

# Autumn Newsletter— 19th November 2021

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Each year, we seem to gain so much from participating in 'Anti-bullying' week. The theme that is shared across the schools, as well as with schools nationally, supports us in coming together as a community to take a stand against bullying. This unites us as one to celebrate the positive difference we can all make together.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



The value of the month for November is 'Respect'.

# One Kind Word!

The theme for anti-bullying week this year has been ‘One Kind Word’ coordinated by the National Bullying Alliance. We began the week by asking pupils and staff to come into school wearing ‘odd socks’ to show we’re all unique and different, to remember to be kind to each other and respect each other’s individuality. How apt that the school value for November is ‘respect’! Pupils have taken the idea of a ‘kind word’ to explore, in many different ways, how just one kind word can make such a big difference to the way someone else is feeling. We can all make such a big difference, no matter how small we are!



On Thursday 11th November, a group of Solent pupils had the privilege of being invited to attend a very special Remembrance service at St Anne's Church at the dockyard. We are very proud of this group of pupils who were excellent ambassadors for our school. The Reverend Phillip Amey contacted us after the visit to say

*'Can I express my thanks to the children and staff who attended the service this morning....they were extremely well behaved and are a credit to the school'.*



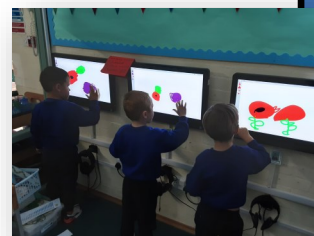




# SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

November is a month when we remember and we reflect upon the meaning of the poppy worn by so many at this time of year. In November, we also focus on our schools' value of Respect. The children respectfully observed the two minute silence on Remembrance Day and were thoughtful in their questioning and responses. You may have seen the children's poppies displayed in the Year Group windows as a special tribute.

Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS



## Early Years!



Last week, we started our learning by discovering why we celebrate Bonfire Night and learnt all about Guy Fawkes. We loved role playing parts of the story and creating a range of firework themed masterpieces. Towards the end of the week, our thoughts turned to Remembrance Day and we each created a poppy as a sign of remembrance, hope and respect for the fallen soldiers. The teachers were so proud of us as we took part in the 2 minute silence at 11am.



## Year 1

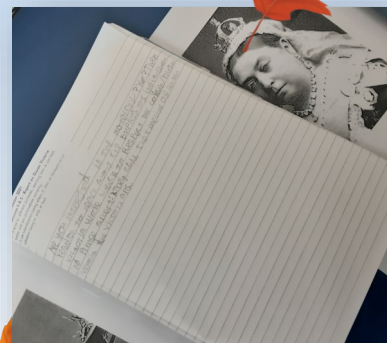


This week has been a week of opposites! On Monday we started our exciting new learning theme A Toy's Story. We discovered some toys had mysteriously appeared by a tree in the orchard area. We had lots of fantastic ideas about where they might have come from and how they got there. This was followed by a very thoughtful end to the week as we learned why we have Remembrance Day and used our art skills to make our own beautiful remembrance poppies. Look out for them in the Year 1 window.



## Year 2

Year 2 learnt all about Queen Victoria and the Victorians last week. It has been fascinating to discover different facts about Victoria and how she lived her life. The children are showing their fantastic knowledge of the time period through a written report about this amazing queen. They have worked really hard to use their history skills and knowledge. They have also learnt about money and produced some marvellous Christmas pictures which will be used for the FSS Christmas Card designs that you will find out more about soon.







# SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

We launched Anti-Bullying Week with our Odd Socks Day on Monday so that we could celebrate our uniqueness and be proud of our individuality. Each class unwrapped their special book called "Kind" which we have loved sharing with each other. We have had lots of fun showing that we are really kind and that we know the importance of "One Kind Word". We have had kindness-themed assemblies, focusing on our Value of the Month: Respect; we have made pictures, learnt songs and talked about the ways that we can be kind—and how kind words can make other people feel.

Mrs Curthoys—Head of School SIS



## Early Years!

For anti-bullying / kindness week, the Year R children have explored their expressive art and design skills by creating hand prints for their class 'kindness' poster. When making these, the children discussed some ways we can be kind to others - we had some very lovely responses. Year R have also enjoyed taking part in different kindness activities, and showing kindness more than usual through kind gestures and actions. Well done Year R, we are very proud of you!



