

**Friday 24th January 2025**

Dear Parents / Carers and Flamstead Families,

I am very sad to have to share some news with you about the previous Headteacher at Flamstead Village School, Ms Sarah Jones.

Many parents, children and Flamstead families will remember Sarah and will have had contact with her over the years through their children attending school.

Sarah was Headteacher at Flamstead for over ten years. She started her headship here in September 2012 and worked tirelessly in leading the school and supporting the children and their families. Sarah finished her employment at Flamstead in 2023, taking early retirement, and was enjoying time with her family.



Sarah sadly passed away at home on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> January after a short illness. Many of the staff here have fond memories of working with Sarah and were very upset to hear that she was no longer with us.

Our Governors have also expressed their sadness and shared their thoughts. They recall that Ms Jones took over a school requiring improvement and turned it around. The Ofsted report from 2014 stated “The Headteacher has skilfully led the school through a period of rapid improvement since its previous inspection. She has been determined to improve teaching and its impact on pupil progress.” It was also recorded that the behaviour and safety of pupils was Outstanding. Governors said that she provided real leadership at a time when the school most needed it and was courageous in her decision making.

As a school, we thank Sarah for her dedication to Flamstead Village School over the years she was Headteacher. Sarah was a kind and hardworking person who had Flamstead children at the heart of everything she did.

We send our love and support to her daughter, grandson and the rest of Sarah’s family. I am sure you will join with us all in sending our very deepest sympathy to them at this very difficult time.

Kind regards

Jacqui Walton-Jones

Headteacher



# This Week's News

Monday saw a day of uniqueness when all the children dressed to express who they are for Electric Umbrella's 'There's no such thing as normal' day. The children all enjoyed taking part in the online workshop in the afternoon alongside other schools and we look forward to Electric Umbrella visiting us in person on the 3rd February.

On Tuesday we welcomed one of our school Governors, Mrs Mandy Evans, into school to talk to groups of children from each class about our School Values and our Golden Rules. Mrs Evans also talked to the children about their learning and how they felt about school. She reported that the children felt our school values were important "to keep us happy and positive" and "to keep us working well together". The children also said they felt they were listened to by adults in the school and all felt they could tell any adult if they were worried about something.

The highlight of the week for the Young Voices choir was their visit to the O2. It was a super day and night and some wonderful memories were made. The children sang alongside 8,000 other school children from across the country. The singing was described as 'spine-tingling' and even though it was a very late night it was certainly an enjoyable experience for all involved.

In the EYFS Cherry Class have been learning all about the Police and their important role in our community. All the children have worked hard on their writing—whether it's mark-making, name writing, or sentences. In Maths, Reception have been reviewing counting rules and practicing counting for a purpose.

In KS1 Maple Class have been enjoying learning about the plants and animals that live in seaside habitats in Science this week. They stayed on a sea-theme with some wonderful non-fiction writing in English about blue whales. Did you know that a blue whale's ear is only as big as the end of a pencil? In Computing, Maple Class have been excited to investigate how to make predictions using floor robots.

In KS2 Chestnut Class have been learning about angles and lines in Maths. They have been learning that parallel lines never meet and perpendicular lines meet at right angles. They enjoyed creating shapes on their geoboards and identifying angles and lines. In Art this week they have looked at how their focus artist, Sonia Delaunay, uses movement and colour to create rhythm. They tried to use this technique to create a picture of their own journey from home to school. In Science they investigated what happens to solids, liquids and gases when they are heated or cooled.

Bonsai Class have had another busy week. In Science they continue to learn about classifying organisms while in Geography they are building their knowledge of South America. In English they have been learning about passive and active voice and in their maths lessons they have been applying different strategies for multiplication.

I wish you all a peaceful weekend.

Jacqui Walton-Jones

Headteacher

## Reminders

**29th Jan- Chinese New Year**

**3rd Feb—Children's Mental Health Week**

**3rd Feb - Electric Umbrella in school**

**6th Feb—KS2 Bob Marley Assembly**

**7th Feb—NSPCC Numbers day - Non uniform**

**10th Feb— Y3/4 to Chiltern Open Air Museum**

**10th Feb—Parents Evening 5.00 -7.30pm**

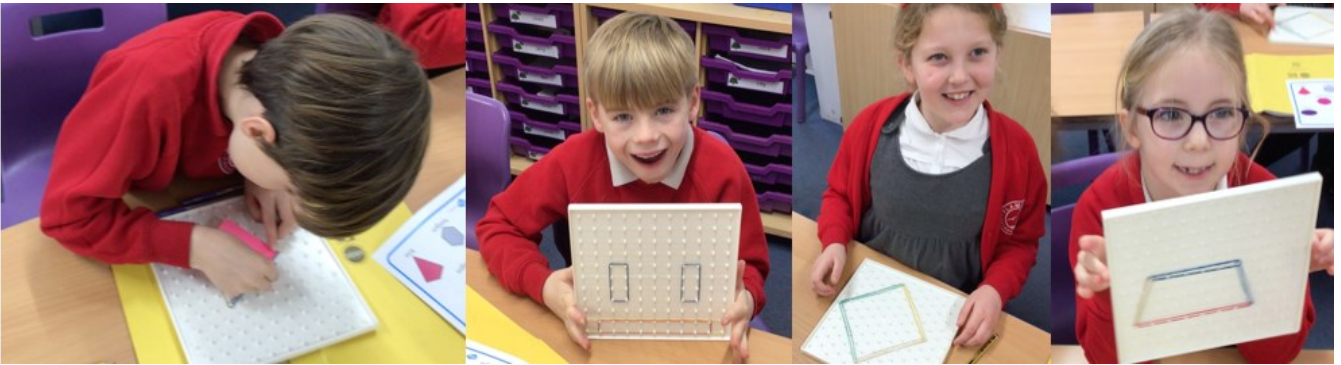
**11th—Safer Internet Day**

**12th—Parents Evening—3.30—5.30pm**

**13th - Half Term break. 3.15pm finish**

**14th—INSET Day**

## Photos of the week



Enjoying the Electric Umbrella Workshop



KS2 Lego Club have begun a new project - they are exploring jungle life and have been incredibly creative with colour and shape in their first session. Watch this space to see how their jungle grows.



