



Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School

Pot House Lane, Stocksbridge, Sheffield, S36 1EJ. Tel: 0114 2883109

E-mail: enquiries@stocksbridge-nur.sheffield.sch.uk

Website: <https://www.stocksbridgenurseryinfants.co.uk/>

Newsletter: newsletter@stocksbridge-nur.sheffield.sch.uk

Noticeboard: www.stocksbridgenurseryinfants.co.uk/noticeboard/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stocksbridgeni

Attendance

Our target is 96%. This week's attendance is 98%

Class 1: 98%

Class 2: 98%

The Orchard: 96%

Class 5: 97%

Class 7: 99%

Class 8: 98%

What's happening in school next week?

- Miss Kane is teaching the Orchard on Monday morning.
- Piano lessons on Monday morning.
- Class 5 are going on a local walk on Monday afternoon.
- Class 2 have Forest School on Monday afternoon.
- Golden Star Assembly on Tuesday 20th October for classes 7, 8, the Orchard & Nursery 8:45 – 9:15am.
- Mrs Ellis will be teaching class 5 on Tuesday.
- Mrs Taylor will be teaching Nursery on Tuesday.
- Miss Kane is teaching class 7 on Tuesday morning.
- Class 8 are going on their local walk on Tuesday morning.
- Mrs Townsend is available to show parents around school on Tuesday 10:00 – 11:00am.
- Class 1 have Forest School on Tuesday afternoon.
- **CANCELLED** - Gymnastics Club with Miss Price after school on Tuesday, 3.00-4.00pm
- 3.00pm on Tuesday – FOSNI Fundraiser – Celebrating Halloween in the hall.
- Miss Spencer is teaching Class 1 on Wednesday.
- Tutti Frutti are coming into school to perform Red Robin's Winter Song.
- Rock Steady Lessons on Wednesday morning.
- Welly Wednesday for classes 7 & 8.
- Running club on Wednesday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Thursday 22nd October will be a non-uniform day, in exchange for a £2 donation. There will be a payment item on ParentPay for this soon.
- Golden Star assembly for classes 1, 2 & 5 on Thursday 22nd 8:45 – 9:15am.
- Miss Kane is teaching class 5 on Thursday morning.
- Class 5 have Forest School on Thursday afternoon.
- Growing wild club on Thursday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Break for half term holiday.
- School is closed on Friday and re-opens on Monday 2nd November.

Well done Class 7

Looking ahead to the w.b. 2nd November 2026.

- The assembly theme will be 'Antibullying – Break the Silence'.
- Monday is 'odd socks day' for antibullying week.
- Miss Kane is teaching the Orchard on Monday and Tuesday. Mrs Turner is attending training.
- Piano lessons on Monday morning.
- Class 8 are visiting Stocksbridge Library on Monday morning.
- Class 2 have Forest School on Monday afternoon.
- Chelsea from the parent hub is in school on Monday afternoon (1.30pm) to support parents whose children struggle with sleep.
- Sports club on Monday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Reception Vision Screening on Tuesday morning for our Reception children.
- On Tuesday in assembly, we'll be celebrating those children with 96%+ attendance.
- Class 1 have Forest School on Tuesday afternoon.
- Gymnastics club on Tuesday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- KS1 Boccia Festival at Stocksbridge High School on Tuesday 3rd 3:45 – 4:45pm. More info to follow.
- Miss Spencer is teaching class 8 on Wednesday morning.
- Rock steady lessons on Wednesday morning.
- Welly Wednesday for classes 7 & 8.
- Running club on Wednesday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Miss Kane is teaching class 7 on Thursday morning.
- Mrs Townsend is available to show parents around school on Thursday 10:30 – 11:30 for potential new Nursery starters.
- Class 5 have Forest School on Thursday afternoon.
- Diamond art club on Thursday 3:00 – 4:00pm.
- Parents evening on Thursday 3:15 – 4:45pm.
- Miss Spencer is teaching class 1 on Friday.
- Mrs Taylor is teaching Nursery on Friday.
- Miss Kane is teaching class 5 on Friday morning.
- Class 7 are visiting Stocksbridge Library on Friday morning.
- Arts & crafts club on Friday 3:00 – 4:00pm.