## Year 1

Year 1 wore odd socks on Monday to mark the start of anti-bullying week. They have enjoyed exploring the theme 'One Kind Word' and discussing what they can do to make sure they are being kind to others inside and outside of school. In history, the children have enjoyed exploring toys from the past and comparing them with the toys that they play with today. They have been very clever linking this to their science learning too by identifying what materials the toys were made from!



## Year 2

The Year 2 children have had a very busy week of learning. It has been 'anti-bullying' week and we enjoyed unwrapping our present and reading our story, 'Kind'. The illustrations are beautiful and the story gave us lots to think and talk about. We have been learning the song, 'One Kind Word' and are remembering lots of the words.

We have also been learning about money and how to make various different amounts in pounds and pence. We have been challenged with our money learning this week but we did not give up!





# SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

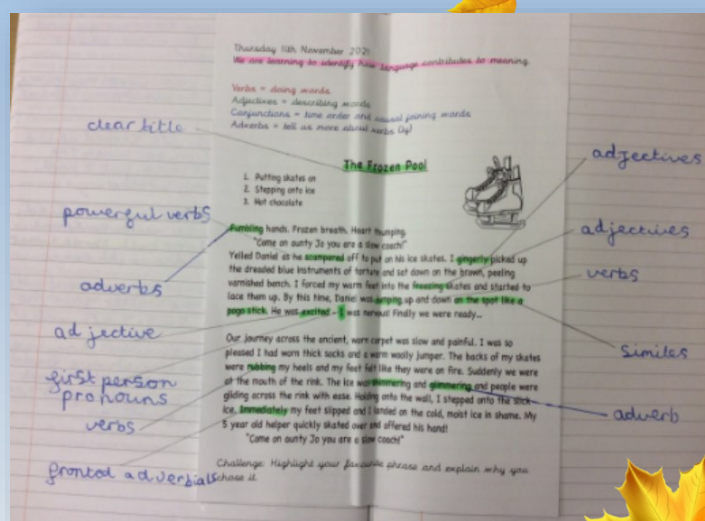
During November, the value of the month is Respect and the Fundamental British value being focused on is mutual respect. Last week we spent time observing Remembrance Day and paying our respects to those who fought and lost their lives in the First World War and other wars since. A small number of children were invited to represent Solent Schools at a Remembrance Service at St Anne's church, at the Naval Base. The children have been carefully reflecting upon why respect is so important and how we can show it within our community, amongst other people, and towards our environment. In assembly we have discussed that respect is like a mirror and a two way process.

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

## Year 3

Last week, Year 3 held their much anticipated visit from the Author Nicki Maginn. It was so good to finally be able to allow a visitor in to school and be able to give the children a wonderful opportunity to hear from an actual author—in person!

Nicki was great at getting the children to play word games and we all really enjoyed listening to her telling us her story of 'Fat Cat and the Chocolate Sandwich'. She left us with some fun activities to do too and very kindly donated a signed copy of her book for the school library!



## Year 4

Last week, we started our new English genre of recounts. The children have learnt all about the structure of recount, including the introduction, main body and conclusion. We have read a range of recounts in both our English and Guided Reading sessions and have developed both our reading and writing skills. The children have been learning how to summarise effectively and how to use their inference skills. They have also been identifying language features, typically used in recounts. The children are building up all of these skills, so that they can write all about our trip to Calshot, upon our return.





# SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

This week has been Anti-Bullying Week with a focus of "One Kind Word". As with any of our themed weeks and values, we explore the focus and learn key new approaches and strategies. These new approaches can then be used to support us through the rest of the year. One Kind Word has been fully embraced by the school community, and through assemblies on Monday and Mrs. Wilby's Feel Good Friday assembly today, we discussed that these kind gestures do not have to be grand but can be a small gesture, such as a smile. These small gestures may seem simple but can make a huge difference. So as the nights draw in and the weather becomes gloomier, I challenge you all to make someone smile over the next week, not only will it brighten their day but it will yours as well!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

