the Rainbow Raffle are.....



Mrs Jennings.....she says she never wins anything



Tommy Digman



Tommy Digman



Harry Lodge



Treven Saif



Harry Lodge



Freya Sawicki



Peak Edge always donate a hamper at Christmas. We have drawn out a winner from the Golden VIP box (all the children have tickets in there!)

The lucky winner this year is:

**Rowan Dennis Wild**

We had lots of new toys, selection boxes and games donated to us. We pulled out tickets from the Golden VIP box today to find some lucky winners. Here they are:

**Ivy Clarkson, Noah Greaves, Fern Turner, Shanelle Kiffin, Tia Bee, Bobby Askham, Cohen Brookfield, Connor Booth-Bell.**

### **Breakfast Club**

We will continue to run our breakfast club for the first couple of weeks back at school after the Christmas break.



Payment for the club will be set up on ParentPay on a week by week basis until we have finalised alternative arrangements. Mrs Townsend is currently investigating options and will be in touch as soon as she has any news. Until then, please continue to pay for the club each week on ParentPay.

Thank you.

After the holiday would parents check children's pockets and bags. We've had quite a lot of 'things' brought into school this week and it just causes fall outs and arguments. We've had toys, make-up, chocolate to name a few. Thank you in advance.

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<p>Who has mastered a reading colour band this term so far? (These books are designed to practice a range of reading skills and develop a love of books and reading.)</p>	<p>Who has learnt all their keywords this term so far? (Knowing keywords, high frequency words and/or common exception words means your child will be able to read more fluently and be less reliant on sounding out).</p>
<p>Harry Radford, Harrison Spencer, Riley Freestone</p> 	<p>Riley Fleetwood</p> 

### Mrs Townsend's Pupil of the Week

**George Barrott-Young.** This week George came to read his first reading book to me and he was just brilliant. He is a kind and helpful friend to the other children in The Orchard. George asks questions all the time to learn new things and I think he's just magic.

### Nursery News

Well, there might be some tired little faces, runny eyes and snotty noses, but we have made it - just! The children thoroughly enjoyed their party this week and when Santa popped by, he commented on all their lovely manners. We have played Christmas games, enjoyed festive stories and made some terrific models in and amongst the excitement. We hope you all have a happy time together over the next couple of weeks.

### Star of the Week

**Austin Frost** has been so much fun this week and it has been great playing and building with him. He always includes others in his games and sees jobs through to the end. It has been lovely to learn more about him as he has settled in over the term. Austin has the most fabulous giggle!

### Small trousers

We are in need of small trousers if anyone has anything that maybe doesn't fit your child anymore or that you no longer need and would like to donate them to school, that would be greatly appreciated. We have plenty of bigger sizes but no smaller ones.

Thank you so much.



### This week's praise board



- Oscar Hardcastle is always calm and ready to learn. He has a great impact on his friends.
- Tilly Anderson - you are just so wonderful. We appreciate you.
- Coby Grocock knocked Mrs Moore's socks off this week with his reading. He tried so hard and did such a great job.
- Tyler Burgin has done some amazing reading this week
- Ava-Marie Proud is such a kind and lovely friend.
- We are so proud of Lucas Smith. He has worked so hard with keywords and gone up so many levels!
- Freddie Wear has come with a smile on his face every day this week; he has been a joy to be with.
- Bobby Askham was very brave doing new things this week.
- Faolan O'Brian is blowing us away in phonics and his reading - well done.
- Rowan Dennis-Wild is working hard to learn all of his keywords. Well done Rowan!
- Amber Pickwell always makes us smile with her little sayings.
- Lujack Rees helped Miss Spencer to tidy all the small yard without being asked. Thank you, Lujack!
- Charlie Hodgkinson tried something different for his dinner this week and he enjoyed it.
- It was lovely to see Tommy Kaye giving high-fives to all of his friends during the party games this week.
- Class 7 and 8 children were so well behaved at the Christingle this week. Their singing made some of the grown-ups fill up!
- Thank you to all the grown-ups who have helped us at the Christingle making sessions over the last couple of weeks. We couldn't have done that without you. Special thanks to Class 7 & 8 helpers as they got to walk in the absolute pouring rain!
- Albie Crofts is a matching pairs whiz. He concentrates so hard and we just can't beat him!
- Oakley Rooke was so eager to share his birthday goodies with his friends. he left nobody out.
- Rowan Legdon has done some great reindeer maths.



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**Assembly Theme:** Compassion





## NEW! Neurodiversity Sheffield Drop-in

- Do you have a child or young person who is living with ADHD or Autism?
- Is your child waiting for a diagnosis of neurodivergence?
- Do you need advice or support around behaviours in your child or young person which might be indicative of neurodivergence?

### Come along to our new S5 drop-in!

Delivered by Family Action and supported by Sheffield Parent Hub, Sheffield Family Hubs and Sheffield City Council.

- Have a chat with other parents/carers who are experiencing similar concerns, and
- Meet staff from **Neurodiversity Sheffield**, Sheffield Family Hubs, Sheffield Parent Carer Forum, Ryegate, and other agencies who support families with neurodivergence.

