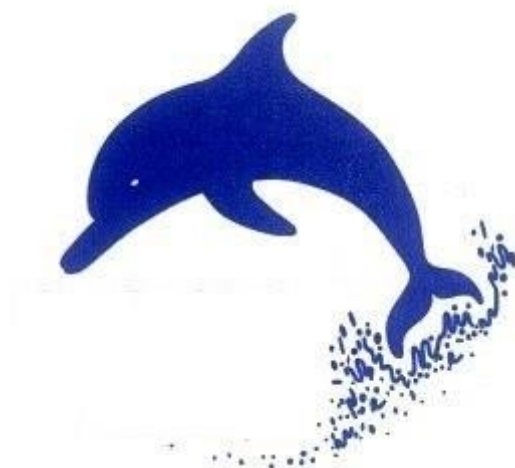




28/03/2025

Headteacher Message





Dear Parents and Carers,

It's been another exciting week here at Stone Bay School, and I wanted to share some highlights from our recent Student Council meeting. On Thursday, our Student Council members had the chance to meet with Sandy from the kitchen to talk about school meals and give feedback. It was a fantastic opportunity for students to have a voice in what they're eating, and I'm pleased to say that the majority of the meals were a big hit! Of course, there were a few that didn't quite make the grade, and Sandy asked for suggestions to replace them. Some great ideas were shared, including sausage rolls, pancakes, apple crumble, and even double cheeseburgers! Sandy has taken all the feedback back to the kitchen, and they'll be reviewing the menu with these ideas in mind.

We also had the chance to look at all the fantastic logos designed by our students for the Student Council. It was tough to choose a winner, but after narrowing it down to two, we had a staff vote, and we're happy to announce that the winning logo, designed by Joseph Jones, has been selected! Well done, Joseph!

Finally, as the weather's starting to improve, the Student Council discussed some fun ideas for activities and days out over the next couple of terms. The suggestions included exciting options like trips to Alton Towers and Thorpe Park, as well as more local outings like Wildwood, beach days with picnics, and water fights in the garden! The students also suggested bouncy castles, football and basketball clubs, and even more discos—there's a lot to look forward to!

I'm excited to see what the rest of the term brings, and it's wonderful to see our students so engaged and enthusiastic about shaping their school experience. Thank you to everyone for your continued support, and I can't wait to share more updates with you soon!

Have a lovely weekend of sunshine and happy mothers day! I hope you all have a wonderful day on Sunday 🌸

Jane

PS Next Friday is end of term and school closes to pupils at 1.30pm, please ensure you let your transport provider know.

[School Events Calendar](#)



Weekly Attendance



This weeks attendance was 91.3% 🇪🇺 ⭐⭐⭐

Education Update



Our Value: Evolving Excellence

As a school we strive to achieve excellence in every area. In teaching and learning we are focussing on **ENGAGEMENT IN LEARNING** and how we can achieve the best possible engagement from all our pupils. Understanding Autism is crucial in achieving this. We are continuing to train all our staff in understanding Autism and further developing their expertise. This week we have a spot light on:



Autistic people tend to have **monotropic** minds.

Someone with a monotropic mind focuses on **one** or few things but in **great detail** and often with great **enjoyment**. They find it difficult to switch attention, change the environment or move to another task. If forced, it may be very overwhelming or distressing for that person.

‘Don’t expect me to be able to just stop what I am doing’

‘My whole brain may be invested and I may not be able to detach from it’

Signs of the week



 <p>Easter</p>	 <p>Easter</p>
 <p>chocolate</p>	 <p>chocolate</p>
 <p>Easter egg</p>	 <p>Easter egg</p>

Spotlight on Seagull Class



This term our topic is all about plants. We planted some Sweet Pea seeds and placed them in a planter on our sunny windowsill. Every day the girls in Seagull Class give the plants a spritz with a water bottle. They are growing really well and will soon be transferred to our class garden which we are currently designing and decorating.

We are reading the book Jack and the Beanstalk to generate conversations about growing plants.

We are developing our rights by showing an interest in the plans for our funky garden space!

We are being healthy by learning about growing fruits and vegetables.

The best thing about being in our class is our lovely sunny windows and friends who make us laugh. Next term we are learning about catering and service. We will also continue with our gardening interests.



