



# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Autumn Newsletter— 22 October 2021

Happy Half term to our super Solent community! It has been a very busy half term, but one packed with endless enthusiasm for the wealth of learning opportunities dreamt up by our creative staff team. From Bear Hunts in Year R, to Mayan Mysteries in Year 6, we are now definitely all ready for some rest and recuperation to make sure we are ready for a packed Autumn 2 in the lead up to Tinsel and Turkey season!

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

The value of the month for November is 'Respect'. We will be reflecting upon the British Value of 'Mutual Respect'.

### Parent Voice!

At Solent we pride ourselves in our warm, caring and cohesive community. We are very grateful and proud of the fantastic families, governors and staff that make up this community. As such, we know how important it is to hear everybody's voice, because we know that you care! This week, we have held our Autumn round of virtual parent appointments and we are keen to know what you think. This will support us in moving forward and making any changes that will have a positive impact upon us all. Please could we ask for just a little of your precious time to [click here](#) and answer a short survey telling us what you think.

Do you know of anybody (or do you have a child) who is due to start school, or move to Year 3, in September 2022? Our school tours are open and taking bookings! Please [click here](#) to be taken to the booking page for tours for prospective Year R parents and carers, or [click here](#) for prospective Year 3 parents. These links are also available on each of our websites.

### All Different, All Equal

An important aspect of our School Improvement Plan this year focuses on ensuring that our school curriculum is reflective of all groups in society, to enhance 'cultural capital' by ensuring that pupils are exposed to a mix of traditional & modern and from a variety of cultures. This October we have been exploring 'Black History Month', during which our pupils have enjoyed focusing upon black history, heritage, culture and achievements. Throughout the year, within our curriculum, we are seeking to use a range of positive role models to ensure that aspiration and self belief are at the heart of all that every single one of our pupils do. We will be celebrating this during our Development Days in November.

### Calling All Fantastic Friends of the Solent Schools

On Tuesday 2nd November, the FSS will be holding their AGM. Despite sharing this previously, we only have one parent (representing 630 pupils) who has shown an interest in attending and supporting the FSS. The FSS are absolutely critical in supporting our schools financially in providing those extra resources for our pupils. Without their funds next year, we will be unable to provide our pupils with those things that go above and beyond our government funding. Please [click here](#) to message the FSS and leave your details and in response you will receive an invite to attend. Alternatively email [fss@thesolentschools.org](mailto:fss@thesolentschools.org) All support is very much appreciated and has a significant impact upon our schools.



# SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

We have come to the end of our first jam-packed half term of this academic year and we have been so proud of how the children have settled down to their learning with focus and enthusiasm. This week, the children have been nature detectives, spotting the signs of Autumn and impressing me by pointing out a “deciduous tree”! We are all looking forward to our Outdoor Learning Day after Half Term, on Thursday 4th November, where we will draw inspiration from the outdoors and make links between learning outside and the positive benefits to our mental health. There will also be whole-school home learning for all of the Infants to get involved with.



Mrs Curthoys—Head of School SIS

## Early Years!

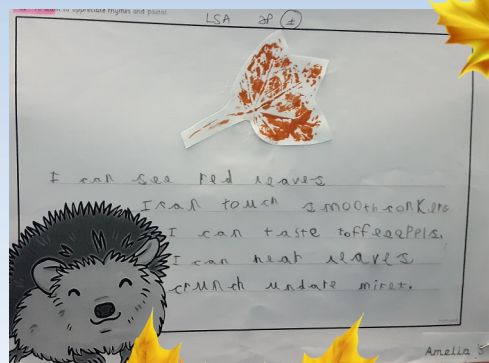
This week, the Year R children have been exploring capacity in their Maths learning. They have enjoyed investigating this through the water trays — filling and emptying containers, and using vocabulary such as ‘empty, nearly empty, half full, nearly full, and full’! We have been very impressed with the Year R’s overall understanding of capacity and the use of correct language/terminology. Well done Year R!



