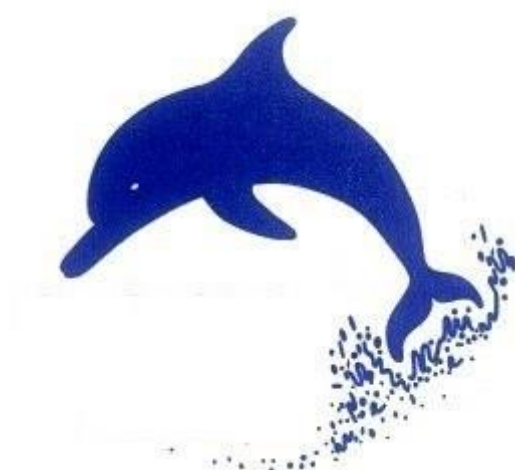




27/06/2025

Headteacher Message





🌟 Dear Parents and Carers,

As we close out another busy and vibrant week at Stone Bay, I want to thank you all for your continued support and engagement. Our pupils have been shining brightly through a wide range of activities—from sports and assessments to creative projects and residential preparations. It's a joy to see their resilience, growth and curiosity in every corner of the school.

💡 Health & Wellbeing Reminder

I'd like to take a moment to gently inform you that we are currently experiencing a **sickness and diarrhoea bug** affecting a number of pupils (12 this week) and staff. We understand how disruptive this can be and want to reassure you that we are taking this very seriously.

✅ **Deep cleaning is already underway** in all classrooms and shared spaces.

✅ We are closely monitoring all cases and continuing enhanced hygiene practices throughout the day.

However, we do need your help.

Please do not return your child to school until 48 hours have passed since their last episode of sickness or diarrhoea.

This is in line with our "Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs Policy written from NHS guidance, is absolutely essential to prevent the virus from spreading further. We are finding that the **main challenge is children returning too soon** after illness or returning whilst still unwell—this puts others at risk, including our most vulnerable pupils and staff.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding in keeping our community safe and well.

End of Term Highlights

As we head into the final weeks of term, here's a snapshot of what's been happening and what's still to come:

- **Personalised Learning Reviews, Statutory Assessments** and **End of Year Reports** are in their final stages.
- Classes are embracing the **Interoception Curriculum**, and lesson observations have highlighted some fantastic autism-specific strategies.
- Our **TEACCH and AAC training** programmes are supporting communication and structured learning across the school, Bethia and Lynne who are experts in the field have been training other teachers and TAs on TEACCH approaches. Huge thanks to them both for going the extra mile!
- Pupils have been preparing for **Arts Award accreditation**, and exciting enrichment days like the **Monster Kickabout** and **today we had our wonderful Sports day!** The day has been a great success from first thing this morning we have had back to back sports day events. Rob our curriculum leader for My Body did a superb job organising and leading the event. Well done Rob and Tahira and big thanks to all the parents who turned up- today was a record breaker for parents, we had over **80 of you come along today.** 🏆
- We're also looking forward to the upcoming **PGL Residential**—a true highlight of the year!

And don't forget—our **Summer Fete** is just around the corner on **Saturday 5th July, 12–2pm.** We can't wait to see you there!

Thank you again for your continued support. Let's all do our bit to stay healthy and finish the term strong and smiling.

Jane

[illegible]

This weeks attendance was 91.8% ☆☆☆☆☆

What is TEACCH



The TEACCH (Treatment and Education of Autistic and Communication related handicapped Children) approach is a structured teaching model designed to support individuals with autism across all ages. Recently two of our staff members received training and are now in the process of training staff across the school in the approach. Although the TEACCH approach already underpins a lot of how our classes and lessons are set up and structured, we will be embedding it more into pupils' learning.


TEACCH focuses on understanding the unique learning styles of autistic individuals and provides structured environments, visual supports, and clear routines to enhance learning and independence.

