



*Stimpson Avenue Academy*  
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*Executive Head: Sarah Bennett*  
*Head of School: Kim Kemp*

15<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Welcome Back.

I would like to welcome everyone back to school and I hope your child has settled in well into the new Term and is enjoying their time in school.

Home School Learning Links

I really value the support you, the parent/ carers, can provide for your child and their learning. To that end, I would therefore really like to build upon these links and ensure you are more informed about what your child is learning in school and how you can support at home. This is to be achieved in many different ways but includes information being shared and accessible on the website, increased learning opportunities and homework.

Curriculum letters

To ensure you are aware of what your child is learning and the key focus within each subject area this term, every year group has received a curriculum newsletter. This will help you to support your child by engaging in conversation with them about what they are learning at school.

Homework

To build upon the homework already in place, a few new pieces of homework have been introduced.

Spelling - All children from Year one have been sent home a spelling booklet for the Term. These set out the spellings the children are learning in school for that week and will help you support them with these at home. The key thing to focus upon is the spelling rule and how this can be used to help children remember the spellings given. Additionally, the children will have some of the common exception words to learn each week. These words are words in which the English spelling code works in an unusual or uncommon way and often do not follow a spelling rule. There is a list of words for years 1 and 2, a list for years 3 and 4 and finally a list for years 5 and 6. These words are part of the National Curriculum and the word-lists for years 3 and 4 and years 5 and 6 are statutory. High frequency words are common words, words that appear very often in written texts and are therefore introduced within reception.

Mathematics – Games to support the development of different mathematic skills will be sent home every other week. This was trialled with years 1 and 5 before Christmas and was received really positively by the children and parents. Additionally, you will receive a letter informing you about a times tables rock star website that will help support the development of your child's times table skills in a fun and interactive way.

Every child is different so please ensure the homework is manageable for you child. Learning at home should be a positive experience so if you have any concerns please do contact your class teacher to discuss these.

Nanette Moore

I am very sad to inform you that due to personal reasons Nanette Moore will not be returning to Stimpson Avenue Academy. We want her to know our thoughts are with her and we all wish her the very best. Her English group will be taught by Kim Kemp and Nakitta Stocker and her Maths group by Miss Mia Lewis and Nakitta Stocker. If you would like to discuss this then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Open Door Policy

I strongly believe in close partnership with parents/ carers and the importance of this to ensure every child achieves the best they can in all areas of school life. I would therefore like to remind you that if you have any concerns please do always come in and discuss them with staff. If you would like to speak to any staff or me,

and you cannot get hold of us directly, please call the office. You can also email me on [head@stimpsonave.northants-ecl.gov.uk](mailto:head@stimpsonave.northants-ecl.gov.uk)

#### Parent Forum

I am pleased to inform you that two parents Kate Stanton and Katie Weidmann, have met with Sarah Bennett (Executive Principle) and myself about setting up a parent forum to further enhance the relationships between home and school. This is an opportunity for us all to work positively together to best support the children. There will be a letter providing more detailed information about this next week.

#### Change of Inset Day.

Just a reminder that to facilitate staff training, the school will be closed for staff training on Friday 26th February but open on Monday 11th April 2016. This is to accommodate the availability the external trainers had available. Apologies for any inconvenience caused.

#### Attendance and Punctuality

At Stimpson our attendance figures are really positive and are currently at 96.52% for this academic year, which is above the National Average of 95.8%. To continue to promote attendance, 100% and high attendance (99 and 98%) certificates will continue to be rewarded in celebration of these children (and their parents/ carers) achievement. Thank you for all working so hard to ensure your children regularly attend school. Please can I remind you that holiday is not permitted during school time and this will be unauthorised.

Punctuality, however, is a target for us at Stimpson and I would therefore appreciate your support in ensuring your child arrives to school on time. The school doors open at 8.45am and the gates will close by 8.55am. School starts promptly at 9am and any arriving after this time will be marked as 'late'. Children who arrive late into class lose valuable learning time as well as disturbing an already settled classroom. Parents/ Carers of those children who are persistently late will be contacted directly by the school office. If you are having difficulties getting your child into school on time, please do contact the school and we will endeavour to do all we can to support you to ensure your child can arrive on time.

Thank you for your continued support on such an important matter.

#### Years 2 and 6 SATs evening

There will be a Year 2 and 6 SATs (Standard Attainment Tests) information evening held on Thursday 28th January. This will commence at 5.15pm for Year 2 and at 6pm for Year 6. The key aim of this evening is to provide you with key information about the examinations and how you can help support your child. I hope you can join us.

#### E-Safety

E-Safety is becoming increasingly important in the modern world and at Stimpson, we take the responsibility of promoting safe use of technology very seriously. Therefore, an ICT Home/ School agreement will be sent home next week for you to sign and return to school. I would appreciate it if you could return these to us as soon as possible. Thank you.

Useful websites for more information include:

[www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

[www.childnet.com](http://www.childnet.com)

[www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)

[clickcleverclicksafe.direct.gov.uk](http://clickcleverclicksafe.direct.gov.uk)

[www.bbc.co.uk/onlinesafety](http://www.bbc.co.uk/onlinesafety)

Thank you and have a lovely weekend.

Best wishes,

Kimberley Kemp



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- AVENUE -  
ACADEMY

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