## Year 3

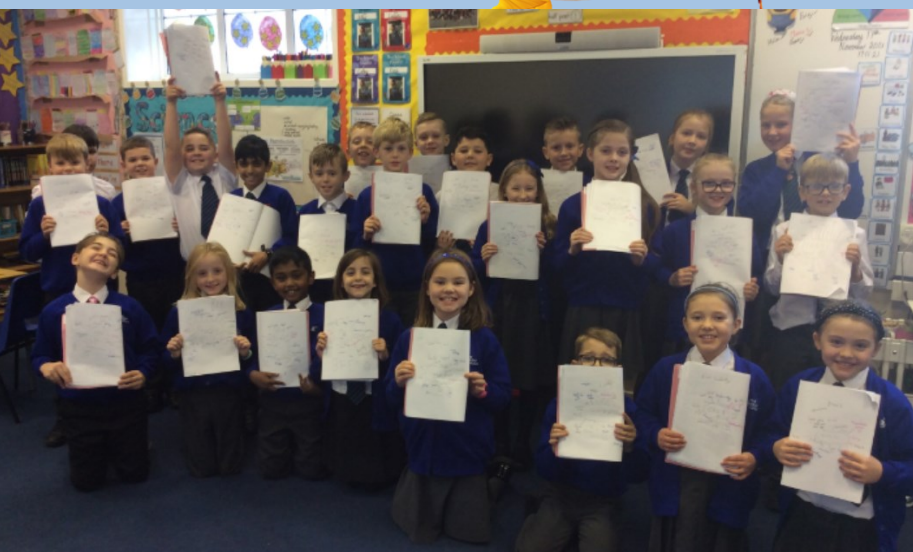
In response to this year's Anti-bullying Week theme, One Kind Word, Year 3 wrote kind words about each other. Each child started with a piece of paper with their name in the centre then the other children all added one kind word about that person. We discussed the idea of complimenting features of a person's personality and actions rather than just their physical appearance. We loved the idea of sending a ripple of kindness throughout the community as kindness can be contagious!



## Year 4

This week, it has been anti-bullying week, and this year's theme has been 'One Kind Word'. We have had some interesting discussions involving anti-bullying and what it really means to be kind.

The children have been carrying out random acts of kindness at school, and they have particularly enjoyed receiving 'Caught you Being Kind' slips. On Monday, all of the children came to school in their odd socks, to represent that we are all different, but all valued. One highlight from this week has been the children using a range of 'kind' adjectives to describe one another. The children really valued hearing such lovely comments, from their peers.







# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Year 5

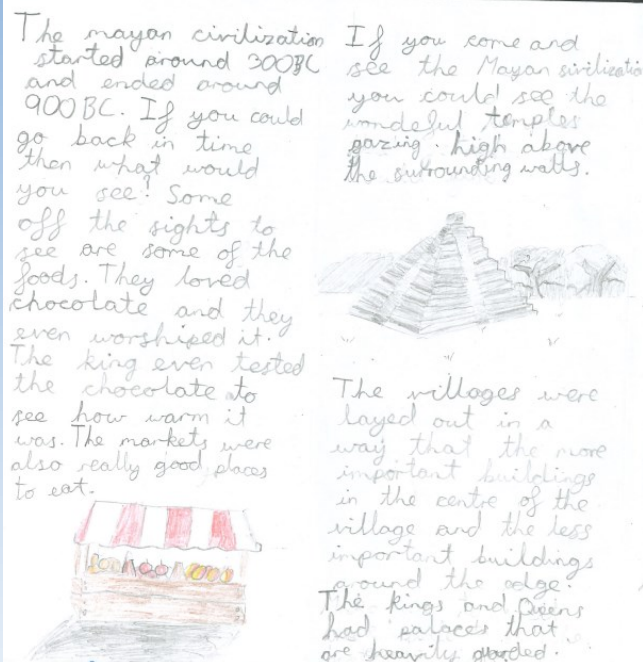
This week in PE, the children have been learning how to play hockey. The pupils have been getting to grips with holding the hockey stick correctly and have been practising their dribbling skills around obstacle courses. The children have enjoyed being introduced to this new sport and we have already spotted some very talented hockey players amongst the year group! Over the next few weeks, we will be practising our goal shooting and hopefully playing some matches.

Our brand new Year 5 Textiles club started last Wednesday! Over the past two sessions the children have been making worry monsters! Each child has carefully learnt how to make their own pompom and turn it into a worry monster! This is a very special monster that can hold all of your worries when it's spoken to! All of the children LOVED making these and we look forward to making some very exciting Christmas decorations very soon! There are still spaces on a Wednesday 3-4 if your child would like to join! A special thank you to Emmie in 5P for her wonderful worry monster shown in the picture!



