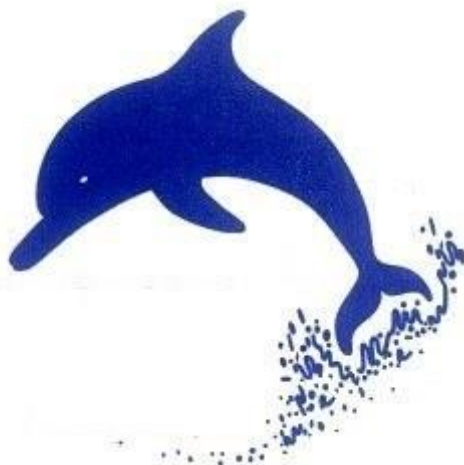




14/03/2025

Headteacher Message





Dear Parents and Carers,

On Monday I welcomed in to school Alice Gleave, she is the Interim Assistant Director SEN Operations at Kent County Council. We walked around the site and she was impressed with how happy and calm the children (and staff) presented. She had a look around the residential provision and was keen to understand the positive impact our provision has on families and young people. It was so nice to meet with someone who 'gets' our pupils and understands the importance of the holistic curriculum offer. I talked about the challenges the school faces including the small classroom sizes and the constant demand for special schools to take more children. It is so sad to have so many consultations for children who desperately need a place in a special school, but I will certainly do all I can to keep our class sizes as low as is financially possible.

Our school values include evolving excellence and empowerment. This week the senior leadership team and some middle leaders attended two days specialist autism SCERTS training. They have come back all fired up and full of enthusiasm. SCERTS is a model that is

used not only in America but across lots of areas of the UK now, due to the inspirational Emily Rueben, who travels from USA to train UK leaders. We will be looking at this approach as a leadership team and hopefully rolling this out next academic year. In due course we will also offer some parents training on SCERTS.

I had a meeting on Tuesday with a KS3 child, who has started a petition for a Thorpe Park school trip! It was lovely to hear his persuasive argument. I have given him the task of researching the demand and booking details and then bringing his presentation of findings to a leadership meeting in the near future.

This week our therapy and nursing team delivered a parent workshop, thank you to those that came along. Please do let us know how we can continue to offer you training / support.

In classes the children have been Rocket obsessed! Every class I have been in has been making rockets, it is lovely to see the pupils so excited about learning. Science week has ended with parents in class this afternoon. Once again thank you for coming into school and helping us to make learning fun.

I hope you all have a great weekend, Jane

### [School Events Calendar](#)



## Weekly Attendance



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*This weeks attendance was 90.6% well done everyone, this is really good!* ☆ ☆

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## Safety Notice!

### **Children under eight should avoid drinking slushies, doctors warn**



Children should completely avoid "slushy" ice drinks containing glycerol, which can make them very ill, until they are at least eight years old, say researchers calling for official health advice to change.

The researchers studied the cases of 21 two-to-seven-year-olds in the UK and Ireland who needed emergency treatment soon after drinking a slushy product.

The brightly coloured drinks are designed to appeal to children - but most contain the naturally occurring sweetener glycerol, instead of sugar, to stop them freezing solid and give the slushy effect.

[Current Food Standards Agency, external](#) (FSA) advice says under-fives should avoid the drinks and under-11s should have no more than one.

The advice is due to concerns that if a young child drinks a slushy too quickly, glycerol intoxication could cause shock, hypoglycaemia (low blood sugar) and loss of consciousness.

For more information you can find the link here [BBC article- Slushies are dangerous for children](#)

## Education Update



This week has been Science week. This links into the My Thinking part of our curriculum as well as other cross curricular opportunities. Students have developed their problem solving skills to make and create rockets as well as other fun activities. The pupils and staff have also enjoyed Imagining Autism and entering the interactive space station and then recalling their experience by writing or talking about it. We have another immersive science activity happening on Monday next week with the Wonderdome coming to our school hall. It was lovely to see so many parents attending the big rocket launch on Friday afternoon. I'm sure you all had as much fun as we did watching all the fantastic rockets being launched!