Tweak of the Week: No coming in and out and in and out at lunchtime. It's like a merry-go-round!

School Menu Autumn/Winter 2026/27 (All school including Nursery)

Week 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Main course	Pork sausages & mash	Chicken tikka curry & mixed wholegrain rice	Roast chicken with gravy, stuffing & mashed potato	Wholemeal ham & sweetcorn pizza & home baked jacket potato wedges	Fish fingers & chips
Vegetarian main course	Vegetable sausages & mash	Tomato, basil & vegetable pasta bake - wholegrain	Cheese potato & onion pastry whirl with mashed potato	Cheese flan with home baked potato wedges	Cheesey bean pitta wholemeal
Jacket potato and filling/pasta	Jacket potato with cheesy beans, tuna mayo, cheese or baked beans	Jacket potato with cheesy beans, tuna mayo, cheese or baked beans	Jacket potato with cheesy beans, cheese, baked beans or tuna mayo	Jacket potato with cheesy beans, cheese, baked beans or tuna mayo	Jacket potato with cheesy beans, cheese, baked beans or tuna 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, baked beans & broccoli	Carrots & garden peas	Seasonal greens & country mixed vegetables	Mixed salad, broccoli & sweetcorn	Garden Peas, Baked Beans
Dessert	Chocolatey cookie	Apple sponge & custard	Orange jelly & fruit slices	Marble sponge & custard	Chocolatey brownie

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

Lunchboxes (All school inc Nursery) **Please do not send your child with chocolate bars or sweets in their lunchboxes.** Cake bars or biscuits are ideal. Also, a reminder not to send nuts into school as we have two children with allergies - one in Nursery and one in Year One.

Volunteers on School Visits.

Thank you to our volunteers who came on Class 5's City Tour this week. We have some local walks and visits to Stocksbridge Library coming up. Please check the newsletter and Reachmore calendar for dates and times. We would really appreciate your help if you are free. Thanks.

Assembly Theme: Autumn/Autumn Festivals/Halloween

Supporting Reading at Home

Each week we teach the children new phonemes in Monster Phonics lessons. Alongside the phonemes we teach new keywords. Acquiring these keywords is really important. Keywords are the ones that appear most in our language. They are the ones that the children need to be able to read on sight (and not sound out/blend). This is because keywords often don't sound out such as 't h e, or w a s. Some do sound out e.g. that, this but if the children rely on sounding out keywords, it hinders their fluency. Reading becomes really laborious and children find it hard to keep a sense of what they are reading because they are so busy sounding out so many words.

Practising keywords doesn't have to be another 'job' to fit in. You could blu tac this week's words as you go up the stairs, stick them to the fridge, put them on the back of the car seat, stick them to the dinner table. You could blu tac them to bedroom walls. Now, I am one for tidiness but if it gets them reading, I could live with a few keywords around the house.

As a teacher, I labelled everything in the classroom – door, bin, window, book shelf. The children learnt them by osmosis.

In school we have keywords/high frequency words (HFW) by the door and the children tap and read them as they leave.

I have sent the 100 HFW with this newsletter. If you child can read the 100HFW, they will be able to read 50% of all they come across for the next few years. If they can read the 200 HFW they will be able to read the majority of text they come across for the next few years.

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. **The highlighted yellow words are the ones you should focus on.**

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

Autumn Week 6	Reception	Year One	Year Two
Sounds/Phonemes	h b	u-e ar	Vowel suffix (drop e rules) Vowel Suffix (double rules)
Keywords	up mum put had oh him his big has	Made make came like time by my I I'm into too don't	even, people. whole clothes thought

Moostee
Phonics

Moostee
Phonics

Moostee
Phonics

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Phonics

Moostee
Phonics



Everything you need to support your child

We know helping with reading at home can sometimes feel tricky.

