



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Spring Newsletter 2022– 14 January 2022

Welcome back to school and a very happy new year to our whole school community. It has been so lovely to welcome the pupils back to their classrooms over the past few weeks. We have kicked off the term focusing on the value of 'Aspiration' which is setting a very positive tone for the start of 2022! Through virtual whole school assemblies and class sessions, the pupils are thinking about what it means to be aspirational and sharing some aspirations that they have for themselves. We are particularly focusing upon challenge and aspiration in writing and would encourage all of our pupils to get involved in the fantastic governor writing competition below

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

Governor Writing Competition We Welcome You to Planet Earth!

Based upon the text: **Here We Are, Notes for Living on Planet Earth**



Solent Governors are very excited to launch the pupil writing competition for this term!

Just before Christmas, our pupils spent time exploring the book 'Here We Are, Notes for Living on Planet Earth' by Oliver Jeffers as a hook for this competition.

We know how much you value your learning space and the community you live in as well as caring for the environment and planet as a whole.

For this term's competition we are asking you to put pen to paper and imagine that there is a special visitor coming to planet earth. They have never been to planet earth before and so we are asking you to write them a letter to introduce them to our wonderful planet and provide some top tips about living here.

The letter should be no more than 200 words and must include your name and class. Once complete, please hand your entry into your class teacher who will send it safely to the Headteacher's office for the attention of the Governing Body.

The **closing date is Friday February 4th** and once the entries have been judged the winners will be announced and awarded their prizes in whole school assemblies before we finish for the half term holiday.

We will also be reading out some of the entries in whole school assemblies as the half term progresses.

So, put your pen to paper and get writing. Good luck!





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

Happy New Year to you all! We have been excited to start our new year by leaping into our new learning themes for this half term. Year R are becoming Explorers, Year 1 are thinking about bravery and aspiration in “The Lion Inside” and Year 2 have galloped towards their Castles and Dragons theme. You can find more information about the Curriculum Overviews and Knowledge Organizers for each year group on our website, under each Year Group tab. On these Year Group pages, you will also find the links to be able to log in to Microsoft Teams, Purple Mash and the Big Cats e-book library for access to the Home Learning tasks. Please contact us if you are experiencing any difficulties with logging in so that your child is able to complete the relevant weekly activities.

Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

Early Years!

Welcome back Year R! This week we have enjoyed discussing all of the exciting things we have done over the Christmas break. Year R was then able to produce some fantastic sentences in Literacy, starting their sentence with ‘I went to...’. We have loved hearing about their explorations & adventures. The children have also been exploring their new role play areas which, for this half term, have become home corners! Well done on a fantastic first week back!



Year 1

The Year 1 team are so happy to see everyone back after the Christmas break. They are very impressed with how everyone has settled quickly and sensibly back into school routines, after such an exciting break. The children are looking forward to our new theme of “The Lion Inside” and are thinking about the value of the month, which is Aspiration, and what we will try to get better at. In Art, we will be using clay to make models linked to our theme and have been practising our skills first using ‘playdoh’. We can roll, pinch, press and squeeze!



Year 2

Welcome back Year 2, and Happy New Year to you all! What a busy first week we have had! In Maths, we have been learning about equal groups and division. We have written some super descriptions about a winter scene, and started our new book ‘The Princess and the Pea’. Our topic for this half term is ‘Castles and Dragons’. We have been researching castles and have enjoyed finding out and naming the different parts of a castle.





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Happy New Year! I hope that you all had a wonderful and relaxing festive break. I know that the children have all come back refreshed and ready to learn, this Spring term. This month our school value being focused on is "aspiration". We have been considering any new year's resolutions that we have made and how these fit in to our aspirations for the future. Each class has set themselves three goals for 2022; one for a healthier choice, one for kinder actions and a learning goal for the class to work towards. As the year progresses, I will be checking in with the classes to see how they are doing with their challenges! Let's see if they can all persevere (one of our other values!) to achieve them!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS



Year 3

Welcome back Year 3 and Happy New Year to you all. We hope that you have lots to look forward to in 2022 and we are certainly ready for lots of amazing memories to be made.

We've started several new learning topics this term, which you'll find out more about in the Curriculum letters coming home soon, including our 'Ice, Ice Baby' topic about Glaciers in Geography, State Change in Science, the Holi festival in RE and much, much more!

Year 4

A very happy new year, from Year 4! Wow, Year 4 have returned to school this week with a huge enthusiasm for learning and have blown us away, across the curriculum. This week, in English, we have been focusing on Poetry. The children have written some beautiful poems, and have been learning to use similes, metaphors, personification and many other poetic devices. Here you can see a sample of one of the poems we have written this week. Each class, worked in groups to create a poem called 'A dragon in the playground', inspired by one we have read, called 'Dog in the playground'.

There's a Dragon in the Playground

Dragon in the playground,

What shall we do?

He charged through the school,

Like a rhino in a zoo.