## Signs of the week





safe



safe



talk



talk



visitor



visitor

## Spotlight on Falcon Class



This term our topic is My world of work

We are reading the book Rosie Revere, Engineer - Andrea Beaty

We are developing our rights everyday with encouragement from the adults. Learning respect and making choices throughout our day.

We are being healthy by playing and learning outside. We love the horticulture area. We always complete the morning mile and our teacher encourages us to play outside in the sun and fresh air.

The best thing about being in our class is everyday is different. We learn, play and have fun.

Next term we are learning About Dinosaurs and Cavemen









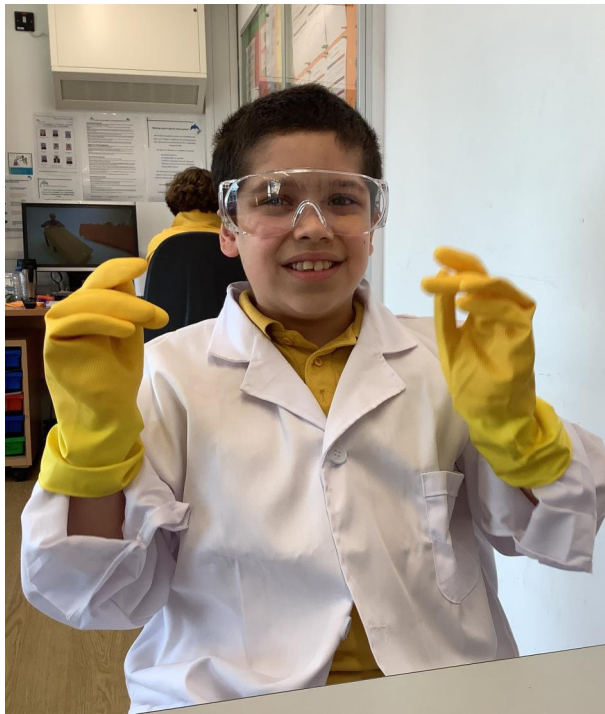




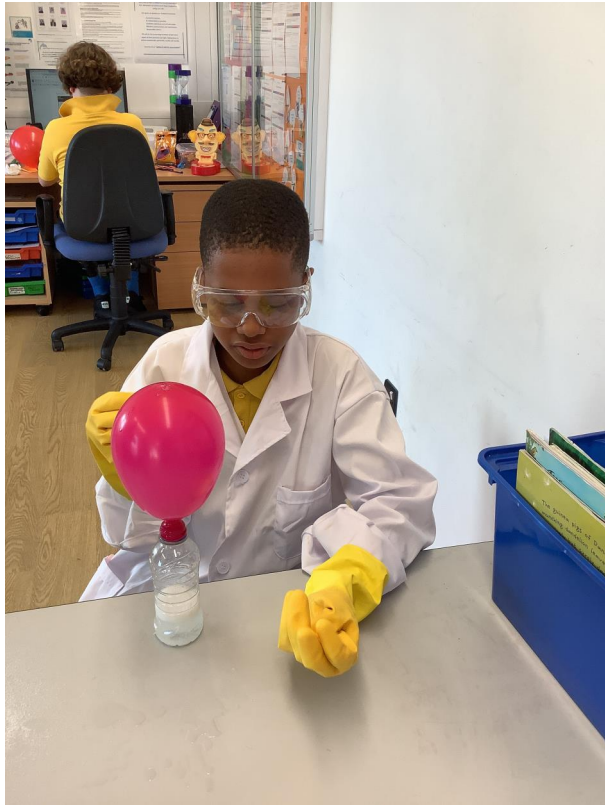










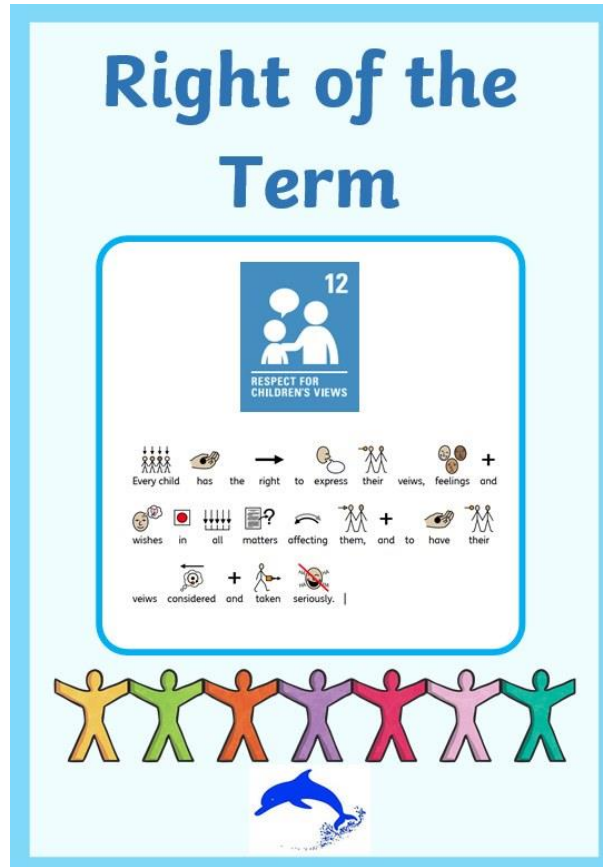




We are a [UNICEF](#) rights respecting school



# Right of the Term



Star of the week



# STONE BAY STAR

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Crow	Taiwo	For great transitions in from the garden this week.
Kingfisher	Stanley	For fantastic engagement in the space-themed imagining autism room experience this week.
Heron	Whole class	a great week exploring space and science
Woodpecker	Rory	For positive engagement, exploration and perseverance in learning and interactions.
Falcon	Kyan	For learning to play solo and use his imagination during choice time.
Kestrel	Bethany	Interacting more with her grid AAC at school.
Starling	Louisa	For remembering to brush her teeth twice a day!
Parakeet	Bella	For engaging more during singing time.
Chaffinch	Hunter	For independent personal care skills