That's why we've created a series of short, bite-sized videos to explain phonics simply.

Scroll down for more free resources and easy ways to help your child grow in confidence and love reading.

Monster Phonics have produced a series of short films for parents to help you support your child at home. Simple search Monster Phonic Films for parents or follow this [link](#).

Makaton – Signs of the Week



mother, mummy, mum



dad, daddy, father

See it being signed here.

['mummy/mother/mum' #Makaton Sign](#)
[#motivationalmakaton #mummy #mum #mother -](#)
[YouTube](#)

[Makaton for 'dad / daddy / father'](#)

Assembly Theme: Autumn/Autumn Festivals/Halloween

Ways to Practise Spellings at Home



There are lots of fun and practical ways to help your child learn their spellings. Here are some ideas to try at home!

Use magnetic letters



Build your spellings using magnetic letters on the fridge or a tray.

Try a keyboard



Type your spellings on a computer, tablet or phone. Try using different fonts or colours.

Write in sand



Write your spellings in sand, salt, rice or foam.

Use felt tips or chalk



Write your spellings using colourful felt tips, chalk or crayons.

Say, clap and spell



Say the word, clap its syllables, then say the sounds and spell it.

Make with objects



Use objects from around the house or outside, such as sticks, stones, leaves or Lego.

Try playdough



Roll and shape your spellings using playdough.

Look, cover, write, check



Look at the word, cover it up, write it from memory, then check it.

Use different materials



Get creative! Try buttons, pipe cleaners, pasta, straws or beads.

Draw and picture it



Draw a picture to go with the word. This can help you remember what it means.

Use in a sentence



Try writing a sentence with your spelling. This helps you remember how to use it.

Games and challenges



Play memory games, word hunts or ask a family member to test you.



Short, frequent practise makes a big difference!

Most of all, keep it fun!



Tweak of the Week: No coming in and out and in and out at lunchtime. It's like a merry-go-round!

Word of the Week



peril



This word came up in phonics this week and lots of children didn't know the meaning.



Meaning

- a serious or dangerous situation that could cause you harm.



Challenge

Watch this clip about Grace Darling. [The life and work of Grace Darling \(dramatisation\) | History - True Stories](#) She put herself in peril to save [others..](#)

CELEBRATING WORDS

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about AI COMPANIONS

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Powered by generative AI models like ChatGPT and Google Gemini, AI companion apps and virtual chatbots such as Character.ai, Snapchat My AI, Replika and Talkie, allow users to create, customise, and chat to synthetic avatars around the clock. While many young people use them for harmless entertainment, creative writing or homework help, these tools are designed to simulate genuine human empathy, emotional bonding and deep friendship.

EMOTIONAL DEPENDENCY

AI companions are programmed to be endlessly agreeable, attentive, and available 24/7. Unlike human friendships, an AI companion never disagrees, sets personal boundaries, or gets tired. Young people (especially those experiencing loneliness, social anxiety, or low self-esteem) can quickly develop an unhealthy emotional attachment, viewing synthetic software as their 'best friend' or a surrogate romantic partner.

DANGEROUS MENTAL HEALTH ADVICE

AI chatbots possess no genuine empathy, professional clinical knowledge, or moral reasoning. While developers state these tools are not therapists, vulnerable teenagers often turn to them in crisis. Chatbots have previously hallucinated unsafe medical guidance, validated depressive spirals, and failed to safely escalate disclosures of self-harm or suicidal ideation to real-world protective services.

DATA HARVESTING & OVERSHARING

Because conversational bots simulate warmth and understanding, children often lower their guard and treat the chatbot as a trusted friend. They may disclose sensitive personal information, including full names, school details, private family problems, or secrets, unaware that their conversations are being logged, may be analysed by third parties (including advertisers), or used to train future AI models.