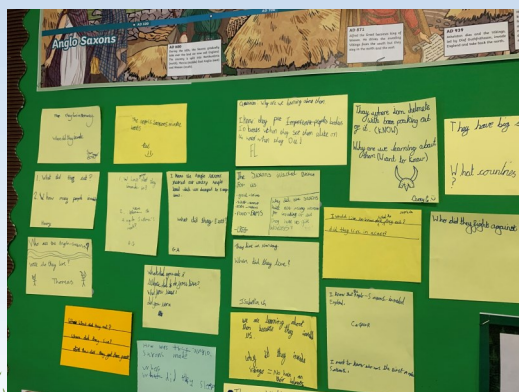
Dragon in the playground,

We don't know what to do,

Someone said, "What? Wait! I think there's two!"

A dragon on the playground,

We don't know what to do.



Year 5

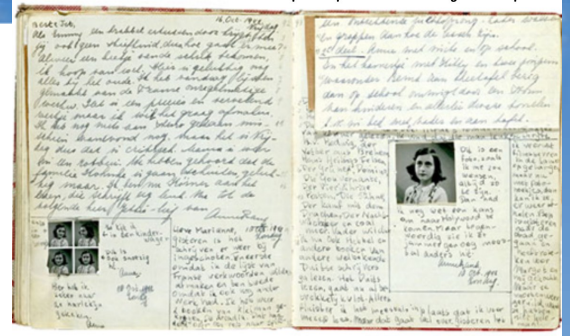
This week in Year 5, we introduced our new History topic, Saxons and Vikings! The children really enjoyed learning about why the Vikings invaded Britain, finding out about push and pull factors which might have made Britain, specifically East Anglia an attractive place to settle for a Scandinavian Viking! During the lesson, the pupils wrote down a fact they already knew about the Vikings and something they wanted to find out about them, by the end of the unit. We even found out that Vikings didn't really have horns on their battle helmets after all!



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Year 6

Welcome back Year 6 and a Happy New Year to all! This term, we shall be looking at the fascinating 'Diary of Anne Frank' as part of our new study into WW2. This topic delves into the struggles and hardships endured by Jewish people during this difficult period in history, and we are hoping to encourage families (and wider family members) to take part in this part of the learning aspect-sharing any experiences, documents or artefacts that promote further



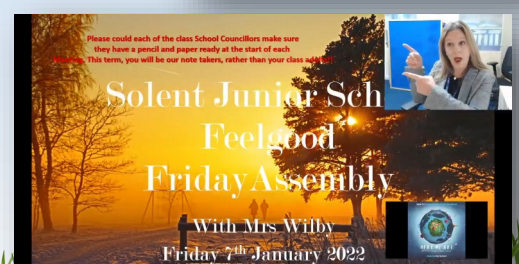
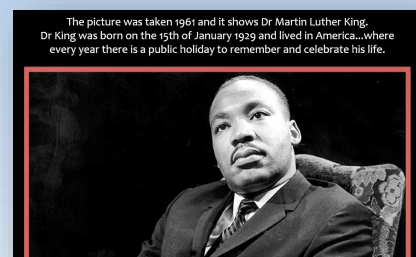
Assembly Focus

Each week pupils from Year R to 6 join daily school assemblies. Although we are unable to get together in person as a whole school community, these assemblies help us to remember that we are an important part of a wider group of pupils and staff. They also give us the perfect opportunity to celebrate and share our successes!



Solent Infant School Assemblies have a different theme each day:
Monday is values assembly with Mrs Lempriere.
Tuesday is our live assembly with Mrs Wilby.
Wednesday is singing assembly with Mrs McQuilken
Thursday is year group assembly time.
Friday is celebration assembly with Mrs Curthoys

Solent Junior School Assemblies are slightly different:
Monday is values assembly with Mrs Peterkin-Aldred
Tuesday gives us an opportunity to reflect with Mrs Young.
Wednesday is Lower School Assembly with our year group team.
Thursday assembly is all about raising our awareness with Miss Hill or Mrs Pye.
Friday is our live celebration assembly with Mrs Wilby.





THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Our Values

What does aspiration mean?

What does it mean to you?

Aspiration

Why should I aspire to something?

How can I aspire to something?



If you are dropping off or collecting from school, please could we remind you that you should not be using your mobile phone whilst on site. This is for safeguarding reasons. Your support is much appreciated.

Polite Reminders SIS

If you need to notify the school office in the afternoon of someone else picking up your child. Please could you ring on 023 9237 1073. Where the school email inbox isn't constantly monitored, only checked periodically during the day. It is possible email messages might not be picked up in time.

FWAS parents and car park use — please remember that you may use the car park in the morning only up until 8am. Then in the afternoon from 4.30pm onwards. Please could we ask that you don't use the car park outside of these times. Thank you.



Don't forget to like our Solent Infant School and Solent Junior School Facebook pages to keep up with all of the news as it happens! Or if you prefer Instagram, we have a brand new Solent Schools shared Instagram account too. If you have a spare moment over the weekend search 'The Solent Schools Portsmouth' and click follow! We will be regularly updating this page too from now on.