Our Early Years team are looking at enhancing their outdoor provision even further and are reaching out to you for some help! They are hoping to be able to create an ‘all weather’ area for the children. They currently have a space under a shelter which is covered, but the land is mud and as such they are hoping to be able to cover this section in artificial grass. This would mean that the children would be able to access the area, even in the damp and cold winter months. If you think that you might be able to support us with supplying any of the necessary materials to help make this happen (tools, artificial grass off cuts etc), please contact the infant school office and ask to speak to Mrs Eades. We would be so grateful for anything you are able to donate or help out with!

## Year 1

This week, Year 1 enjoyed going on an autumn senses walk around the school grounds. They used what they saw, heard and felt as inspiration for their autumn poetry. The R.E has been all about Harvest, this half term. The children loved signing songs and wrote their own harvest prayer or poem. In Maths, the children have been learning to work systematically to find number bonds to numbers within 10. They have used various resources to do this. Why not try this at home!







# SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL



## Year 2

Ahoy there! Year 2 have had a fabulous Friday celebrating the end of our Autumn 1 learning theme. The children came to school dressed as pirates and the variety of outfits were great. You are all so creative! We enjoyed a drama workshop with Captain Black and practised all our pirate words! Later on in the day, we made a 'slider and lever' mechanism picture in design technology. Our pirate ship sailed the high seas! Have a lovely half term Year 2. We look forward to our new learning theme in Autumn 2 .







# SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

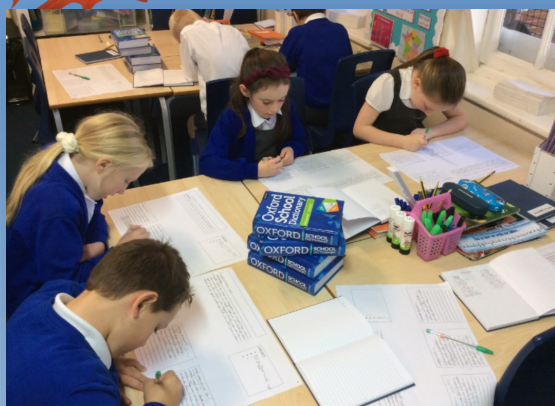
I can not believe it is the last day of the half term! Whilst the weeks have flown by, the children have really settled in to school life again and applied themselves in their learning, which has been wonderful to watch. At the end of the school day yesterday, we had a surprise visitor, who you may have spotted! It was our new School Link Officer, who works for Hampshire Constabulary. Officer Smith will be a regular visitor to both schools, either at drop off or collection time. He will also be visiting the children during their lunchtime, whenever his shift patterns enable him too. I know you will all join me in welcoming him to the Solent community. I hope that you all have a wonderful half term and a well-deserved rest!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

## Year 3

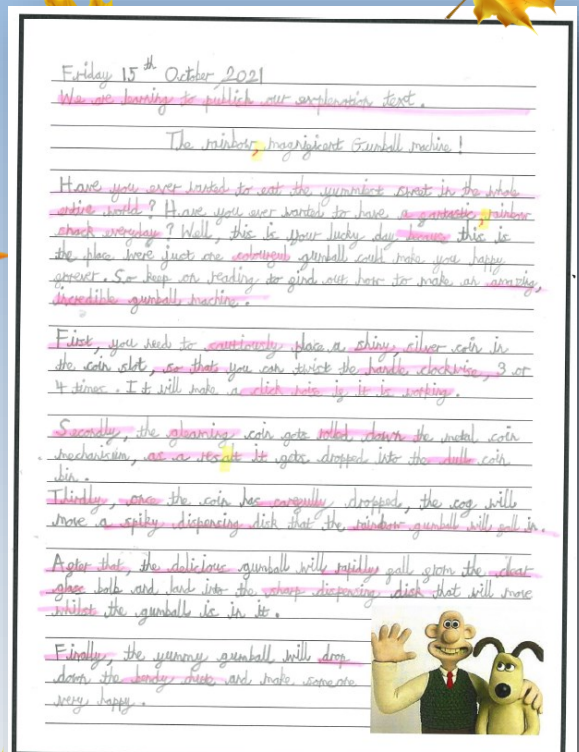
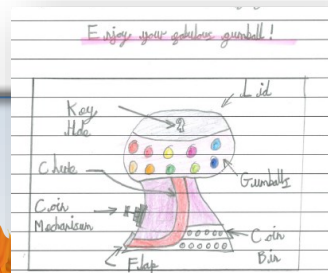
Editing Experts!

