



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Autumn Newsletter 2021 – 17th December

As the Autumn term draws to a close, we have been reflecting upon all of our amazing achievements so far this academic year. You should, by now, have received your child's progress report. I really hope that you enjoy some precious time discussing and sharing all of their achievements with them. I have been so impressed with just how engaged and motivated by learning our pupils are this year. They are an absolute treat and have grasped every experience and learning opportunity presented to them. They are continuously doing the very best they can to develop and refine the skills and knowledge that will stand them in good stead for all of the excitement the Spring term curriculum has to offer. After all of that hard work, it is now time for a very well deserved Christmas break. I wish you and your families much health and happiness over the festive season and look forward to welcoming you all back into school on Tuesday 4th January!

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



Christmas Jumper Day!
This year we raised £291
for Save the Children on
Christmas Jumper Day!

Many thanks to all those of you who bought tickets for our Grand Christmas Raffle, organised by the fantastic FSS. We raised an incredible £867 for our schools!



Twinkle all the Way!

The FSS Twinkle Trail is still up and running! With 24 secret letters displayed at our 24 secret locations, why not see if you can follow the trail and work out the secret Christmas phrase. You will also have the opportunity to vote for the house you feel is best decorated and be entered into the draw to win a £50 Amazon voucher. All this for just completing a healthy and fun festive activity. Please see page 6 of this newsletter for further details.





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

We have had a fun and festive final week of the Autumn Term, at Solent Infant School. We had a record number of Christmas Cards posted in our school postbox and the Christmas postal elves from Stingray Class were very efficient at sorting and delivering them to the correct classes. The Reception children have enjoyed sharing their Nativity plays with their parents and carers, as well as with the other classes within school, and Christmas Party Day, with the special party lunch, was great fun—lots of party games, singing and dancing. It definitely put us in the mood for the holidays. We hope that you are able to spend precious time with your families and that you all have a wonderful Christmas! See you in the New Year!

Mrs Curthoys—Head of School SIS

Early Years!

Year R have had a wonderfully festive week this week, to celebrate the end of our very first term in school! We have been making snowmen, using a range of different sized circles, decorating our salt-dough decorations, ordering festive decorations, writing letters to Santa and so much more! On Thursday we played party games in our classrooms and ate our special Christmas party lunch. What an exciting week! What an exciting first term!



Year 1

What an amazing Autumn Term, Year 1! We are so proud of how all of the children have settled into Year 1 and how they have persevered with their learning. This week, they have taken part in lots of exciting activities, from making split pin angels to creating tube snowmen and reindeer. They had a wonderful Christmas party on Thursday and loved taking part in lots of party games. The Year 1 Team wish you all a wonderful Christmas holiday and can't wait to see you all again, in the New Year!

Year 2

Year 2 have been working extremely hard to finish 2021 with a festive fizzle! We have learnt and written about 'A Christmas Carol' and discussed Scrooge. We have continued our understanding of multiplication and counted in 2s, 5s, and 10s! We got into the Christmas party mood on Thursday where we ate our festive lunch, played party games and danced to Christmas songs. We have had a very merry time and we are looking forward to 2022! Have a happy Christmas and a wonderful New Year. From the Year 2 Team.





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

As we draw this term to a close, it is lovely to reflect back on all of the exciting things we have been a part of and you realise just how busy it has been! I am always amazed at how flexible the staff are, in working around restrictions to ensure that the children still enjoy events such as carols, nativities and parties, whilst remaining safe. Festive cheer has really been in full flow this week with the parties and it has been lovely to seeing the children enjoying themselves! To spread the Christmas cheer, the children designed, made and delivered cards to our school community including neighbors and governors. Before I sign off this term, I would like to wish everyone in our school community a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! I hope you all have a wonderful and well deserved rest and look forward to seeing you rest and ready for the Spring Term!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 4