We are a UNICEF rights respecting school



Star of the week





Stone Bay families



[Eric - The Children's Bowel and Bladder Charity](https://www.eric-charity.org/)

This charity has some great resources on their website -

- [symbols to create a visual schedule](#)
- [social story to explain the process of going to the toilet](#)
- [Wee colour chart checker](#)
- [Sensory needs and toileting](#)
- [Constipation and Autism](#)
- [Poo diary](#)



This session will be ran by Lou and will be really beneficial if your child is turning 16 in the next year. It will be centred around the process of reapplying for transport at that stage, the costs associated with it and how bursaries can help to offset those. Or if your child is already 16 but you'd like some more info on bursaries, please come along ☺

Please complete this short form if you would like to join:

<https://forms.gle/HDWkE9FoASQGcpBb8>

[Change](#)
[WHAT'S ON](#)
[PRIVILEGE CARD](#)
[GIFT CARDS](#)
[ABOUT US](#)

AUTISM ACCEPTANCE MONTH: A MINECRAFT MOVIE SENSORY SCREENING

Running time: 101 mins

Genre: Family, Adventure, Comedy

Directed by: Jared Hess

Release Date: 04/04/2025

Starring: Jason Momoa, Jack Black, Emma Myers, Danielle Brooks, Sebastian Eugene Hansen, and Jennifer Coolidge.

To mark Autism Acceptance Month we are screening A Minecraft Movie with adjustments made to make the experience more relaxed. The Film will be preceded by a fifteen minute countdown timer, which will start counting down at the advertised start time. There will be no adverts or trailers and throughout the film there will be lower sound and our lights will be left on a low setting. It is crucial that neurodivergent guests, their families and carers, can access our cinema with settings to help overcome barriers to entry. We look forward to seeing families new and familiar for this special screening. All are welcome to attend, but empathy and patience is a must. Welcome to the world of Minecraft, where creativity doesn't just help you craft, it's essential to one's survival! Four misfits find themselves struggling with ordinary problems when they are suddenly pulled through a mysterious portal into the Overworld. To get back home, they'll have to master this world while embarking on a magical quest with an unexpected, expert crafter, Steve.

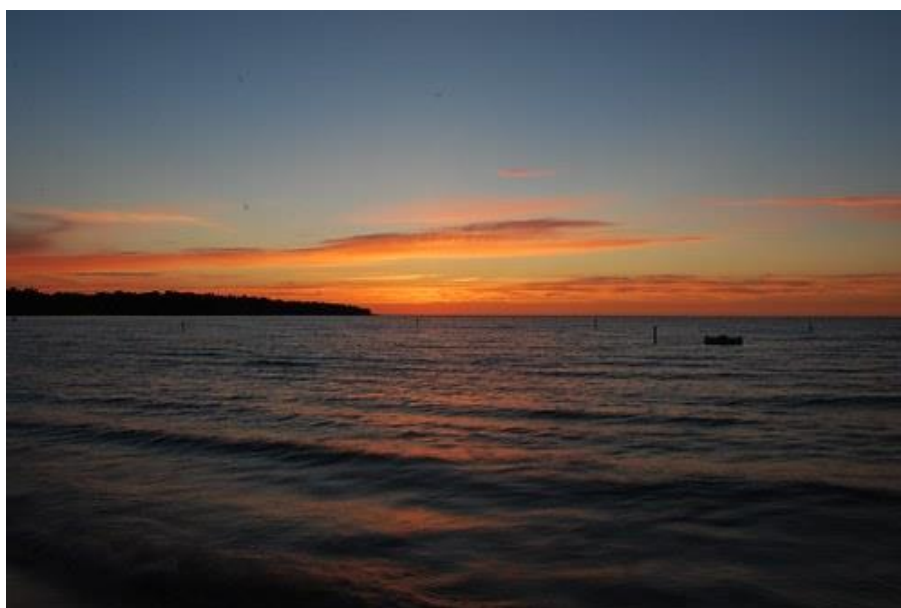
Sun 06 Apr



Next Friday 4th April is the last day of term, pupil's will be finishing at 13:30

Please remember to let your child's transport know if they travel to school by taxi ☺

Our Residential Provision



This weeks Residential Standard is.....

Standard 4: Inclusion, equality, and diversity "Children are not discriminated against, paying particular regard to the legally protected characteristics and requirements set out in the Equality Act 20104."

We can evidence how we met this standard this week as ALL of our pupils in residential accessed and had fun with INCLUSIVE SPORTS!

Please see the link to our website where you can see our [STATEMENT OF PURPOSE](#). It has lots of photos and information.

This week the residential students have been engaging in activities that focus on Teamwork and learning new skills.

All of the students have enjoyed the use of the main garden this week, some participating in games of football, some enjoying time in the adventure playground and some simply enjoying the calm surroundings and fresh air. Spending time outside benefits the students emotional wellbeing, as well as promoting a love for nature, our surroundings and to help reduce stress.

We have certainly made the most of the sunshine, with some students going for walks into the community, shopping in the town and admiring the views on a seafront stroll.

On Wednesday we had our first Inclusive Sport session with Coach Hannah. Coach Hannah scattered a variety of sports balls along with mini football goals, and training ladders around the main garden for the students to explore. Staff encouraged games of catching and throwing by pairing up with students, this helps towards their hand eye coordination and balance and agility. Both Kingsgate and Yorkgate had a fantastic time with Coach Hannah and we are all looking forward to next Wednesday's session.

