



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Summer Newsletter – 13 May 2022

My favourite point of the week is most definitely sharing assemblies with our lovely Solent pupils. We are now inviting a year group at a time back into the hall and are hoping to resume full assemblies before the school year is out. It is that time of year again when we begin to fly around the world with our SIS pupils. Each week, on a Tuesday morning, we will be jumping into our virtual Google Earth plane and flying to exciting new places. Once there, we will be comparing and contrasting our destination with Portsmouth and thinking about what else we would like to find out about each place. If you are lucky enough to have family or friends who live or work abroad and would like to be featured in one of our 'Where in the World' assemblies, please email yourpics@thesolentschools.org. We will respond and invite them to send us some information about where they are working or living and perhaps some pictures. At Solent Junior School, we continue to enjoy our 'Feelgood Friday' assemblies each week. During these assemblies, we take time to feel grateful for and celebrate our many achievements. If your child has an achievement that they would like shared in this assembly, please also email yourpics@thesolentschools.org.



Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

Breaking News!

This afternoon, we received the fantastic news that we have been successful in securing another bid through the Conditions Improvement Fund (CIF). This project will mean that we will soon be having all of the outdoor learning balconies at SIS renovated. This is the latest in a long string of successful CIF bids since forming the De Curci Trust.

Engineering Fairy Tales

Following on from the previous success of British Science Week, we wanted to end this term with something special too and so we will be participating in a week of exciting STEM activities. STEM is short for Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths and Monday 23rd to Friday 27th May will be Engineering Fairy Tales week!

In conjunction with BAE Systems, each year group will investigate a traditional fairy tale. The children will listen to the story being read by a member of the BAE Systems community who will then set them a challenge linked to the fairy tale. The challenge will involve teamwork, ingenuity and problem-solving skills – and maybe just a sprinkle of our Solent magic too! The week will then culminate in a whole school homework linked the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Picture Right: A group of Year 1 pupils enjoying our Engineering Fairy Tales event last year.





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL



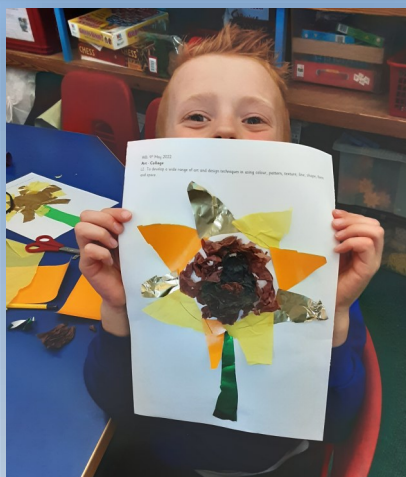
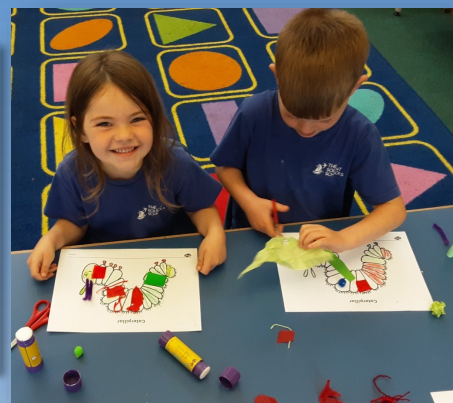
As we come to the end of Mental Health Awareness Week, I would like to celebrate the wonderful 'Art from Nature' work that all three year groups have created. We know the positive benefits to our wellbeing of participating in activities involving art, craft and mindfulness as well as being outdoors. It is a privilege to work with such talented staff who encourage creativity and aspiration from all of our pupils.



Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

Early Years!

This week, Year R have enjoyed exploring collage and mixed media art. To link in with our topic, we have been creating our own caterpillar and cocoon collages using a variety of materials such as paint, crayons, wool, sugar paper and card. We have used our fine motor skills to carefully colour in within the lines, as well as cut and stick the mixed media. Some of our class caterpillars have started to make their cocoons so we have also been very excited about this!

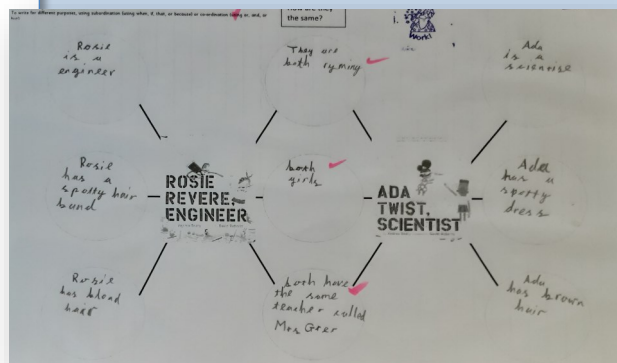


Year 1

Year 1 have had a wonderful week! They have continued their non-fiction writing about sunflowers and look forward to piecing them together. The children cannot wait to show you! In Maths, they have been making equal groups by grouping and sharing. They have also been practising counting in twos, fives and tens. However, their favourite activity this week has been creating their fantastic collages of sunflowers! They are all beautiful and all unique. What wonderful creativity!

Year 2

Year 2 have had a super week. We love 'double bubbles' in literacy and have used one for 'Ava Twist Scientist' and 'Rosie Revere Engineer'. We find these books inspirational as they are about inquisitive children who ask questions and want to create things. In our theme learning, we have been learning about inventors and had fun exploring Eiji Nakatsu's invention. Ask us about it!