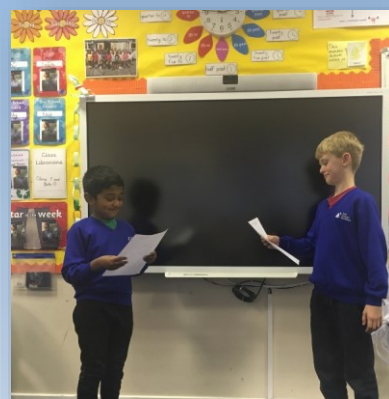


Wow, what a busy, yet exciting term it has been, and the last week has been no exception! After fitting in a Residential Trip, A school Nativity, plus lots of learning in, this term, the children have really enjoyed a week of Christmas Parties, Christmas Dinners, Christmas Jumper Days and lots of creative, non-core learning, to end the term. It has been a lovely way to celebrate the run up to Christmas, and the children have really enjoyed spending time with friends, and getting into the Christmas spirit. We hope you all have a lovely Christmas break. *Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas, from Year 4!*

Year 4

This term yr4 have been learning how to give information about their names, ages and where they live, in French. This week 4S have applied that knowledge to characters from the nativity story. The children gave each character an age and thought about where they lived. They then wrote a mini play with a partner about two of the characters. Some children got to perform them to the class, they spoke clearly and confidently!

Well done and Joyeux Noel et bonne année!



Year 5

The final week of the Autumn term has been a busy one in year 5. We enjoyed finishing our paper mâché planet 3d relief art. Pupils enjoyed designing their planet's terrain, using scrunched up newspaper to create unusual surface features including volcanoes and crevices. They then applied a paper mâché solution to strips of paper to make it firm. In 5S Miss Smith was particularly impressed with Lily-May B's colour blending as shown in the photograph. In other news, the children enjoyed their Christmas party on Wednesday afternoon, rocking their dance moves and taking part in a range of games including pin the nose on the snowman and a Christmas themed Night at the Museum, which the pupils taught Miss Smith to play.





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Year 6

What a wonderful week of 'slipper' Year 6 have taken part in to wrap up an amazing first term as the top of the school! Having made a paper slipper, which was then used as a template for cutting out the base, wadding and choice of slipper material, the children practised a range of sewing skills, pinned all their material together and put their needles to work! We are sure all the pupils are all on pins and needles, waiting to see how their slippers will turn out and hope they are feeling very proud of their efforts!



Governor's Shield Super Stars!

Congratulations to all of our Governor's Shield nominees and winners this term. The focus for the award this half term was 'Respect' and 'Perseverance'. The nominations and winners were as follows:

Year R Winner
Nominations
Hermione (Rec DE)
Izzy H (Rec T)
Solis E-B (Rec G)

Year 1 Winner
Nominations
Elizabeth (1RS)
Marnie (1L)
Jude (1E)

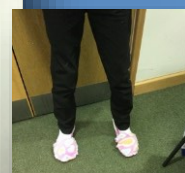
Year 2 Winner
Nominations
Rio (2C)
Henry (2M)
Teddy (2MA)

Year 3 Winner
Nominations
Ben H (3AG)
Isabelle (3C)
Amber (3H)

Year 4 Winner
Nominations
Darcey (4SW)
Emily T (4A)
Evelyn P (4S)

Year 5 Winner
Nominations
Mason (5F)
Emily K (5S)
Jacob S (5P)

Year 6 Winner
Nominations
Dennis (6P)
Olly F (6SW)
Lilia M (6W)



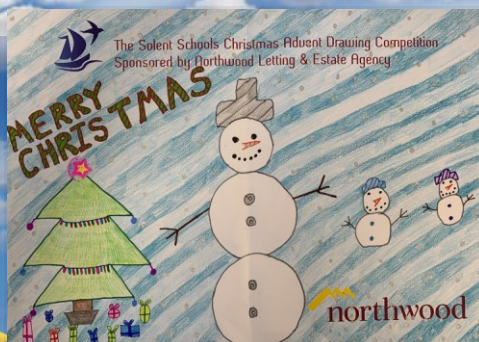
An special thank you to Miss Saunders, our Staff Governor (Year 4 teacher) for presenting the awards this term. Our infant school children especially enjoyed meeting you virtually! I wonder which Governor will present the Spring term awards when our focus changes to the values of 'Aspiration' and 'Friendship'.





