



Happy 2025 and welcome back to a new term!

I would like to start this first newsletter of 2025 with a heartfelt hello and a thank you to all the children, families and staff who have made me feel so welcome in my first few weeks in school.

I feel honoured and privileged to be taking on the role of headteacher here at Stone with Woodford and I am excited about the journey we are embarking on together.

I have spent time in all the classes recently and have been impressed by the way in which our children work together to take care of each other, showing daily acts of kindness and being respectful of one another, showing they are safe and ready to learn and developing their resilience when things do not go their way. Being able to see these children shine their light before others is a true honour and I cannot wait to get started on leading the school so that we can all shine our light together.

Kindest regards, Mr Hall

<u>Looking ahead: Key dates for your diary</u>	
Fri 7 Feb	NSPCC Number Day - non-uniform day FOSS Cake Sale after school
17 - 21 Feb	Half Term (Return on Mon 24 Feb at 8:35am)
27 February	Youth Speaks final in school
6 March	World Book Day
27 March	Mock Trials – Willow Class
2 - 4 April	Y5 Bikeability
Fri 11 April	Term ends at 2pm - Easter Holidays (Return Mon 28 April at 8:35am)
26 - 30 May	Half Term (Return Tues 3 June at 8:35am)
Mon 2 June	INSET
Mon 7 - Wed 9 July	Y6 Residential
Fri 18 July	Term ends at 2pm - Summer Holidays

Spring Term So Far

There have been many fantastic activities happening in school, from intrepid night walks, magistrate visits and chilly trips to the swimming pool.

Willow class are well into practice sessions for their mock trial competition, learning to become excellent orators who can defend and prosecute with accuracy and fairness. They are discovering a lot about what a trial will look like and the different roles in the court, and have been able to see some evidence already.



Oak class have shown wonderful **courage** this term so far, giving it their all in the swimming pool and being brilliant listeners, knowing how important it is to stay safe around water and being **respectful** of the swim teachers. The **resilience** of the children has been remarkable, as they are being challenged to try trickier strokes and different techniques.

As part of their Starry Night topic in Beech class, the children have been learning about people who work at night. They had a visit from a firefighter to tell us all about his job at night time! Beech asked lots of insightful questions and got to try on all of his uniform.





Children's Mental Health Week

February 3rd-9th



Children's Mental Health Week is a mental health awareness week launched by children's mental health charity, **Place2Be**. The week exists to empower, equip and give a voice to all children and young people in the UK.

This year, Children's Mental Health Week is focussing on **Know Yourself, Grow Yourself**.

We want Children's Mental Health Week 2025 to encourage children, young people and adults to embrace self-awareness and explore what it means to them. This will help them grow and develop resilience to cope with what life throws at them.

Linking in with our PSHE Jigsaw lessons, we will be exploring our mental health in school and thinking about toolkits to help us when we feel we need help. Please do talk with your child about their emotions and feelings, and explore the links below.

<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

<https://www.childline.org.uk/toolbox/mental-health-first-aid-kit/>



NSPCC Number Day - Friday 7th February

This coming Friday, we will be dressing up for digits and supporting the NSPCC with Number Day. An email has already gone out but please do support by wearing any number themed clothes on Friday for a suggested donation of £1. We look forward to seeing how creative the children can get with their number outfits!

NEWS FROM FOSS

Our wonderful Friends of Stone School met last week to discuss fundraising for the remainder of the school year. As a community, we are all members of FOSS and I am very grateful to everyone who gives up their time to support the school with their fundraising efforts. We are always on the lookout for people to support and help when fundraising or doing activities in school, even if it is only for a little while - every little bit helps and grows our wonderful school community.

FOSS have raised lots of money for the school recently, and I look forward to revealing that figure in the next newsletter, as well as announcing the events for the rest of the year. In the meantime, please take note of our



Cake Sale this Friday

After school on Friday, FOSS will be running a cake sale to celebrate Number Day. If you can, please do donate cakes - with a number theme if possible - for FOSS to sell at the end of the day.



Safeguarding Update



The latest Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB) newsletter highlights key safeguarding topics, including self-neglect, county lines, and forced marriage. It reminds us to stay vigilant and act promptly if we notice signs of vulnerability or exploitation in our community.

For more information or to report a concern, visit www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gsab.
Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.



every act of kindness

goes further than you'll ever know





Price & Buckland
SCHOOLWEAR SINCE 1889

NEW SCHOOL UNIFORM WEBSITE LAUNCH

On the **11th** of February we will launch our **NEW** website.
The URL remains:
www.price-buckland.co.uk



Website QR code. This will take you to the homepage to search for your school



If you have ordered from our website before, go to the **Account Section** and **re-set** your password. You can use the same password that you have currently.



You can then see previous orders and manage your account.



Any Questions? Call us on 01159 640827