



# SPRING TERM (2)

25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2024

WEEK 6



## The Value of the Week is Appreciation

This week the value we will be discussing is Appreciation. We will begin the week as usual with our whole school Circle Time.

Research shows that *“feeling and expressing gratitude helps people feel more positive emotions, relish good experiences, improve their health, deal with adversity, and build strong relationships.”*



Feeling appreciation is difficult for children since it seems to develop with maturity.

It's common for us to tell our children, “Say thank you”, “Say please”, and “Ask me when you want to go to a friend's house rather than telling me.” We are sure you have many more directions that you give your children to mould them into being appreciative children. What often gets forgotten, however, is that children learn about appreciation by how we, as adults, treat them more than by how we tell them to treat others. Our behavior shows our children how much we value them.

As parents/teachers, it's easy to get drawn into what the children aren't doing or how they are acting that we're not happy about. This focus can put a drain on a relationship. Instead, at Stepping Stones/at home, it is important that we put specific energy into showing the children that they add value and meaning to our school/family life.

We will be teaching the children and helping them to understand that Appreciation is the recognition and enjoyment of the good qualities of someone or something. At school this week the staff will be showing their appreciation for all the children's hard work and effort; their positive mindset and determination, by having a celebration day on Thursday, as we prepare for the Easter Break!

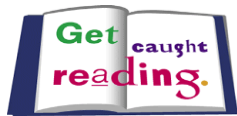
The children will be practicing this in their classes this week and discussing in their classes what Appreciation can both look and feel like to each of us, daily.


Remember we love to hear about how the children are showing and sharing our school values at home! Look out for examples when your child has shown appreciation within the family! Then simply message the class teacher via Class Dojo for a home nomination, which will be read out and celebrated at Daily Meeting.

Finally, Can-do Colin was out and about over the weekend and we can't wait to hear about all of his adventures – please do remember to send in some photos of his exploits with your child on Class Dojo. Thank you, we really do value your input from home. 😊



### Key Reminders



We are still running our **“Get Caught Reading”** initiative too. If you see your child reading – snap a photo and send it in on their Class Dojo with a comment of what they were reading and how they were enjoying their book. Each photo sent in will mean 20 bonus points for your child, each time a photo is sent in. We can't wait to display everyone's lovely photos to celebrate the importance and love of reading we share at Stepping Stones! The initiative ends this week, thank you. 

### Attendance Matters



### Attendance and Booking Holidays during Term Time

Attendance matters! School has been looking at the attendance data over the half term and have noticed a few key children with growing absences. This will be closely monitored over the coming weeks; and we will be in touch with further information to support if required.

All children need to be in school unless they are unwell.

Secondly, if you are booking holidays *during term time*, please be mindful that these will not be authorized, unless in exceptional circumstances. Any child on a dual placement e.g. still on roll at a mainstream school, should have the holiday request authorised by their mainstream school.

### Headteacher Awards



**Hazel Class: Jensen**, for being an outstanding school representative during the interview meeting for the prospective new headteacher. 😊

The children continue to work hard in their classes as they develop their understanding and knowledge of their half-term topics in geography, history, science, art etc. This week we were able to share some work during *Work Wednesday again*. The House Captains collected some examples of learning their team-mates were particularly proud of. This week it was the turn of **Einstein House**.

**Learning Highlights:**



**Finley** was eager to share his IT learning this week where he had used both an old and new software programme to move a story recorded on paper onto the screen and turn it into a video! Amazing Finley! 😊

**Tyler**, though a little shy, was proud to share some of his writing this week. We all enjoyed seeing the progress he is making with his sentence writing and use of vocabulary and punctuation. Fabulous Tyler! 😊

**Tommy** was very proud to share his clay art work and watercolour painting he had completed. Everyone was very impressed with the level of detail and obvious care he had taken to complete both projects – Amazing Tommy! 😊



The children had a very busy week last week learning all about neurodiversity. Look out for the photos of their activities posted on your child's class dojo.

And a **BIG THANK YOU** to Moorside children and parents and yourselves for attending/sending in money for our fundraising Cake Sale. It was a great success and all monies raised will contribute to the children's extra-curriculum activities and resources.



Thank you for your continued support. The children continue to build positive relationships in class teams; and are busy making all of our new pupils feel welcome! Thank you so much for mirroring our school ethos and school values at home.

Please remember that we are here to support you and you can contact Mrs Armstrong (Family Support – Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday).

Ms Hamer and the whole staff team at Stepping Stones School



**School Closes for the Easter Holiday this week, after school on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 3pm.**



**Wishing all our families a very happy and safe Easter holiday time!**

**We re-open and return to school on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024.**