

**★★★★★ This Week's Superstars! ★★★★★**

<b>Reception:</b> Aurora Rosebank & Henry Burns-Nicholl		<b>Golden Book Award</b>
<b>Year 1:</b> Eve Wright & Lucas Ivatt		<b>Tessa Mayer</b>
<b>Year 2:</b> Pearl Pickering & Erin Fisher		
<b>Year 3:</b> Esme Maguire & Rebecca Whittle		
<b>Year 4:</b> Ayrton Waterfall-Hallam & Isabella Bond-Marshall		<b>Mr Danson will give out the certificates in classes on Friday.</b>
<b>Year 5:</b> Charlie Taylor & Elliot Gerezdi		<b>Look out for them coming home!</b>
<b>Year 6:</b> Harley Wright & Joseph Murray		
<b>This week's winning team colour is RED!</b>		

Dear Parents & Friends,

The first half term of the 2020/2021 Academic Year draws to a close tomorrow, and what a half term it has been! I would like to thank my Staff and Governors for their hard work and support in enabling the school to operate safely. Every member of the team has 'gone the extra mile', including Teachers, Cleaners, Teaching Assistants and Lunchtime Staff. We could not operate, of course, without the support and understanding of the parents and families of Stubbins, and we really appreciate your working together with us to keep our children safe, happy and learning. Here's to next half term!



**Another Gloomy Headline?**

We are so used to seeing doom and gloom in the headlines, that you might think the headline 'British Summertime Ends' is just another depressing fact to add to the mix. However, it means that the clocks will change on Sunday (October 25<sup>th</sup>), going back one hour at 2am. This gives you an extra hour in bed and it means that the half term holiday is an hour longer! You see – there are positives in everything!

**School Admissions**

As you know, school admissions are now open for those children due to start primary or secondary school in September 2021. Apply online at <https://www.lancashire.gov.uk> or simply Google Lancashire school admissions. The statutory closing dates are: **31 October 2020 for secondary applicants / 15 January 2021 for primary applicants**



**School Photographs -17<sup>th</sup> November**

I am delighted to announce that we have a photographer coming into school to take the individual school photographs on 17<sup>th</sup> November. We have taken time to consider how we can do this safely, and we have worked with the photographer to ensure that everything is in place. The photographer will remain 2 metres from the children and will not adjust their hair or collars etc. Classes will enter the hall one at a time so that bubbles are preserved. Regrettably, we are unable to offer sibling photographs this year – all photographs will be available to purchase in time for Christmas.



**Nasal Flu Vaccinations – 18<sup>th</sup> November**

The Nasal Flu Vaccinations for all children will be carried out on the morning of Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November. Consent forms will be sent out beforehand. The children's flu vaccine is offered as a yearly nasal spray to young children to help protect them against flu. Flu can be a very unpleasant illness for children, with potentially [serious complications](#), including bronchitis and pneumonia. However, the vaccination not only protects the child, more importantly it helps stop the spread of the illness especially to those older members of the family such as grandparents. It can cause severe illness and even death among vulnerable groups including older people, pregnant women and people with an underlying health condition.

**School Meals**

The current school meals menu will come to an end at October Half Term. When we return on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, the children will once again be enjoying a warm school meal served on trays. Our priority is always to ensure that we keep the children safe, and we have worked hard to devise a way of serving warm meals once again. There will never be more than two classes in the dinner hall, separated appropriately, and we will deliver the meals to the classrooms nearest to the hall (Reception, Year 2 and Year 6). I think that it important that the children have a proper dinner as we move into the colder months, and I am confident that our new system will be able to deliver this. The new lunch menu will be sent home immediately after half term.



To receive this Newsletter by email, simply contact [head@stubbins.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@stubbins.lancs.sch.uk) .

*Mr. J. Danson*

## Half Term Holiday!

School closes for half term at the end of the day tomorrow (Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020) and we re-open on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November. This is such an exciting time of year with Halloween and Bonfire Night, not to mention the darker night signalling the arrival of Christmas. There are things that we can't do this year, like Trick or Treat, gathering with friends for bonfires or attending organised displays.

When I was a child, Dad would be in charge of lighting a very small box of fireworks (which were tiny by today's standards). There would always be a small bonfire. There is great concern this year that, in the absence of organised displays, families will once again light bonfires and set off their own fireworks. It would be absolutely devastating if a single child or family was injured or burnt because of this, and we are strongly advising that other options are considered.

### My Suggestions for Halloween / Bonfire Night!

- **Virtual Fireworks.** Type 'Virtual Fireworks Display' into Google and show it on the biggest TV you have. My favourite is the Disney display (Don't forget to turn the sound up!) [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bN5b11H4\\_s&safe=active](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bN5b11H4_s&safe=active) (You can find virtual bonfires online too!)
- **Traditional Games.** Many of the games associated with the season are cheap and can be great fun. Try bobbing for apples, wrapping a member of the family up as a 'mummy' in loo roll (no panic buying please!) or perhaps your very own lockdown Halloween Disco!
- **Pumpkin Trail** – Don't forget the Stubbins School PTA Pumpkin Trail! ... Why not make your own?
- **Halloween & Bonfire Night food.** BBQ's are not just for the summer! Why not have an autumn BBQ, wrap up warm and serve the usual hot dogs and burgers. Don't forget toffee apples, baked potatoes, and treacle toffee – and why not make some scary Halloween snacks? BBC Good Food has great ideas for this. <https://www.bbcgoodfood.com/recipes/collection/halloween-recipes>
- **Decorate the house!** Making decorations together and putting them up can be just as much fun as the party! Put 'Halloween Decorations' into any search engine for hundreds of ideas!

### Other Half-Term Ideas:

- **Sock Puppets.** [www.loveyourclothes.org.uk](http://www.loveyourclothes.org.uk) has some great ideas for making puppets out of old socks, as well as activity packs to download – maybe make a spooky sock puppet?
- **Kids Big Bag of Craft, £6 from The Works.** For low-cost crafting activities, this big bag of crafting supplies is available to buy for just £6 from [TheWorks.co.uk](http://TheWorks.co.uk). The bag includes supplies for card-making such as pom-poms, glitter glue, googly eyes and sequins. The supplies are suitable for children over five years and are sure to keep them busy during the school holidays.
- **Go for a walk!** There are many restrictions in place, and sometimes our freedoms seem to be limited – so enjoy the freedom of the local hills and valleys!



### PTA Pumpkin Trail – 23<sup>rd</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> October

We are so grateful to everybody who has volunteered to carve a pumpkin and display it as part of the Pumpkin Trail. Special thanks to Clare Waterfall-Hallam for organising this and getting everything together – and for the amazing artwork! I have attached the posters, Pumpkin Trail Map and list of Pumpkins to find. Ways to donate to PTA funds are also included. Thank you – and Enjoy! 😊

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*Mr. J. DANSON*