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17th December George Rect



18th December Grace C 6P

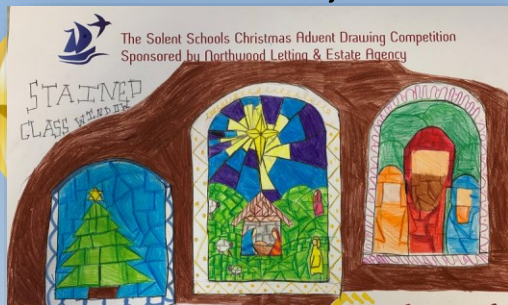
Advent Winners!

We have continued to reveal our advent competition winners each day in assembly. Each of these pupils have won an amazon voucher, sponsored by Northwoods, to spend as they wish. If you would like to see the pictures in situ, then pop on down to Northwoods on the Havant Road, as they reveal a picture a day.

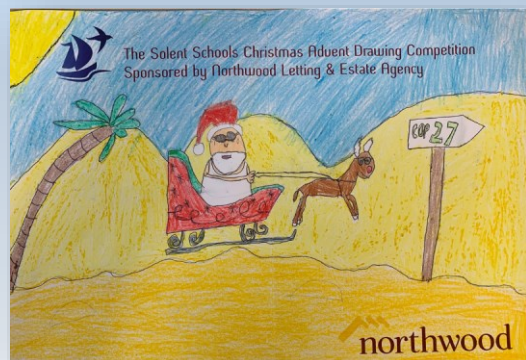
16th December Isaac H 1RS



15th December Immy 6SW



23rd December Tessa 5F



24th December Mia T 4SW



22nd December Albe 4SW



19th December George G 1E



20th December Charlie 3AG



21st December Annie 2C





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Solent in the Community!

We may not have been able to go out and about to sing to our local care home residents this year, but this hasn't stopped us! Yesterday and today small groups went out and about in our local neighbourhood to deliver our neighbours our handmade Christmas cards. It really is so rewarding to spread some Christmas cheer! We always receive such lovely feedback from our neighbours, who recognise the hard work the children have gone to. Here is a quote from a local neighbour (photograph right) who took the precious time to email just today.

'I have just received a Christmas card from your school through my front door and I wanted to pass on how lovely it is!'

What a fantastic idea and what fantastic artwork! The card is now on display with all our others.

Thank you for spreading a bit of Christmas spirit! I do hope you can pass on our thanks and appreciation to the relevant people involved'.

Below is a group of our Year 6 post pupils having returned from their Christmas Card delivery rounds. Daisy, Amy, Sophie and Ben.



Since the days have begun to draw in, we have noticed that the lights in the infant school hall have dimmed significantly. Thanks to the quick thinking of the school site team and our Chair of Governors, John Wademan, the problem will be fixed over the Christmas holidays. With new LED light fittings and some access equipment kindly provided free by Summit Platforms (www.summitplatforms.co.uk) we will once again be

Are you looking for a safe, fun & healthy Christmas activity? Then look no further than...

The Friends of the Solent Schools

Twinkle Trail 2021

Collect a paper map from school for just £2, or email fss@thesolentschools.org and transfer £2 per map requested, using the bank details below. We will record your entry number and an electronic map will then be emailed back to you (1 entry per £2 request). Follow the map to find the letters on display, solve the anagram, choose the best decorated house, then return your map to be entered into a draw to win a £50 Amazon voucher!

Bank Details:

Account Name: Friends of the Solent Schools
Sort Code: 20 69 34
Account No: 20930172
Reference: Name/Twinkle

Return your completed map before 7th January!

Trail open right up until Christmas Eve





THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

So Long, Farewell!

Yesterday, we said goodbye to Mrs Grinsell who has been an LSA at the infant school for 20 years! Mrs Grinsell has quite the reputation for working tirelessly to support our pupils to ensure that they are engaged, motivated and inspired by their learning. She leaves us here at Solent having had a positive impact upon the lives of many of our Solent families. Enjoy your retirement Mrs Grinsell!



Today, we say a fond farewell to Ms Adele, one of our Year 4 teachers at SJS. Ms Adele has been an absolute asset to our Junior School teaching team. Her sense of humour, dedication to the role and absolute passion for education has resulted in her doing everything she can to support the best possible outcomes for the little learners in her care. We will all miss her greatly, but wish her all the very best in the exciting new journey she is about to embark on!