DISTORTED SOCIAL SKILLS

Navigating real-world friendships can be messy, involving dealing with conflict, compromise, boredom, and awkwardness. If a teenager spends hours interacting with an AI that is tailored specifically to validate and flatter them, they may become impatient with real-world relationships. Over time, this can lead to social withdrawal, heightened anxiety in peer groups, and isolation: a vicious circle of growing online dependency coupled with a heightened sense that relationships in the 'real world' are too challenging to maintain.

INAPPROPRIATE OR EXPLICIT CONTENT

While most mainstream platforms feature safety filters and guardrails, young people frequently discover 'jailbreak' prompts to bypass them. Some companion platforms subtly nudge users towards mature themes, romantic roleplay, or sexually suggestive conversations. In worse cases, third-party apps with weak safety checks have been found to generate sexually explicit text or intimate images.

"FREEMIUM" UPSELLS & SUBSCRIPTIONS

Many companion platforms operate on a freemium model. While basic chat is free, features like voice calls, uncensored responses, custom avatars, or 'deeper bonding' tiers are locked behind expensive monthly recurring subscriptions or in-app token purchases. This can lead to significant hidden costs and pressure on young people to spend money to maintain the 'friendship'.

Advice for Parents & Educators

TALK OPENLY ABOUT FAKE RELATIONSHIPS

Demystify how these tools work. Explain to young people that an AI companion has no feelings, memories, or consciousness; it is simply calculating the next most mathematically probable word based on its training data. It is helpful to explain to them the mechanics of large language models so that they understand how they are trained and how they are designed to always flatter and be helpful.

ENCOURAGE REAL-WORLD CONNECTION

Ensure technology habits do not replace face-to-face peer socialisation, sports, hobbies, and family time. Create healthy boundaries at home (such as keeping phones and tablets out of bedrooms overnight) to prevent late-night, unmonitored attachment loops with conversational chatbots when young people are at their most vulnerable.

AUDIT PRIVACY SETTINGS & AGE LIMITS

Check which companion apps are installed on your child's phone or tablet. Many dedicated companion apps carry an App Store rating of 17+, while platforms like Character.ai set a minimum age of 13+ (or 16+ in the UK/EU). Review the privacy settings together: turn off data-sharing toggles, disable model training where possible, and ensure location permissions are blocked.

REINFORCE WHERE TO GET REAL HELP

Make sure young people know that a machine can never replace professional pastoral or mental health care. Remind them of the trusted adults they can turn to at school - such as their Form Tutor, Head of Year, or the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) - as well as dedicated youth support services like Childline (0800 1111) or Shout (text 85258).

Meet Our Expert

Darren Coxon is the Founder and Executive Director of Kompass Education, a consultancy specialising in supporting educators, students and parents in making wise choices with AI. His book *Ethical AI and Education*, co-authored with Clara Hawking, will be released later in 2026 by Taylor and Francis.



See full reference list on our website



@wake_up_weds



/www.thenationalcollege



@wake.up.wednesday



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#WakeUpWednesday

The National College

Tweak of the Week: No coming in and out and in and out at lunchtime. It's like a merry-go-round!



Mrs Townsend's Pupils of the Week

Willow Harvey.

Willow is a delight to have in school. She is an 'always' girl – always in the right place, at the right time, doing the right thing. She is a kind and loyal friend, one who likes to have fun and who has a lovely sense of humour. Willow is a trier – she gives things her all. She listens, she takes part and she does her best and I think that's fab. Thank you Willow. You are a joy to be around and a joy to teach.



Nursery News

What a happy little bunch we have had over the last few days. We found out just who The Leaf Thief was in our book of the week and we are getting better at answering questions about our story. We have also threaded autumnal necklaces, mixed up shades for our leaves, created collages and rolled apples and conkers.

Star of the Week

Matilda Needham has done some marvellous maths, told us lots about autumn that she has noticed, played well with others and been willing to have a go at anything and everything. She really has been a super learner this week.