We ended our week with a Sing-along with Mark in the hall. This activity boosted a positive happy mindset and helped the students work as a team as they all decided what animals they wanted on Old McDonalds farm, encouraging them to then remember all those animals they had previously mentioned. It also gave us the opportunity to practice our Makaton with some of our students doing fantastic signs to the songs.

Overall this week has promoted a sense of community and belonging within the flats and the students showed amazing Teamwork.

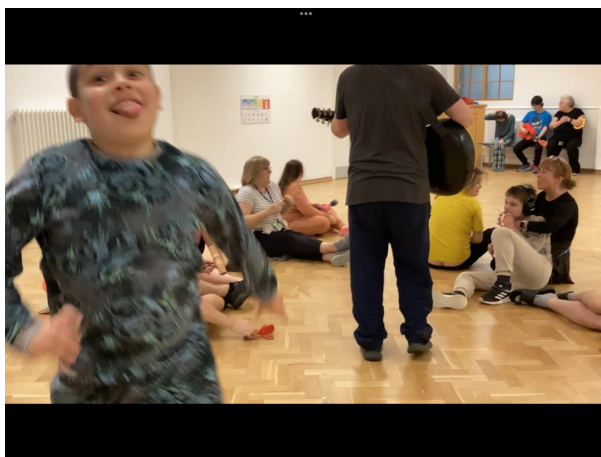
Next week we are looking forward to another Inclusive Sport session, this session will be in a circuit with students travelling from one sport to another around the garden (Weather depending).

We are also planning cuddle time with some of the animals from the horticulture area to help promote empathy and compassion.

We will end the term with some more singing from Mark and our very popular disco/karaoke Thursday!

Have a lovely weekend

Kingsgate and Yorkgate Team





Stone Bay School – Keeping Your Autistic Child Safe at Home

At Stone Bay School, the safety and well-being of every one of our students is our top priority. All of our pupils have a diagnosis of autism, and we understand that they may face unique challenges when it comes to staying safe at home and in the community. We want to share some practical tips to help you create a safe, supportive environment for your child at home.

What is Safeguarding for Autistic Children?

Safeguarding for our autistic students goes beyond protecting them from harm; it's about creating a space where they feel secure, understood, and supported in everything they do. It's also about helping them navigate the world around them in a way that makes sense to them. At Stone Bay, we work closely with you to make sure your child has the tools and support they need, both in school and at home.

How Can You Keep Your Child Safe at Home?

Here are some ways you can help your child stay safe, comfortable, and happy at home:

- **Establish Routines:** Children with autism often find comfort and security in routine. A predictable schedule helps them know what to expect and reduces anxiety. You can create visual timetables or social stories to help your child understand and prepare for transitions throughout the day.
- **Sensory Considerations:** Many autistic children are highly sensitive to sensory input. Pay attention to the sounds, lights, and textures around your home. If your child is sensitive to noise, using noise-cancelling headphones, reducing background noise, or creating a quiet space may help. Similarly, adjusting lighting or using soft fabrics can help make your home feel more comfortable.
- **Safety Around the Home:** It's important to make sure your home is safe and accessible for your child. This may involve securing sharp objects, storing cleaning products safely, and considering safety gates or locks for areas like kitchens and bathrooms. You might also need to adapt certain spaces to make them more calming for your child, such as having a "safe space" where they can retreat when feeling overwhelmed.
- **Clear and Simple Communication:** Autistic children may find it easier to understand instructions when they are simple, clear, and consistent. Using visual aids, Makaton sign language, or written instructions alongside simple verbal communication can help your child feel more confident in understanding expectations. Be patient and give them time to process information.
- **Teach Safety Skills:** It's important to help your child understand basic safety concepts. These might include knowing how to call for help in an emergency, how to safely cross the road, or how to recognise when they need to take a break. Teaching these

skills in a calm, structured environment will help your child feel more in control and safe.

How We Can Support You

At Stone Bay, we are here to support both you and your child in every way we can. If you ever have concerns or need advice on how to best safeguard your child at home, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're always available to offer guidance, resources, and support tailored to your child's individual needs.

Together, we can ensure that Stone Bay remains a safe and nurturing place where your child can thrive, feel secure, and continue to grow.



1 - Spotlight on Elena

My name is Elena

I have worked at Stone Bay for almost two years.

I'm part of the office team, focusing on finance.

The thing I love most about my job is being part of a supportive team and knowing that my work helps ensure the school runs smoothly for the students and their families. I really enjoy the variety of tasks and being able to contribute to such a positive environment. It's also incredibly rewarding to see the children explore, learn, and have fun in a safe and welcoming space with the supportive and caring staff.

Our Vision, Mission & Values



*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.

[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