



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Summer Newsletter – 6 May 2022

I hope you all enjoyed the lovely long weekend. I think we have all spent the day today reminding ourselves that it is actually Friday again! The month of May brings with it a number of important milestones in the school year including the Year 2 and 6 SATs period. Although the notion of testing primary aged pupils does not sit comfortably with many, for us it provides an opportunity to encourage our pupils to see it as an opportunity to shine. The chance to celebrate all that they have achieved and the progress that they have made in their educational journey so far!

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

Here Comes the Sun!

The Infant School outdoor learning area is really shaping up ready for the summer and the increasing amount of time our little learners will be spending outside. The Junior School playground re-build is booked in for August and the environmental area is coming together nicely. The Eco-Warriors have been hard at work planting sunflowers, kindly donated to them from 3H's Science experiment. They have even found some old potatoes growing in the veggie beds! Next week, Miss Sweatman will be supporting pupils further in planting a range of vegetables in the vegetable patches. I wonder what produce we will be harvesting later on in the year!



Dance Live 2023

Next week, we will start the 'glitter' ball rolling and launch our journey towards taking part in Dance Live 2023. Dance Live is a performance competition held at the Guildhall stage where we produce a 7-minute dance. We have to decide on our theme and music. We produce our own choreography, costumes, hair, make up and produce a back drop on an LED screen and produce our own introduction video. As you can see there is a lot of work involved which is why we are starting our planning process now. From next week, I will start to discuss ideas with years 2-5. 'Get your thinking caps on everyone!' Watch out for a letter coming soon to see how your child can get involved. If you would like to see our last Dance Live piece then please look out for it on the SJS school website under 'gallery'. Mrs Brook





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

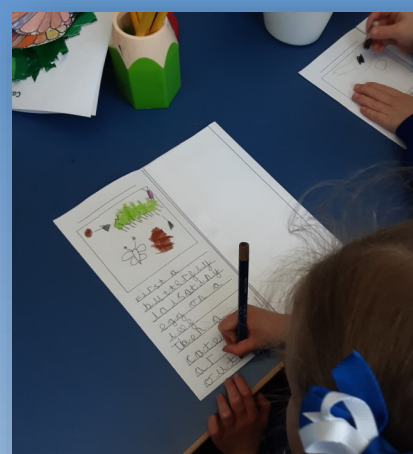
We are all getting very excited about lifecycles at the Infant School this week. Years 1 and 2 have been planting seeds and tracking their progress; Year 2 have been learning about hydroponics and could tell me all about it in our Celebration Assembly today. Year R are watching their baby caterpillars very carefully and have noticed that they seem to be growing very quickly. We are all getting very excited about what they will look like in the next stage of their life cycle. Two of our Year 2 children have also welcomed baby siblings this week and have been excitedly sharing their news with us. We love to hear your exciting family news!



Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

Early Years!

This week we have continued our learning all about life cycles! We have been looking at different life cycles, including those of a butterfly, frog, bean plant and chicken and discussing the similarities and differences between them. We researched using books and the internet about the different stages of the butterfly lifecycle and we have started to create a leaflet to help teach others all about what we have found out!



Year 1

It has been a very short week this week but year 1 have still been busy! We arrived back in school on Wednesday to see that our lettuce and cress had grown a lot since Friday! In English we have been learning all about questions and have learnt some of the words questions start with. We have tried really hard to remember the question mark at the end! In maths we have been counting in 2s, 5s and 10s and have begun looking at repeated addition! What a busy few days!



Year 2

Wow! What a very short week we have had. However, that has not stopped Year 2 painting in the style of Monet, revisiting addition and subtraction word problems, writing about the long weekend and learning all about hydroponics! As you can see in our photograph, we have a class plant growing with no soil and in a bag! We have all planted beans in bags and we hope to see them sprout roots soon! Year 2 are very busy at the moment and we appreciate all the support at home.





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

I hope everyone had a lovely bank holiday and is enjoying the slightly shorter week in school. I am constantly reminding myself that today is Friday, as I am completely thrown by the longer weekend. Even though it has been a shorter week in school, we have still covered a lot of learning. The return of the sunshine has been a welcomed sight and the children seem to have been energised by it. Next week, we see the return of the Year 6 SATS tests so I would like to take this opportunity to say how incredibly proud everyone is of you all and the fact that this is your opportunity to shine like the Solent Superstars you all are!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3

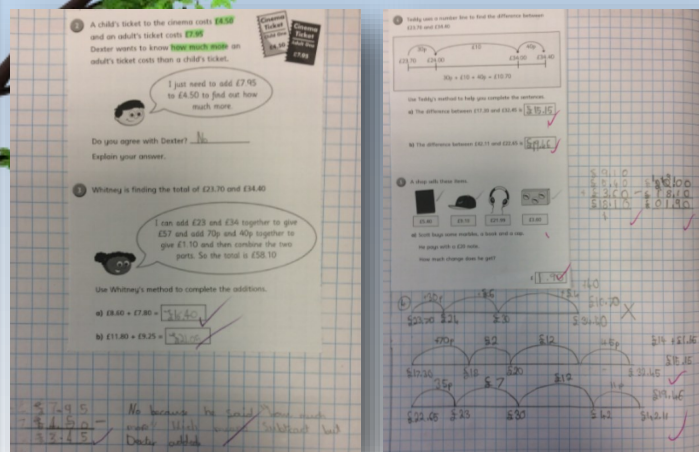
Year 3 are having great time digging into their new science topic, plants! We have had the opportunity to look at the different parts of a plant and discuss how they work. We're also learning some brilliant key vocabulary such as absorb, nutrients and photosynthesis so don't be too surprised when these budding scientists come home and start telling you all about the different plants they see! We are really enjoying the exploration this topic is giving us so far and can't wait to learn more about plants!