After school clubs for next half term W/C 02/11/2026

Mondays: - Sports club. 3:00 – 4:00pm.

Tuesdays: - Gymnastics club. 3:00 – 4:00pm.

Wednesdays: - Running club. 3:00 – 4:00pm.

Thursdays: - Diamond art club. 3:00 – 4:00pm.

Fridays: - Arts & crafts club. 3:00 – 4:00pm.

All our clubs are booked via ParentPay on a first come first served basis. If there is a club that your child would like to take part in but there is no availability, please contact the school office and they can be added to the reserves list. The clubs will be available to book on ParentPay from Monday 19th October at 5pm.

Assembly Theme: Autumn/Autumn Festivals/Halloween



This week's praise board



- Grayson Howcroft quietly and calmly gets on with school life.
- Lujack Rees did some beautiful handwriting in class this week.
- Ava Dawson reads with beautiful fluency and expression.
- Grayson Howcroft was very kind holding the door open for Miss. Kane when he hands were full. Thank you.
- Lucas Smith read beautifully in guided reading this week.
- Enzo Browne did amazing maths looking at more and fewer.
- Nevaeh Stride has really enjoyed rhyming this week. Making a silly soup.
- All of class 7 were so well behaved on the local walk. They enjoyed looking for signs of Autumn and walked so sensibly by the road.
- Lenny Holmes has been doing lots of practising his keywords at home. He's even put them all in a little book. This is a great idea!
- Austin Frost did some lovely powder painting this week.
- Mrs Lloyd would like to thank Rosie Davies for being very helpful at lunchtime.
- Thank you to all the helpers that came on the Class 7 local walk. We had a lovely time and we could not have gone without you.



MacMillan coffee & cake afternoon.

A huge thank you to everyone who came to our coffee & cake afternoon here at school and to everyone who donated – we managed to raise £219.41.

Bags 2 School

Bags 2 School will be coming home on Thursday 22nd October 2026. These can be filled with items for reuse such as: Good quality clothing Paired shoes Hats, belts & handbags Please note that they no longer accept uniform items, soft toys, bedding, curtains or towels. Donations will be collected when we return to school after the half term break. **They will be collected by 9am on TUESDAY 3rd NOVEMBER 2026.** Bags can be dropped off in the staff car park on the Tuesday morning. Please do not bring your donations to school before then, as we have nowhere to store them. Thank you!

Tweak of the Week: No coming in and out and in and out at lunchtime. It's like a merry-go-round!

A big thank you from the food bank at Stocksbridge.

Stocksbridge food bank have send us an email thanking everyone for the kind donations they received from the Harvest Festival we did in school.

'Just wanted to say thank you so much for all your kind donations to the food bank today. We really appreciate it'.



FOSNI Halloween Event



**Decorated/ carved pumpkin,
fruit or vegetable competition**

**All entries to be in on and by Monday 19th
October. To be displayed in the hall. £1 entry
made payable on parent pay or at the office.**

**We then invite you to an evening of looking at
the entries with spooky stalls, games and
treats on Tuesday 20th October 3pm**

It will be spooktacular!



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Stocksbridge Nursery Infants
Learning for Life

Come and

Visit Our School



Meet our Headteacher, Jane Townsend

Places for September 2027

Nursery places are also available for January 2027 and Easter 2027.



We would love to welcome prospective parents and carers to visit Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School, meet our Headteacher and experience our warm, nurturing school community.

Dates

-  **Monday 5th October**
2–3pm
-  **Friday 9th October**
9.30–10.30am
-  **Thursday 15th October**
10.45–11.45am
-  **Tuesday 20th October**
10–11am

 **To book a place**
Contact our school office

 enquiries@stocksbridge-nur.sheffield.sch.uk

 **0114 288 3109**

Our Values

-  We care about all the people and children in our school and value their uniqueness.
-  We help everyone feel safe because safeguarding is at the heart of our school.
-  We are friendly and welcoming and greet others with a smile.
-  We show respect and have high expectations for how we speak to and treat one another.
-  We enjoy learning through an exciting and lively curriculum.
-  We are happy at school because children and adults are at the heart of all we do.
-  We are proud of our inclusive approach in everything we do.