Key elements include physical organization, visual schedules, structured work systems, and clear task instructions. These help reduce anxiety, improve focus, and make expectations more predictable. TEACCH builds on the strengths of autistic children—such as visual processing—while addressing challenges like communication difficulties and transitions.

By fostering independence and minimizing reliance on verbal instructions, TEACCH supports cognitive, emotional, and social development. It also encourages collaboration with families and educators for consistency across settings. Overall, TEACCH offers a flexible, person-centered approach that empowers autistic children to better understand their environment and participate meaningfully in daily life.

Signs of the week



 <p>games</p>	 <p>games</p>
 <p>money</p>	 <p>Rub fingertips and thumb together</p> <p>money</p>
 <p>buy</p>	 <p>Draw hand back over palm closing fist</p> <p>buy</p>

Spotlight on Kestrel Class



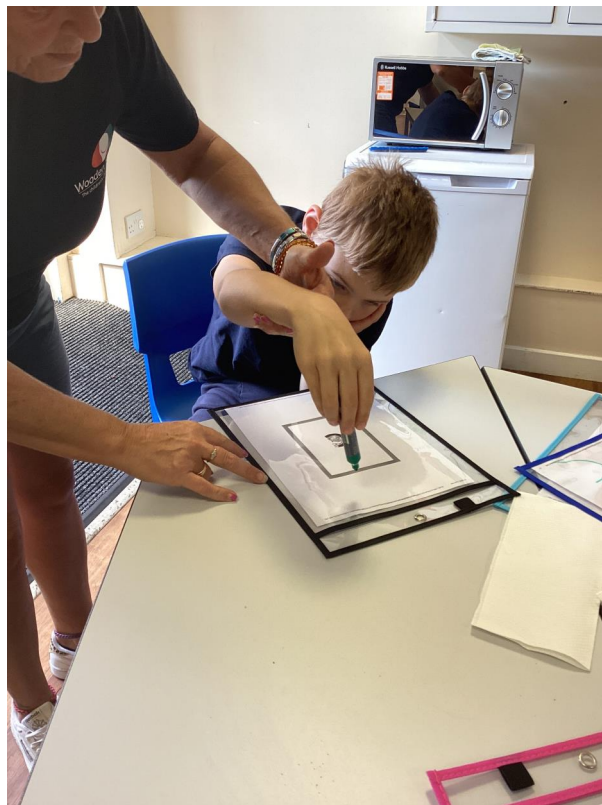
Hello from Kestrel class!

Our topic this term has been 'Let's get fit!' and we have been reading the book 'The Frog Olympics' by Brian Moses and Amy Husband. We have been learning all about keeping active and finding different physical activities we enjoy and that are good for regulation and gross motor skills. We start every day with dancing which the pupils and staff all enjoy together. We have been developing our ball skills such as throwing, catching, rolling and bouncing. We have also been keeping healthy by engaging in making delicious smoothies and trying to make healthier food choices. We are developing our rights by focusing on Article 31 and engaging in activities involving our feet and hands, such as brushes, spiky balls, warm and cold compresses and elastic bands, to help us relax and play. The best thing about Kestrel class is the giggles and laughing we hear all day long, from the pupils and the staff!! After the Summer holidays our topic will be 'All about me'.



















