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JC/jfh

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Dear Parents,

As I write this, my first letter to you of our new school year, it is with sadness following the announcement last Thursday from Buckingham Palace of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Our children and staff remember so fondly the wonderful week last May when we celebrated and gave thanks for her reign at our Platinum Jubilee celebrations. During our special assembly last Friday, following the announcement, we reflected on the exceptional life of The Queen and our children shared their thoughts and memories. We acknowledged that she was not only an inspiring Queen and sovereign, but a loving mother, grandmother and great grandmother. We also opened a wonderful letter and card from the Palace that we had received just a few days earlier, thanking Stamshaw children for their cards and letters to Her Majesty on the occasion of her Platinum Jubilee. It was a very poignant moment but we all agreed that we were grateful that we had been able to share our good wishes and celebrate as a community. Our children were kind, sensitive thoughtful and reflective and we all felt the sense of history that our children are living through.

As you will know, the official State Funeral is **Monday 19 September 2022**. King Charles has granted this as a Public Holiday and schools will **close** as a mark of respect. We understand that schools and teachers have a very important role to play in reassuring children and young people at this difficult time and we will support all our community sensitively and kindly.

And so onto our news from Stamshaw

It has been my pleasure welcoming you back to Stamshaw Infant this term especially to those children new to the school and our youngest children joining us in Kingfisher, Woodpecker and Robin Class. We are delighted that you have chosen Stamshaw Infant and we hope that you will have a wonderful experience each day.

We are here to help

Our children in Year 1 and 2 have all returned excitedly and it has been a joy to hear the chatter and laughs as they all enjoy seeing their friends again. At Stamshaw Infant, we have always been very pleased to welcome our parents into the school playground at the beginning and end of each day. It is a good opportunity to share any news or concerns with members of the Senior Leadership Team and your child's class teacher. Mrs Fancey and I will be there to greet you each day and are very pleased to be able to offer support and answer any questions that you may have.

Curriculum updates

The new school year is always an exciting time with new challenges and opportunities. I have enjoyed spending time with your children in their classrooms this week, talking with them and listening to their ideas. Over the next week, you will receive further information about our creative curriculum and there will be many opportunities for you to be involved and share in your child's learning experience. Today in assembly, we launched our Home Reading scheme. The children were all very excited about reading incentives and ways in which they can earn stickers, prizes, medals and of course, become fluent readers. Please help them by reading every single day at home and enjoy sharing stories poems and rhymes together.

School Uniform and PE Kit

I have been delighted to see so many of our children wearing their school uniform and PE uniform. If any of you find that you have uniform at home that your older children may have outgrown, we would be delighted if you could donate it to the school so that we can share with other parents and recycle for other families to use. We fully understand the expenses associated with school uniform so please do get in touch if there is any support we can offer. Thank you for naming all clothes, lunchboxes and bags.

Breakfast and Teatime Club

Places are booking fast for our Breakfast and Teatime Club which is open to parents from both the Infant and Junior school. Please do not hesitate in contacting the office if you would like further information.

I look forward to working with you closely over the coming weeks and wish you all an excellent start to the year. Please look out for further information on our school website which can be found at www.stamshawinfant.co.uk. We also ask that you regularly check your child's Seesaw Platform for information or messages direct from your child's classroom. You can also follow us on Instagram (@stamshaw_infants) and Facebook. We send home regular Newsletters full of school news and important dates.



My thanks to you as ever, for your continued support. If you have any specific questions or concerns, please do not hesitate in making contact and we will do our very best to support you and your family.

With very best wishes,

Mrs Cooper
Headteacher