We look forward to welcoming you to

Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School.






Explore our school, **discover** the opportunities we offer and **meet** our wonderful staff and pupils.

Arrange a visit with us

enquiries@stocksbridgejunior.chorustrust.org



**Stocksbridge
Junior School**

Tweak of the Week: No coming in and out and in and out at lunchtime. It's like a merry-go-round!

Stay and Play

Our wrap-around care provision, *Stay and Play*, is available both before and after school, Monday - Friday for children attending Stocksbridge Junior School and Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School!

Breakfast Club

Prices per session, per child are as follows:

7:30AM - 8:40AM.....£5

Breakfast provided

Cedar Club (After-School Club)

3:10PM - 4:30PM.....£5

3:10PM - 5:30PM.....£10

3:10PM - 5:00PM (FRIDAY's)...£10

Light meal provided for those staying after 4:30PM

Fun-filled activities

Board games

Movie time

Chill out zone

Stress-free play

Creative crafting



HOW TO BOOK

- ★ SJS children can book through the Arbor app
- ★ SNIS children can book the Infant School using the ParentPay app



Changes to the wrap around club at Stocksbridge Junior School

Please see the information poster further down the newsletter regarding some changes that the Junior school have made to the times that Cedar Club - the after-school wrap around care runs to.

Assembly Theme: Autumn/Autumn Festivals/Halloween

Date: Monday 2nd November 2026

Time: 1.30pm - 3.30pm

Venue: Stocksbridge Infant School, Pot House Lane, Sheffield, S36 1EJ

This session has a neurodivergent focus and is for parents and carers of children who have a diagnosis of or are on the waiting list for Autism, ADHD or other neurodivergences.

In the session, we will talk about:

- Why sleep is important
- How much sleep children need
- What can happen if children don't sleep well
- What the sleep cycle is
- How to help children sleep better
- How sensory needs can affect sleep
- How to make a good bedtime routine, including using pictures

For more information please contact Sheffield Parent Hub



0114 2057243



sheffieldparenting@sheffield.gov.uk



Direct message (Sheffield Family Hubs)



BIG AUTUMN DISCO!



FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

4-6.30PM

@ HILLSBOROUGH PAVILION

FOR AGES 5-11

RivelinCo



Funded by
UK Government

zest
FOR THE COMMUNITY

Assembly Theme: Autumn/Autumn Festivals/Halloween

SWFC SUMMER HAF CAMP

For ages 8-16

When?

11am - 3pm
Monday 26th October

Where?

SWFC Youth Hub,
Owls Megastore Car Park,
Penistone Road North,
S6 1SW



Scan [here](#) to book!



sheffield.ipalbookings.com

or alternatively call us at 0114 324 0523
Please have your Unique Child HAF Code when booking.



For more information on our HAF Camps,
email: Paul.Hebda@swfccp.co.uk

*Our HAF Camps are only available for
children who receive targeted free school
meals

 Funded by
UK Government



Tweak of the Week: No coming in and out and in and out at lunchtime. It's like a merry-go-round!



Free*

HAF funded
places

SHOOTERS GROVE

HALLOWEEN AND MYTHICAL CREATURES

THEMED HOLIDAY CLUB

For children aged 3-12 years

Funded HAF days

26th - 29th October

9:00am - 4:00pm

Standard paid
places and dates
also available

**Shooters Grove
Primary
School**

. TRICK .

OR .

. TREAT .

**Check if your eligible
for a HAF Funded
place today!**

**Themed
crafts**

**Exciting games
and activities**

**Flexible
booking**

Contact:

enquiries@JPACschoolclubs.co.uk

Bookings:

Sheffield.ipalbookings.com

Assembly Theme: Autumn/Autumn Festivals/Halloween