



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Spring Newsletter 2022– 28 March 2022

Welcome to British Summer time! As the days continue to grow longer, we are certainly making the most of it across our schools. The infant school whole school trip letter has now been sent and so we are all officially on count down for our trip to Marwell! Over at the junior school we have absolutely loved getting back out and about to compete in a variety of sporting events and the school grounds developments are moving ahead in leaps and bounds! So many reasons to celebrate and remind ourselves of how grateful we all are to be part of such a wonderful school community.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

What Do You Think?

Two weeks ago, we asked you to provide some feedback in relation to a few questions about provision at the Solent Schools and then we shared the feedback with you last week. We now have a couple of brand new questions that we would like your opinion on. Please [click here](#) to share your ideas. Please complete this audit by midday on Friday 1st April. We look forward to hearing from you!



Solent Superbloom!

In 2022, Her Majesty the queen will become the first British Monarch to celebrate a Platinum Jubilee after 70 years of service. The Solent Schools will be getting involved in celebrating Her Majesty's historic reign by holding their own Jubilee themed day on Friday 27th May. We will be inviting all pupils to come into school dressed in red, white and blue and take part in a variety of Jubilee themed activities. We will also be creating our very own 'Solent Superbloom' at each school, just like the one being held at the Tower of London!

Friday 1st April will be a non-school uniform day in exchange for a £1 donation. All donations will go to the Friends of the Solent Schools and will be used to resource the Easter Egg Hunt that is taking place for all pupils on Thursday 7th April.





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

There is definitely an air of excitement at school, this week, and the bright, sunny weather has added to the excitement. We have been noticing how our seeds and bulbs are growing, there is blossom appearing on the trees in the orchard and the vegetable patch has been prepared for some new plants. We are making great use of the outdoor learning spaces and our grassed "roundabout" is the perfect place to sit or roll around! Year R are preparing for next week's Friday Farm Festival, Year 1 have been intrepid explorers to the South Pole and Year 2 now know some amazing facts about Giraffes. It is going to be a very busy but very exciting couple of weeks leading up to the Easter Holidays—and that is just how we like it! Look out for the letter about the whole school trip!

Mrs Curthoys—Head of School SIS

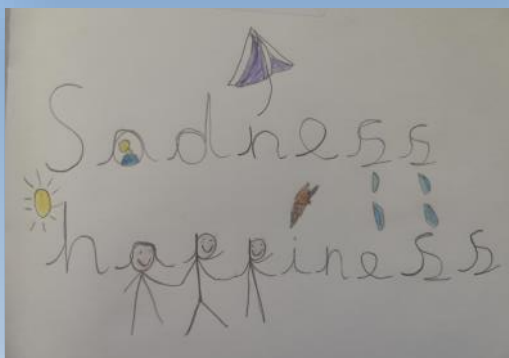
Early Years!

The Reception children are starting to get very excited about the Farm Festival next Friday. Preparations have already begun: we have loved finding out about different farm machines and vehicles this week and used some of these for our painting, during our outdoor learning, which will be used to create signs for the festival. The different wheels created interesting textures and we had lots of fun.



Year 1

Year 1 have had a great week in the sun! They are having a wonderful time using the Adventure Playground and played some super games on Wednesday. This week, the Maths focus has been on capacity and volume. The children have had fun exploring different containers. They might like to investigate capacity, at home. The teachers have also loved receiving photos of their sunflowers growing! As part of their Religious Education, the children have been learning about what the words happiness and sadness mean. Take a look at how they have illustrated the words.



Year 2

Year 2 have helped celebrate World Down Syndrome Day 2022 with an explosion of colourful socks! On Monday, the children wore brightly coloured odd socks to show their support. Year 2 have also been carefully making something special for this weekend... I wonder what this could be! In Literacy, the children have created a fact file about a giraffe. Did you know that a giraffe has four stomachs? Year 2 have become giraffe experts! Please test their knowledge by asking the children about the habitat, diet and the lifespan of a giraffe!





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Over the last two weeks both the Eco Warriors and Student Councilors have been involved in virtual meetings, the contents of which are being shared with the whole school community through assemblies! Our Eco Warriors discussed the environmental area and saw a plan of how it is being developed. Over Easter, each class will also have a hanging basket hung outside of their classroom featuring a pulley system. This will enable the children to lower the hanging basket in order to tend to the plants and water them! The plans and ideas for the playground were shared with the student councilors and they were shown the link in last week's newsletter. They have had fun encouraging their classmates to vote for their favorite equipment!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3



Year 3 have been showing off their amazing skills in maths this week! We've started a new unit in maths since our return from Minstead and it's all about FRACTIONS!

We're all at slightly different points in our learning due to our residential, but we're doing so well and really stepping up to the challenge!

We've been looking at wholes and equal parts, $\frac{1}{2}$'s, $\frac{1}{4}$'s and $\frac{1}{3}$'s and some of us have even begun to look at the meaning of different unit fractions. We've got so much more to look forward to next week, we can't wait!