Owl	Brendan	For excellent cutting skills
Red Kite	Josh	For good work during the rocket experiment.
Seagull	Ruby and Teagan	Ruby engaging with enthusiasm at her work experience placement. Teagan huge improvement in her confidence when travelling around the school.
Robin	Stanley	For good communication in My Friendship and Community sessions
Magpie	Josh	For accepting new adults into the classroom and engaging with them positively
Wagtail	Colby	For really good regulation.
Yorkgate	Macie, Ruby, Joshua, Michael Luke, Anderson	For Making Theo feel welcome in Yorkgate flat during his transition visit
Kingsgate	Lewis	For decorating his own bedroom

## Stone Bay families





## Online Courses April - May 2025

Course Code	Course Title	Start	End	Day	Start Time	End Time
149489	Supporting Your Child's Anxiety	24/04/25	24/04/25	THU	12:30	14:30
149882	Fathers Matter	29/04/25	29/04/25	TUE	19:00	21:00
149497	Understanding Your Teenager	29/04/25	20/05/25	TUE	19:00	21:00
149919	Supporting ADHD In The Home	01/05/25	22/05/25	THU	09:30	11:30
148525	Keeping Up With The Children - Maths	07/05/25	28/05/25	WED	12:30	14:30
149428	Stepping Up Into Primary	07/05/25	07/05/25	WED	09:30	11:30
149492	Supporting Your Child's Anxiety	07/05/25	07/05/25	WED	19:00	21:00
149517	Exploring Behaviour Strategies	12/05/25	12/05/25	MON	10:00	12:00
148668	Family First Aid	12/05/25	19/05/25	MON	09:30	11:30
149513	Navigating The Perimenopause & Menopause Workshop	14/05/25	14/05/25	WED	19:00	21:00

To help us provide the best possible experience for you, please let us know if you or your child have any disabilities or particular support needs.