## Year 6

As you no doubt know, Y6 have been studying Mayan culture, and in addition to observing the customs and traditions of this fascinating civilisation, we have been studying the geography and historical influence that they left behind. Children have been interested to discover their accomplishments; how they pioneered astronomy; developed a sophisticated reading and numerical system; and introduced chocolate to the rest of the world!



The Year 6 pupils have also been working really hard on their SATS practise this week! This will get them used to the type of questions to expect, as well as how to work against the clock and identify which areas of learning need more focus. The SATS are divided into English and Maths, and these are broken down into 3 sets of papers- each with a different focus. So far, they have done really well, and have probably earned themselves a good rest this weekend!



# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Development Day!



Last week, we held the first development day of the academic year. These days give us the opportunity to focus upon an aspect of the school improvement plan and reflect upon our developments so far, alongside our next steps. This term, our focus has been our physical and social emotional learning environment. A range of activities took place across the day involving both staff and visitors to the school. We were so proud to have been able to share and celebrate so many strengths within our school environment. A Governor visiting the school summed up her experience so beautifully, that we shared it with our junior school pupils in assembly this morning.



## Governors

*'I had a lovely visit this morning to the Junior school carrying out pupil conferring. I visited all bar two classes and spoke individually with one child per class who had been randomly selected. All teachers and staff were extremely accommodating and welcoming, especially when then found me looking lost in the corridor!*

*The atmosphere walking around the school, and in and out of classrooms was lovely and it was clear to see that the children were all working hard and enjoying what they were doing.*

*The children were amazing and confident chatting to me, both in the corridors and when going through the questions and I was so pleasantly surprised at how eloquent and clear they were at expressing their views. The feedback was all positive and showed just how supportive all the staff and pupils are of each other.*

*The only nearly (but not really) negative comment that made me chuckle, was that one child wished she could stay in bed longer in the morning and then come in to learn. All she wanted was a longer lie in and I can understand that feeling ☹️.*

*Please pass on my thanks to everyone who spoke to me and made me feel comfortable, especially as it was my first time in the school during the day with children on site.*

*Looking forward to next time*

## Fantastic Friends of the Solent Schools!

Thank you so much to all those of you who have already sent in a festive design for our annual advent calendar competition in partnership with Northwoods estate agents. Don't forget, Monday 23rd November is the last date to bring your entries into school. Judging will be taking place on Tuesday 24th!





# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Diary Dates

Tuesday 23rd November	SJS Mayan Theatre Visit
Friday 26th November	Year R—Angels & Shepherds Day
Monday 29th November	Year 4 go to Calshot—Residential Trip
Wednesday 1st December	'Twinkle Trail' opens
Wednesday 1st December	Year 4 return from Calshot
Thursday 2nd December	Year 3 Christmas Carol Recording
Friday 3rd December	SIS School Council Meeting
Friday 3rd December	Year 2 Victorian Celebration
Wednesday 8th December 5.30—6pm	Christmas Carols at SIS for both schools (tbc)
Friday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 10th December	Year 4 Nativity Recording
Friday 17th December	Christmas Themed Non-school uniform
Friday 17th December	End of Term Progress Reports sent home
Friday 17th December	Break up for Christmas Holiday!
Tuesday 4th January	Back to School—Spring 1!

Some very exciting development work is about to start at Solent Junior School. The old 'art room' and 'library' are at the centre of a new refurbishment project and now we need your input. Whether you currently have a child at Solent Junior School, or you have a younger child who will be there at some point in the future, we would like you to vote as to what you consider the best use of that space would be. The choices are:

- **A STEM space**
  - **A Discovery Hub**
  - **A Creative Arts Studio**
- Please [click here](#) to cast your vote. The lines will close at noon on Friday 26th November.

### Inset Days

Monday 28th February  
2022

Additional Bank Holiday  
Tuesday 3rd May

Friday 17th June 2022  
Monday 20th June 2022

A request please from the school office. Should you need to advise of different arrangements for picking your child up at the end of the day. If the notification is after 1pm, on the relevant day. Please could you ring the school office with the details and not email in. Although the school email inbox is monitored at various points during the day. We cannot guarantee your collection notification email will have been seen by a member of the office staff before collection. Thank you for your assistance with this.