Year 4

This week, we have started a new genre of writing in English, linked to our history. Over the next three weeks, we will be exploring all about non-fiction texts, linked to the Romans. We will be learning to apply conjunctions and commas accurately to our writing, in order to extend our sentences and ensure that our writing is cohesive. As well as this, we will be revisiting writing in the past tense, and thinking about applying the correct spelling rules to verbs, when changing the tense. Finally, we will be applying this learning to create our own Roman fact-files, which will showcase all of our amazing History and English learning from this term!

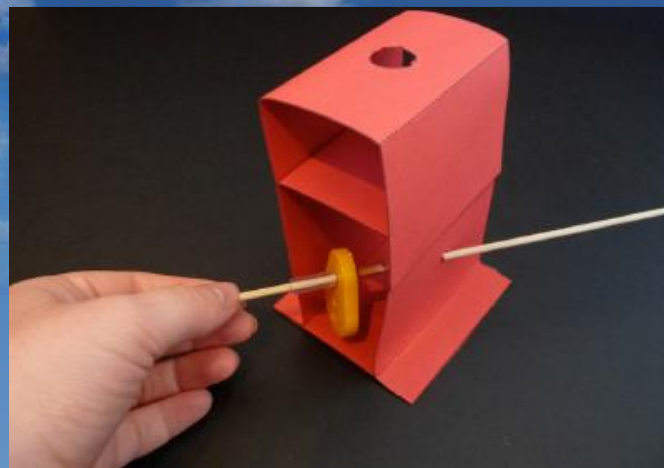




SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 5

As part of our Design Technology unit, we have been exploring how cams work to make toys move in different ways. We trialled a range of cams by making a 3D structure and attaching different shaped cams to a straw which we then rotated. We attached a follower and observed the kind of movement the different shaped cams created. We are now in the process of designing a Viking longboat which we will get to ride the waves using the movement created by the particular cams we choose.



Year 6

To mark British Science Week, Year 6 have been engaging in a variety of activities, from testing brands of washing detergent to test the effectiveness of eco-friendly products; studying optical illusions by learning how the brain perceives objects and colours and designing an outdoor gym activity to boost engagement of outdoor exercise accordingly.



Don't forget to follow us on both Facebook and Instagram. We often upload photographs of events that are happening across the Solent Schools.





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Votes Have Been Counted & Verified!

We currently have a simple and short 'trim trail' at Solent Junior School. Our pupils have told us that they find this trim trail restrictive and would like to see a far larger trim trail that challenges them and that they are able to use for extended periods of time during the school day. The current trim trail is still in good condition, so this will be kept, but extended along the Eastern side of the main playground. The new equipment will compliment what is already there but will need to add an extra dimension of challenge. We have the playground developers ready and waiting and last week we asked you to let us know what you would like to see as part of this trail. Thank you to all those of you who cast your votes. Below you can see the results. We are very much looking forward to working alongside the contractors to ensure that the equipment is installed as soon as possible!



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THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Dates for the Diary!

Week beginning 28th March	Year 5 Bikeability training
Friday 1st April	Easter non-school uniform day
Friday 1st April	Muddy Bucket Farm visiting Year R
Friday 1st April	Year R Farm Festival Day
Week beginning 4th April	End of term progress reports emailed out
Monday 4th April	Key Steps Gymnastics Festival (SIS)
Thursday 7th April	FSS Easter Egg Hunt
Friday 8th April	Year 6 WW2 Day

Monday 11th April—Friday 22nd April EASTER HOLIDAY

Monday 25th April	Return to School for Summer Term!
Monday 2nd May	May Day Bank Holiday—No School
Tuesday 3rd May	Additional School Bank Holiday—No School
Thursday 5th May	Showcasing Portsmouth Event
Thursday 5th May	Polling Day—School fully open
Wednesday 18th May	New to Year R and 3 Open afternoon
Friday 27th May	TSS Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
Friday 27th May	Break up for May Half Term!

Monday 30th May—Friday 3rd June MAY HALF TERM

Monday 6th June	Return to School for Summer 2!
Friday 10th June	SIS Whole School Trip to Marwell
Monday 13th—Friday 17th June	Arts Week
Monday 13th June	Showcasing Portsmouth Event at SIS
Friday 17th June	Inset—School Closed to all pupils
Monday 20th June	Inset—School Closed to all pupils
Friday 24th June	Class photograph day
Wednesday 29th June	Year 3 Disability Awareness Day
Thursday 30th June	Year 6 Disability Awareness Day
Thursday 30th June	Showcasing Portsmouth event at Guildhall
Monday 4th July	Summer Open Afternoon (work share)
Monday 4th July	Year R Gymnastics Festival (set group)
Week of 4th July	Progress Reports home to parents & carers
Week of 11th July	Year 6 Residential to Fairthorne Manor
Wednesday 20th July	Year 6 to Paultons Park

Friday 22nd July—Break up for Summer Holidays!

Inset Days

Additional Bank Holiday
for schools
Tuesday 3rd May

Friday 17th June 2022
Monday 20th June 2022

We can now confirm that the first two days of the academic year 2022-2023 have been set as Inset days. These dates are:

Thursday 1st September
Friday 2nd September

Children (Except new Year R pupils) will return to school on Monday 5th September.