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

It has been another incredibly busy week at the Junior School! Year 6 have completed their SATs and from the smiles on their faces, they have thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to shine! The Eco Warriors have also been very busy with Miss Sweatman, making the school grounds look lovely! They have been sowing the seeds for the wild flower area in the environmental area and planting up their classes hanging baskets. Not to mention, planting the vegetables in their class veggie beds. We are in the process of working out what competitions they want to run such as weirdest shape vegetable, biggest grown. So watch this space as further information will come out regarding the class competitions. None of this would be possible without the support of the FSS so a huge thank to them as they have funded all of the grounds items.



Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3

During the Summer Term, Year 3 are diving into ancient history with our learning about Ancient Egypt. We started our journey by identifying when the Ancient Egyptian period was in history, using timelines. This week we became archaeologists and took part in some tomb exploration! Each team sent one member at a time to crawl through the "tomb", discover the hidden artefacts and record evidence to take back. This required teamwork, an eye for detail and strong communication skills.



Year 4

In our maths learning, over the last week and moving into next week, we are learning how to tell the time! We began the week recapping how to tell the time to the nearest minute, and now most children are secure with telling the time on a standard, analogue clock. As the week has progressed, we have moved onto digital time, and looking at time on a 12-hour and 24-hour clock. Next week, we will be delving more into our knowledge of days, weeks and months, as well as continuing to practise telling the time on a digital clock. If you get chance at home, please do try and test your children's understanding of the time on both analogue and digital clocks!

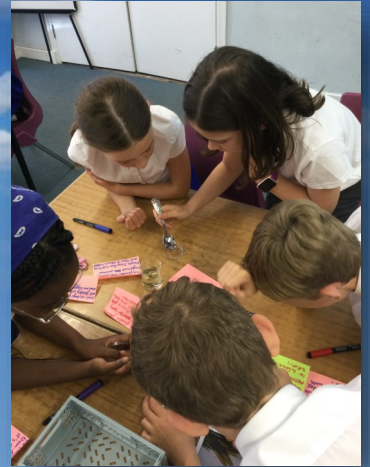




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Year 5

Last Friday, 5P took part in a STEM workshop with Pamdozi Creatives! We were visited by a marine biologist to discuss with us the impact plastic pollution is having on our oceans. The children investigated Sand Shrimp and identified their gender, their behaviour patterns and even witnessed a Sand Shrimp baby being born! They collected data which has been sent back to the University lab for further tests! The children absolutely loved the experience and demonstrated brilliant observation and scientific skills in their experiments. They will be having an Art workshop with Pamdozi Creatives next week using recycled materials and we can't wait to update you then!



Year 6

We are hugely proud of our Year 6's for having an amazing SATS week! We have been bowled over by the level of commitment and hard-work that all children have achieved in preparing for and undertaking in this important week of their Year 6 journey. After an intense two years of SATS preparation – we're hoping that all children will feel a huge sense of achievement and relief, now that all their exam prep is done. Once again, a huge well -done to all Year 6!



The Solent Schools Governing Body

Last Tuesday, the Curriculum and Standards Committee met. The meeting began with a presentation from Mr Mason (Year 2 teacher and outdoor learning lead). During the presentation, he shared with Governors all of the exciting work that is going on in the Infant School outdoor learning area. This has been largely funded by 'The Friends of The Solent Schools' and we are all incredibly grateful for this support. We are also incredibly grateful for the work of our Early Years leads, Mrs Dallinger and Mrs Eades, who have worked tirelessly to revamp and refresh our EYFS outdoor learning provision. We also considered a set of data, which illustrated the achievement of boys and girls across the two Solent Schools and noted that the focus for both schools continues to be ensuring that boys make as good progress as the girls in writing. We were very pleased to see that the gap in Mathematics has closed and understand that this is largely due to the three year focus on developing the Maths Mastery approach across the two schools. Thank you to our Mastery Leads Miss Garland, Miss Morris and Miss Smith. You have clearly done a great job and the impact is clear.



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 18th May
Wb Monday 23rd May
Friday 27th May
Friday 27th May

New to Year R and 3 Open afternoon
Engineering Fairy Tales Week
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

The first two days of the academic year 2022-2023 are 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.





THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Solent Jubilee Celebrations

FOOD TO
FLOURISH

The Big Jubilee Lunch

Friday 27th May 2022

Menu

- Option 1: Ham Sandwich, Sausage Roll**
- Option 2: Cheese Spread Sandwich, Vegan Sausage Roll**
- Option 3: Tuna Mayo Sandwich, Sausage Roll**
- Pizza Crown
Cucumber Crown
Carrot Sticks
Stamped Shortbread Biscuit
Fruit



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.

As part of our Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on Friday 27th May, HC3S (our catering company) will be offering a special jubilee lunch at the usual price of £2.60. Please find attached the details of this lunch which is available to order online via Pay360. Where possible we would request that you order this in advance by midday Saturday 21st May so the kitchen have an idea of meals required that day. If you have already ordered your meal for this day it has been removed, please can you reorder? There will be no other menu choices on this day, if your child does not wish to order the menu then they should bring in a packed lunch from home. (If your child has a special dietary menu in place we will contact you separately).