3H have also enjoyed their own little celebration today with Miss Hill. Over the weekend, Miss Hill will be celebrating a very special birthday. Miss Hill we hope that you enjoy your special day!

Year 4

Over the last two weeks, year 4 have been exploring all about money in maths. We have followed on from our year 3 learning and have looked at the value of pounds and pence. We have then moved on to using different methods to add and subtract amounts, including the use of number lines and the column method. We have also been learning about estimating and we have used rounding to work out approximate amounts. Finally, we have explored a range of different word problems using all four operations. The children have become experts in all things money! If you are in any shops this weekend, do see if your children can calculate any totals or work out the correct change!

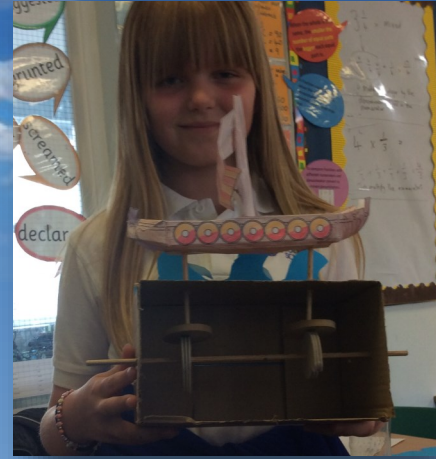




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Year 5

Year 5's Viking longboat moving toy project is in full swing, with children piecing together their final product and problem solving ways to ensure their boat can rock back and forth. It has been a real test of resilience for the children to explore ways to ensure the cams line up accurately with their followers. Blue tac and elastic bands have proven useful in ensuring the dowelling stays in position. The pupils sensibly used saws to cut their wood to size. Year 5 parents: make space for a new creative addition to your home.



Year 6

Monday the 9th May marks the start of the Year 6 SATs week. The children have worked extremely hard all year and are really ready for their assessments to begin. The SATs are designed to test the pupils understanding of their whole time at school, with questions covering knowledge and skills.

This is the the point of the year where we tell our pupils to use these SATs to 'show off' all their learning! We are in awe of all our pupils and their resourceful, responsible and mature attitudes towards this upcoming week.

All that is left to say is **Good Luck Year 6** - just do your best and make yourselves and your families as proud of you as we are!

A POEM FOR YEAR SIX



BY SPARKY

DON'T GET STRESSED.

JUST DO YOUR BEST.

REMEMBER, YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED

WITH SKILLS SATS CAN'T TEST.

The moment
is **NOW**.
NOT tomorrow, OR
yesterday
or **SOMEDAY**.
Right here. Right now.
THIS is YOUR moment to
SHINE.



Drop and Shop!

Throughout the Summer term, we will be running a 'Drop and Shop' second hand uniform stall. Every fortnight throughout the term we will invite families to bring along any second hand uniform (good condition only) they no longer need and drop it on the stall. In exchange, those who drop will be able to choose the equivalent number of items to take away. Alternatively, those without uniform to drop, can pay via an honesty box. All proceeds will go to the FSS. The stall will be in the playground at SIS and outside the front entrance at SJS on the following dates:

SIS Mondays 9th & 23rd May, 13th & 27th June and 11th July

SJS Tuesdays 10th & 24th May, 14th & 28th June and 12th July



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Dates for the Diary

WB Monday 9th May
Wednesday 18th May

Year 6 SATs week
New to Year R and 3 Open afternoon

Friday 27th May
Friday 27th May

TSS Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
Break up for May Half Term!

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

Monday 6th June
Friday 10th June
Monday 13th—Friday 17th June
Monday 13th June
Friday 17th June
Monday 20th June
Friday 24th June
Wednesday 29th June
Thursday 30th June
Thursday 30th June
Monday 4th July
Monday 4th July
Week of 4th July
Week of 11th July
Wednesday 20th July

Return to School for Summer 2!
SIS Whole School Trip to Marwell
Arts Week
Showcasing Portsmouth Event at SIS
Inset—School Closed to all pupils
Inset—School Closed to all pupils
Class photograph day
Year 3 Disability Awareness Day
Year 6 Disability Awareness Day
Showcasing Portsmouth event at Guildhall
Summer Open Afternoon (work share)
Year R Gymnastics Festival (set group)
Progress Reports home to parents & carers
Year 6 Residential to Fairthorne Manor
Year 6 to Paultons Park

Friday 22nd July—Break up for Summer Holidays!

Inset Days

Friday 17th June 2022
Monday 20th June 2022

Friday 27th May is Platinum Jubilee Day at the Solent Schools. All pupils are invited to dress in red, white and blue. If you have any spare red white and blue bunting, that you could donate to school, we would be very grateful. Please drop off any donations at the school office.

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.