✉ [neurodiversity.sheffield@family-action.org.uk](mailto:neurodiversity.sheffield@family-action.org.uk)

☎ 0114 2412733 or 07816 408019

📍 **Neurodiversity Sheffield**  
Meynell Rd, Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield S5 8GN



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**At Meynell Primary School:**

**Thursday 15th January,  
9.30am – 12.00pm**

**No diagnosis or  
booking required!**

*In the event of snow/ice please  
check our Facebook page for  
updates, or phone ahead to check  
whether the session has been  
cancelled.*

For more information about our service,

scan



or visit:  
**[family-action.org.uk](http://family-action.org.uk)**

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iMAGINATION  
GAMING



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Department  
for Education

# Healthy Holiday Activities

Come and join us for lots of fun this Christmas holiday... learning and playing some of the coolest, smartest, fast witted and amusing board games from across the world.

Lots of amazing new games that are hot off the press, ready for you this festive period! As well as the usual favourites that you all enjoy.

Free for  
Children &  
Young People  
on Benefit  
Related Free  
School Meals

Lunch is Included!

It's going to be Snow much fun!

Parson Cross Library  
Monday, 22nd December  
10am - 2pm

Scan the  
QR code  
to book





iMAGINATION  
GAMING



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# Healthy Holiday Activities

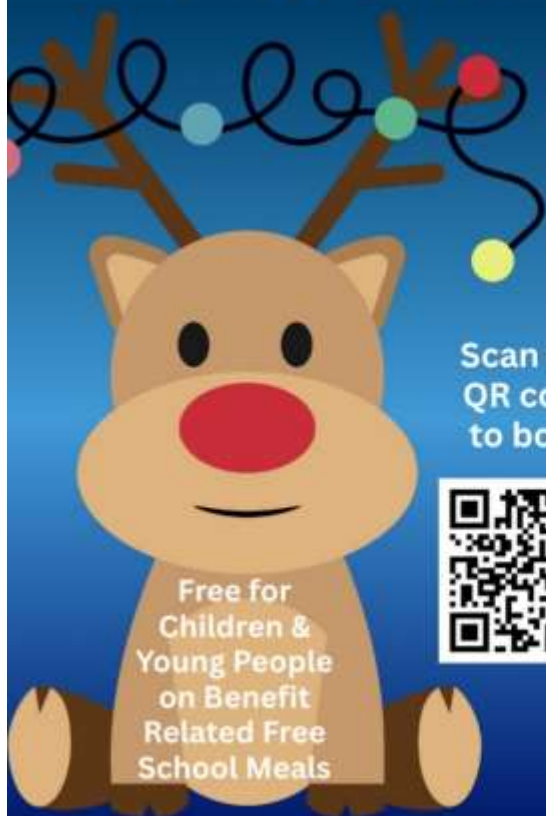
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Lunch is Included!

It's going to be Snow much fun!

Chapeltown Library  
Monday, 22nd December  
10am - 2pm



Scan the  
QR code  
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Free for Children &  
Young People on  
Benefit Related Free  
School Meals

**Lunch is Included!**

**It's going to be Snow much fun!**

**Firth Park Library  
Tuesday, 23rd December  
10am - 2pm**



Scan the  
QR code  
to book





# HAF Timetable Christmas 2025

Upperthorpe | Hillsborough | Stannington | Stocksbridge

## Sheffield Healthy Holidays

**FREE** activities coming up this Christmas!

\*For families in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals

**Bookings Go LIVE!**

**28<sup>th</sup> Nov @ 3pm**

**At Secondary School? Register for your FREE Everyone Active HAF Pass**  
Unlock FREE gym, swim and ice-skating sessions

For more info or to find your HAF Code contact:  
[hafprogramme@sheffield.gov.uk](mailto:hafprogramme@sheffield.gov.uk) | 0114 203 9303



**Book NOW!**  
[sheffieldhealthyholidays.org](https://sheffieldhealthyholidays.org)



# HAF Timetable Christmas 2025

Upperthorpe | Hillsborough | Stannington | Stocksbridge

Activity & Age	When		Organisation	How to Book
<b>Skateboard Coaching &amp; Active Games</b> 7-17 yrs	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> 11am-4pm	The House Skatepark, Unit D Bardwell Road, S3 8AS	The House Skatepark	Scan the QR code or call 0114 249 0055
<b>Ultimate Activity Camp Hillsborough</b> 6-13 yrs	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Mon 29 <sup>th</sup> 9.30am-3.30pm	Hillsborough Leisure Centre, Beulah Road, S6 2AN	On The Move	<a href="http://www.onthemove.org.uk">www.onthemove.org.uk</a> or call 07903492712
<b>Festive Family Disco</b> 5-11 yrs	Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> 5pm-7pm	Niagara Centre, S6 1LU	RivelinCo	Scan the QR code or call 0114 327 1670/ 07481004230
<b>Ultimate Activity Camp Stocksbridge</b> 6-13 yrs	Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> 10am-3pm Tues 30 <sup>th</sup> 9.30am-12.30pm	Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre, Moorland Drive S36 1EG	On The Move	Scan the QR code or <a href="http://www.onthemove.org.uk">www.onthemove.org.uk</a> call 07903492712
<b>Mixed Marshal Arts &amp; Activity Club</b> 7-16 yrs	Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 23 <sup>rd</sup> Weds 24 <sup>th</sup> 10am-2pm	481 Manchester Road, Stocksbridge, Sheffield S36 1DH	Steel Evolution	Scan the QR code or call 07500846862

\*For families in receipt of benefit related Free School Meals



**Book NOW!**  
[sheffieldhealthyholidays.org](https://sheffieldhealthyholidays.org)



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