This week, Year 3 have been working incredibly hard on their Non-Fiction Texts about... ANIMALS! Our perfect pupils have used their super skills to begin their editing process. This is a feature that is relatively new to the children, where they are using their Green Pens to improve their very own text. In order to improve their terrific texts, Year 3 pupils were asked to include alliteration, expanded noun phrases as well as ensuring that they have used capital letters and full stops accurately! Watch out for their published pieces SOON!



## Year 4

Over the last few weeks, we have been exploring the genre of 'Explanation Texts' within our English and Guided Reading lessons. The children have learnt how to structure an explanation text, including: a title, subtitles, an introduction, main body and conclusion. As well as this, the children have also learnt a range of language features, including: the use of causal conjunctions, time conjunctions, adverbs and expanded noun phrases. Last week, the children produced their extended pieces of writing, and we were thrilled that they were able to apply everything they have learnt, to their independent, big writes. Well done, Year 4!







# SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL



## Year 5



This week in Year 5 we have been focusing on describing the setting of Pandora, which features in the film Avatar. The children have been using figurative language in their writing to describe their five senses. As well as implying their characters feelings throughout their use of vocabulary and action.



## Year 6

Recently, Year 6 have been studying Mayan culture as part of their ongoing topic work. In particular, they have been looking at Mayan sculpture and hieroglyphics, which use lots of figurative, animal and spiritual themes. During the initial stage, they completed a series of illustrations in response to the Mayan artwork and incorporated elements of this into their design stages. They will be using these designs to inform their own pieces of sculptural work later on in the term.



Fantastic effort Mrs Young and our Year 6 'packers'. What an amazing amount of sweet treats and rice pudding we packed off to the Portsmouth Community Food Bank!







# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Diary Dates

Monday 1st November	Return to School
Monday 1st November	Group of Upper School pupils to Fratton Park
	Show Racism the Red Card Event
Tuesday 2nd November	Flu Immunisations
Tuesday 2nd November 5-6pm	Friends of the Solent Schools AGM
Wednesday 3rd November	Year 3 Author Visit
Thursday 4th November	SIS Outdoor Learning Day
Thursday 11th November	Trip to Remembrance Service HMNB St Anne's
Thursday 11th November	SJS Eco Warriors Meeting with Mrs PA
Thursday 18th November 9.20am	Solent Partnership Meeting
Tuesday 23rd November	SJS Maya Theatre Visit
Monday 29th November	Year 4 go to Calshot Residential Trip
Wednesday 1st December	'Twinkle Trail' opens
Friday 3rd December	Year 4 return from Calshot
Friday 3rd December	SIS School Council Meeting
Wednesday 8th December 5.30—6pm	Christmas Carols at SIS for both schools
Friday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 17th December	End of Term Progress Reports sent home
Friday 17th December	Break up for Christmas Holiday!
Monday 3rd January	Back to School—Spring 1!

## Governor's Shield

Congratulations to all of our Governor's Shield winners this half term. The focus for the award was our school values of 'Responsibility' and 'Friendship'.

Year R	Brian RecG
Year 1	Emilee 1RS
Year 2	Ellie F-B 2C
Year 3	Oliver B 3C
Year 4	Liam C 4S
Year 5	Emmie 5P
Year 6	Summer W 6SW

Solent Infant School are currently seeking a new midday supervisor to join the lunchtime team. The role is for one hour a day, 5 days per week. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Winnicott in the infant school office for further information and an application pack.

### Inset Days

Monday 28th February  
2022

Additional Bank Holiday  
Tuesday 3rd May

Friday 17th June 2022  
Monday 20th June 2022

Please can we remind you the Flu immunisations are taking place at both schools on Tuesday 2nd November 2021. Please make sure you complete the NHS online form emailed to you. This is also available on the school websites by clicking on the Letters Home link.