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



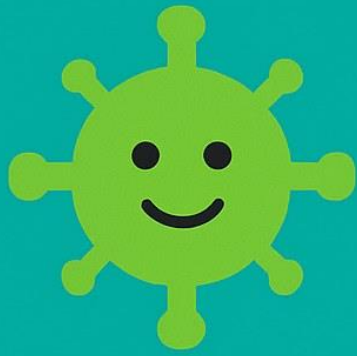
Star of the week



STONE BAY STAR		
CONGRATULATIONS TO		
Parakeet	Thor	For handling change really positively.
Kingfisher	Hope	For fantastic transitioning this week, including a trip to the local shop, the animal and horticultural area and soft playroom.
Heron	Freddie	For fantastic listening during story time
Woodpecker	Noah	For fantastic use of his voice and a VOCA to communicate requests to adults.
Chaffinch	Eliot	For pushing himself and working really hard in my thinking activities
Crow	Forest	For fantastic participation in sports activities this week.
Kestrel	Anderson	For fantastic body awareness.
Starling	Kyden	For practicing so hard for Sports Day!
Falcon	Harry & Kyan	Great sharing during sensory play
Owl	Whole class	For great participation in sports day
Red Kite	Will	For really good listening in class.
Seagull	The whole class	For fantastic effort at sports day
Robin	Henry	For good engagement with sports day
Magpie	Aiden	For fantastic participation in activities this week
Wagtail	Lewis	For amazing participation in sports day.
Yorkgate	Ruby	For cooking dinner for all her flat mates this week.
Kingsgate	Harry M	For taking an active part in every activity this week

Stone Bay families





KEEPING STONE BAY SCHOOL HEALTHY

If your child has vomiting or diarrhoea:



Please keep them at home for 48 hours after the last episode

Why? Prevents the spread of infection

- ✓ Protects our more vulnerable pupils
- ✓ Keeps everyone safe to learn and thrive

This follows guidance in our:

**Supporting Pupils with Medical Needs
Policy (Dec 2023)**



Based on
NHS & UKHSA
advice



and the
Children Act
2004

 **Report absences to:**

Let us know the last time your child was sick or had diarrhoea



*25% off at Hollywood bowl (when you pre book before 12pm) in summer holidays: code
SCHOOLSOUT25*

Our Residential Provision



This weeks Residential Standard is Standard 12 - Health and wellbeing

Children understand their health needs, how to develop and maintain a healthy, happy, and fulfilling lifestyle and to make informed decisions about their own health. They are proactively engaged and supported to participate in a wide range of positive activities, such as social activities, sport, arts, cooking and off-site visits, that contribute to their physical, emotional, and mental health.

At Stone Bay School, the health and wellbeing of our residential pupils remain at the heart of everything we do. In line with Residential Standard 12, we provide a nurturing environment where each child's physical, emotional, and mental health needs are identified and met through personalised care plans, regular health checks, and strong links with healthcare professionals. Our trained staff promote healthy lifestyles, balanced nutrition, and positive routines, ensuring pupils feel safe, valued, and supported in every aspect of their wellbeing journey.

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 flats have been engaging in activities that explore their creativity.

On Monday and Tuesday students from Kingsgate and Yorkgate helped paint the base coat on flower pots. Using hand eye co-ordination and fine motor skills to ensure they covered the pot in paint, with the colour of their choice. These plant pots have then been handed over to Beth (the residential activity lead) who is painting/drawing on designs, chosen by the students ready to sell at the summer fair. The students showed creativity as they communicated ideas to Beth to design onto the pot from fruit, flowers, mickey mouse and even a sweetie pot! Collectively the students along with help from the staff have worked incredibly hard to make something special and personalised to add to peoples gardens and we cannot wait for you to see them!

Our Inclusive sport session was very popular this week. Coach Hannah was so impressed with their golf skills that she set up another course for the children, along with basketball and a garden sized snakes and ladders.

Thursday the students got musical in the garden. Both of the flats joined together in the for sing along with Mark. The students each chose a musical instrument and played alongside Mark. We sang songs about emotions, zones of regulation, Stone bay school and the nursery rhyme classics! The music and instruments provided a healthy outlet for children to express their emotions and creativity. The staff think they did a fantastic job.

Up in the flats we have had some students help cook dinner in Yorkgate, and the students in Kingsgate are showing excellent progress with their independent living skills by making their own supper and drinks.

Overall the students have shown confidence, teamwork and creativity which aids with cognitive growth and social skills, and the residential staff are proud of their hard work and determination.

Next week we will be learning a new sport with coach Hannah, and visiting the beach as we were not able to do so this week.

Have a wonderful weekend

The residential team





















🌟 **Helping Our Children Find Balance: Tips for Reducing Screen Time and Gaming**

In today's digital world, screens are everywhere — from televisions to tablets, gaming consoles to smartphones. While technology offers many benefits, including learning opportunities and creative outlets, it's easy for screen time — especially gaming — to creep beyond healthy limits.