## Photos of the week



Lego Club – National Penguin Day



Young Voices at the O2



# Bright Stars

Friday 22nd January 2025

<b>Nursery</b>	<b>Robin</b>	For his super sentence and letter writing. Robin has been remembering to write in lower case letters too. Well done Robin.
<b>Reception</b>	<b>Clyde</b>	For his independent sentence writing about police and their jobs. Clyde is segmenting and spelt the words on his own and remembered a full stop!
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>Xander</b>	For writing a great non-fiction piece, full of facts about blue whales.
<b>Year 2</b>	<b>Otto</b>	For some fabulous science learning this week, sorting animals and plants from seaside habitats.
<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Henry</b>	For his perseverance and resilience with his learning and making such progress with his handwriting and times tables this week.
<b>Year 4</b>	<b>Sasha</b>	For working so hard on his times tables and impressing us with his reading and phonics work.
<b>Year 5</b>	<b>Marion</b>	For her positive attitude to learning and role model behaviour.
<b>Year 6</b>	<b>David</b>	For his positive attitude towards his project work whilst many of his class were at Young Voices.

## Attendance this week

Year Group	w/b 20th January
<b>Nursery</b>	96%
<b>Reception</b>	84%
<b>Year 1</b>	86%
<b>Year 2</b>	94%
<b>Year 3</b>	97%
<b>Year 4</b>	100%
<b>Year 5</b>	99%
<b>Year 6</b>	95%
<b>Well done Year 4!</b>	

## TTRS and Numbots

Year Group	Who impressed us ?	Percentage of Children online
Nursery	-	8%
Reception	Frankie	43%
Year 1	Austin, Daisy, Cordelia, Joni	27%
Year 2	Elsie, Finley, Leo	55%
Year 3	Joey	33%
Year 4	Lewis, Theo	64%
Year 5	Lottie, Louis	45%
Year 6	Evie, Maisie, Rossi, Leo	53%
<b>Well done everyone!</b>		

# Close Encounters of a Musical Kind!

## David Beaman Quartet

Musicians from the BBC Concert Orchestra and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra



Sunday 9 March 2025  
2:30pm AND 4pm  
St Leonard's Church  
Flamstead

SCAN ME!



Email [tickets@musicatstleonards.co.uk](mailto:tickets@musicatstleonards.co.uk)  
Or call Anne Françoise - 07577 530825

Tickets: £5 per Child / Parents FREE  
Donations welcome  
Suitable for Children age 4+

### Close Encounters of a Musical Kind!

Looking for something interesting to occupy your children or grandchildren on a Sunday afternoon?

Would you like to introduce your children to classical music in a fun and interactive way?

Musicians from the BBC Concert Orchestra and City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra join us to present an amazing concert introducing primary school aged children to the String section!

A chance to get up close, meet the players and their instruments and embark on an exciting musical journey!

To include children's film music (including Harry Potter and Jurassic Park) TV themes (including Wallace and Gromit) and plenty of other musical surprises.

The bar will be open after each concert to allow you to enjoy some refreshments afterwards. We will have a different seating plan for this concert allowing our children to be on cushions around the musicians.

Tickets £5 per child and parents go free!

<https://www.ticketsource.co.uk/whats-on/flamstead/flamstead-st-leonards/close-encounters-of-a-musical-kind/e-eymkbv>

**Please see the leaflets sent home in book bags today.**

**JESSOPS**  
image is everything

Theme: Wonderful Water

# Rotary **YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER** COMPETITION



Deadline 15th February

**Calling all young photographers**

Express yourself by putting your photography skills to the test at the annual Rotary Young Photographer competition. (Up to the age of 17)

Email: [youngphotographer@rotaryinharpenden.org.uk](mailto:youngphotographer@rotaryinharpenden.org.uk)  
<http://rotaryinharpenden.org.uk/rih-photo-comp>

Rotary in Harpenden CO is a charitable incorporated organisation, Reg'd Charity No 1163420

Rotary  
Great Britain & Ireland

Poster valid until 15/2/2025 v.hden 2025-1.0

FEB 17<sup>TH</sup>-21<sup>ST</sup> NEXT THING EDUCATION PRESENTS **FEBRUARY HALF TERM** 9am-4pm

# TECH CAMP

Ofsted Registered

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£39.99 PER DAY OR £175 FOR 5 DAYS FOR BOYS AND GIRLS AGED 5-11

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SCAN FOR LOCATIONS MAP

NEXT THING EDUCATION CAMPS PRESENTS **FEB HALF TERM 2025** 17TH - 21ST FEBRUARY 2025

Movie Making | Video Game Design | Robot Coding | STEM Experiments | Engineering

**17TH - 21ST FEBRUARY - LIMITED SPACES**  
AGES 5 - 11 MULTI DAY BOOKING DISCOUNTS!

**What Parents Say**

"Absolutely Fantastic! First time attending & my son loved it!"

★★★★★

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