To book your place on one of these **FREE** courses, go to [www.kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk](http://www.kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk) and enter the course code into the search box.

For further information, email

[businesssupport2@kent.gov.uk](mailto:businesssupport2@kent.gov.uk)

Call 03000 41 22 22



Kent Adult Education is part of Community Learning and Skills

[kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk](http://kentadulthoodeducation.co.uk)

**Bringing learning to life**

Post 16 School Transport for Mainstream and SEND Students

Public consultation closes 23 March 2025

Visit [www.kent.gov.uk/post16consultation](http://www.kent.gov.uk/post16consultation) for more details

Have your say!

KCC are inviting comments on a draft Post 16 Transport Policy Statements for 2025-26 and 2026-27 academic years. The Statement for 2026-27, which includes support for 19+ learners with SEND proposes a number of changes and they want learning providers, parents and students to be able to consider these and tell us their views.

More information can be found on the consultation webpage [www.kent.gov.uk/post16consultation](http://www.kent.gov.uk/post16consultation) Consultation closes 23 March.



Monthly parent peer support group on Tuesday 18th March at 10am, upstairs in Canterbury Umbrella.

This is a safe space to talk about the ups and downs of parenting a neurodivergent child, share tips, and make connections.

We offer a non-judgemental space with other parents who are in the same boat.

The session is free to attend, and there is a café downstairs at Canterbury Umbrella where you can purchase drinks and snacks.

Parking is available at Canterbury Umbrella, or the nearest pay and display car park is located at North Lane.

## SCHOOL UNIFORM

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*We have a huge surplus of school uniform which has been donated by parents/carers - if you are in need of anything, please send a message to the office with what you need and what size and if we have it we will send it home 😊*

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### Home/School Contact



In line with our [home/school communication policy](#) we would like to remind parents/carers that during the day your child's class teacher is needed in class and cannot take phone calls, this is disruptive to the learning environment.

Teachers can be contacted via class Dojo/email. If you need to speak to them about something urgent, please inform the office who can get a message to them, if the teacher needs to call you back for more info they will do so.

Pupil medical appointments/absences are to be reported to the school office.

If you are concerned about something, please give a brief description of your concern to the office who can escalate it to the appropriate member of staff. They will arrange a telephone call/meeting to discuss further.

For complaints, please see our [complaints policy](#)

## Our Residential Provision



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*We are evolving excellence by exceeding the National Minimum Standards for Residential Special Schools. Each week we will show you how we are doing!*

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### **This weeks Standard is Standard 2: Leadership and management**

"The school's governing body monitor the effectiveness of the leadership, management and delivery of the residential and welfare provision in the school, and take appropriate action where necessary.

Alex Krutnik is our chair of governors and he oversees the governor monitoring of our residential provision, however other governors also complete monitoring visits.

At his last visit he summarised his visit with

***"I came away feeling that the residential boarder's were very happy and were supported well by the staff team and were clearly benefiting from their stay at Stone Bay"***

*Leaders ensure that there is a mutually supportive and reinforcing approach, between (i) the educational provision and (ii) the residential provision, which is centred around the child. Individuals working in each aspect of provision should be able to challenge each other where necessary".*

We have recently commenced formal termly meetings with the residential team leaders and the class teacher, this is to ensure a child centred and consistent approach to care and learning are in place, "Getting it right for every pupil". We know that by talking about pupils we can all learn from each other and evolve our excellent practise.