At Stone Bay School, we recognise that balancing screen use with offline activities is crucial for our children's well-being, development, and mental health. Here are some practical, positive tips for families looking to gently guide children toward a healthier balance with technology.

✅ **Lead by Example**

Children often mirror what they see. Showing healthy screen habits as parents and carers — like putting phones away at mealtimes or turning off the TV for family activities — sends a powerful message. When children see us prioritising real-world connections, they are more likely to do the same.

🕒 **Set Clear, Consistent Boundaries**

- **Create a daily schedule** that includes specific times for screen use, homework, outdoor play, meals, and relaxation.
- Use simple timers or visual aids to help younger children understand when screen time starts and stops.

🎯 **Encourage Alternative Activities**

Offer appealing alternatives to screens:

- Outdoor adventures like walks, cycling, or sports.
- Creative play such as Lego, crafts, or cooking together.
- Reading time or listening to audiobooks as a wind-down activity.

🚫 **Tech-Free Zones and Times**

Consider making certain times or spaces screen-free:

- **Meal times** — a chance for meaningful conversation.
- **Before bed** — screens can disrupt sleep, so an hour of screen-free time before bedtime is highly recommended.
- **Bedrooms** — keeping devices out can improve sleep quality and reduce temptations.

Talk About Games, Don't Demonise Them

Gaming can be fun, social, and even educational. Rather than banning games, try:

- Asking children about the games they play.
- Learning what they enjoy about them.
- Setting limits on game duration and types of games.
- Encouraging games that are creative, educational, or cooperative.

By understanding their gaming world, you build trust and can help them make healthier choices.

Use Parental Tools Wisely

Most devices and gaming platforms offer built-in parental controls:

- Set screen time limits.
- Schedule "downtime" when apps are inaccessible.
- Monitor content to ensure it's age-appropriate.

These tools can support — but shouldn't replace — open conversations about screen use.

Focus on Progress, Not Perfection

Reducing screen time is a journey. Some days will be better than others, and that's okay. Celebrate the small wins — an afternoon spent outdoors, a screen-free dinner, or a new offline hobby.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about NINTENDO SWITCH 2

Nintendo launched its Switch 2 games console in early June 2025 – its first new console in eight years. While it builds on the original's success by remaining compatible with certain existing games, it also adds powerful hardware and new features like GameChat and a USB-C camera. As more children look to upgrade, it's important to understand how this new console might affect their play and safety.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

EASIER TO ACCESS MATURE CONTENT

18
CENSORED

Despite Nintendo's reputation for family-friendly titles, mature games like Cyberpunk 2077 and Hitman have been released onto the platform. With the Switch 2's improved performance, developers will be able to port even more mature-rated games. These may appeal to children due to their popularity, but they contain content that is highly unsuitable for young audiences.

IN-APP & GAME STORE PURCHASES

The Nintendo eShop enables purchases with just a few taps. If payment details are saved and PIN protection is disabled, children may unknowingly make costly purchases – including game add-ons, cosmetic items or entire new releases – without parental approval.

UNRESTRICTED ONLINE PLAY IN SOME GAMES

While GameChat is one feature, Switch 2 also connects to the broader Nintendo Switch Online service. Many free-to-play titles like Fortnite or Splatoon 4 allow voice or text chat with strangers unless chat settings are adjusted, meaning children could encounter inappropriate language or unwanted contact.

GAMECHAT & REAL-TIME VOICE COMMUNICATION

GameChat enables live chatting with up to 12 people, even across different games, with optional video and screen-sharing. Though children under 16 are restricted to chatting only with approved friends, the sheer interactivity could raise privacy concerns or create pressure to remain online longer.

CAMERA COMPATIBILITY & PRIVACY CONCERNS

The optional USB-C camera supports video calling and facial overlays in games; however, this also raises the risk of cyberbullying or the unwanted sharing of personal images. The camera can be disabled, removed or covered, and parental controls are essential to manage how and when it is used.