This week in Yorkgate we have enjoyed taking part in science week, the theme for this was change and adapt. We incorporated sensory activities with fun science within the flat which all the students enjoyed. We started with Magic Milk, which demonstrates how soap breaks down the fat in the milk and disperses the food colouring in the milk to swirl around. We then went on to do water and pepper, this shows how pepper doesn't absorb into the water and will stick to items when they enter the water (such as a hand) again when soap was applied to the hand before entering the pepper disperses away and does not stick. Lastly we all enjoyed Gloop, which presents as solid if you hit it or grab it but returns to liquid when we are still or gentle.

We have continued to discover healthier snack options with our students choosing from a variety of cut fruit at snack time. In between the science fun, working on independent living skills such laying the table and preparing drinks. We have, at any opportunity, enjoyed being outside in the adventure playground. Finally this week we had a new student complete his first transition visit to the flat, everyone was very welcoming and we look forward to his return for another dinner visit next week.

Next week we are looking forward to another busy week, we have St. Patrick's day on Monday, Global recycling day on Tuesday, World happiness day and world oral health day on Thursday, and finishing off with red nose day on Friday.

Have a lovely Weekend,

The Yorkgate Team.







*1 - Spotlight on Heather*

My name is Heather

I have worked at Stone Bay for 10 years and I'm the class teacher for Red Kite.

The thing I love most about my job is watching the students progress and hearing how we have made a difference to their families. The smallest achievements can make such a big difference and seeing the students smile when they get there is fantastic. Everyone works together to make this possible for our students everyday.

## Our Vision, Mission & Values



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*Our school vision is to provide an **outstanding, nurturing, learning environment**, where all our pupils can achieve their full potential and progress to lead happy and fulfilling lives.*

*Our mission is to provide each and every pupil with the best possible education, delivered in an environment that is supportive, caring and safe. **“Getting it right for every pupil”***

*At Stone Bay we focus on **Evolving Excellence** in all that we do, working towards making our school the best it can be for pupils, staff and families. We are creating lasting **Trust** with all our stakeholders, **Empowering** each other to learn and grow. By adhering to policies and clear processes we ensure **Fairness** and transparency in our decision making and actions, whilst ensuring we are **Collaborating** with others and always looking for ways to help each other to deliver excellence for our pupils.*

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[Click here for our term dates](#)

**Mindful March 2025**

SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1 Set an intention to live with awareness and kindness	2 Notice three things you find beautiful in the outside world	3 Start today by appreciating your body and that you're alive	4 Notice how you speak to yourself and choose to use kind words	5 Bring to mind people you care about and send love to them	6 If you find yourself rushing, make an effort to slow down	7 Take three calm breaths at regular intervals during your day
8 Eat mindfully. Appreciate the taste, texture and smell of your food	9 Take a full breath in and out before you reply to others	10 Get outside and notice how the weather feels on your face	11 Stay fully present while drinking your cup of tea or coffee	12 Listen deeply to someone and really hear what they are saying	13 Pause to watch the sky or clouds for a few minutes today	14 Find ways to enjoy any chores or tasks that you do
15 Stop. Breathe. Notice. Repeat regularly	16 Get really absorbed with an interesting or creative activity	17 Look around and spot three things you find unusual or pleasant	18 Have a 'no plans' day and notice how that feels	19 Cultivate a feeling of loving-kindness towards others today	20 Focus on what makes you and others happy today	21 Listen to a piece of music without doing anything else
22 Notice something that is going well, even if today feels difficult	23 Tune into your feelings, without judging or trying to change them	24 Appreciate your hands and all the things they enable you to do	25 Focus your attention on the good things you take for granted	26 Choose to spend less time looking at screens today	27 Appreciate nature around you, wherever you are	28 Notice when you're tired and take a break as soon as possible
29 Choose a different route today and see what you notice	30 Mentally scan your body and notice what it is feeling	31 Discover the joy in the simple things of life				

**ACTION FOR HAPPINESS**      **Happier · Kinder · Together**