POWERFUL PULL OF FAMILIAR CHARACTERS

Nintendo's mascot, Mario – along with Pikachu, Donkey Kong and others – remains hugely appealing to younger audiences, especially after the success of the recent film, 'The Super Mario Bros. Movie' (2023). These beloved icons are central to Nintendo's branding and often feature in merchandising, adverts and in-game promotions, creating strong emotional attachments in children and a sense of urgency to keep up with their peers.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CHECK RATINGS & USE PARENTAL CONTROLS

Every Switch and Switch 2 game comes with a PEGI age rating. Before buying one, ensure the content matches your child's age. Use the Nintendo Parental Controls app to monitor gameplay, set screen-time limits and manage friend requests.

REVIEW FRIEND LISTS AND CHAT PERMISSIONS

Child profiles are restricted to chatting with approved friends only, but it's good practice to regularly check their friend list and communication settings. Use the Parental Controls app to switch off voice or video chat if necessary.

REMOVE OR RESTRICT PAYMENT METHODS

Avoid accidental spending by unlinking credit cards from the device. Instead, consider adding funds via prepaid eShop cards or requiring a PIN for purchases. Some banking apps can also be set to approve transactions manually.

ENCOURAGE OPEN CONVERSATIONS

Teach children how to block, report and capture any behaviour or content that makes them uncomfortable. The console's built-in tools allow them to create screenshots and video clips, which can aid in reporting any issues. Keeping an open dialogue helps children feel supported and safe.

Meet Our Expert

Lloyd Coombes is the Games Editor of Daily Star and has been working in the gaming and tech industry for five years. A regular visitor to the App Store to try out new tools, he's also a parent and understands the importance of online safety. He's also a tech and fitness writer and has been published on sites including IGN, TechRadar, and plenty more.



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Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 25.06.2025



1 - Spotlight on Tahira

My name is Tahira

I have been working at Stone Bay for 7 months now.

I'm working as a Senior Teaching Assistant in Robin class at the moment.

The thing I love most about working here is the connections we make with the kids, it's so rewarding seeing them grow and develop. But also, I have to mention how incredible the staff team is. From day one, everyone has been so welcoming, and I've honestly felt like part of the team straight away. I often get told I don't seem like I've only been here for 7 months,

which I think is a reflection of how great the people around me are. It really feels like a close-knit family here, and I'm so grateful for that.

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](#)

Joyful June 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Decide to look for what's good every day this month	2 Say positive things in your conversations with others	3 Re-frame a worry and try to find a helpful way to think about it	4 Take a photo of something that brings you joy and share it	5 Think of 3 things you're grateful for and write them down	6 Get out into green space and feel the joy that nature brings	7 Do something healthy which makes you feel good
8 Find joy in music: sing, play, dance, listen or share	9 Ask a friend what made them happy recently	10 Bring joy to others by doing something kind for them	11 Eat good food that makes you happy and really savour it	12 Write a gratitude letter to thank someone	13 Take a light-hearted approach. Choose to see the funny side	14 Share a happy memory with someone who means a lot to you
15 Look for something to be thankful for where you least expect it	16 Speak to others in a warm and friendly way	17 Take time to notice things that you find beautiful	18 Look for something good in a difficult situation	19 Get outside and find the joy in being active	20 Rediscover and enjoy a fun childhood activity	21 Send a positive note to a friend who needs encouragement
22 Watch something funny and enjoy how it feels to laugh	23 Create a playlist of uplifting songs to listen to	24 Bring to mind a favourite memory you feel grateful for	25 Show your appreciation to people who are helping others	26 Make time to do something playful, just for the fun of it	27 Be kind to you. Do something that brings you joy	28 Notice how positive emotions are contagious between people
29 Share a friendly smile with people you see today	30 Make a list of the joys in your life (and keep adding to it)					

ACTION FOR HAPPINESS

Happier · Kinder · Together