



# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Summer Newsletter – 20 May 2022

Welcome to the penultimate newsletter of Summer 1! We weren't exaggerating when we said that this term was always the busiest at Solent. This week has been dominated by some super sporting achievements. Enjoy reading all about them, as we move swiftly towards the half term holiday.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

### Dance Competition Winners!

Solent Junior School have won 'The Hampshire School Virtual dance competition'. Last term our whole school entered this competition as part of their dance unit. This was a competition set up to celebrate the Commonwealth Games which is being held in Birmingham. They had to choreograph a dance for up to 2 minutes with the theme being 'Inclusion'. Each class spent time discussing their theme, planning their story and deciding on what music would be suitable. Dance styles ranged from martial arts to contemporary! We videoed every step of the way so they could watch back their work and give feedback on what went well and how they could move forward. We also studied our last Dance Live piece, 'Snow Treasure', and discussed excellence in performance skills. I have been blown away by the enthusiasm and dedication of each class during this topic. I think having a 'real purpose' to their learning, an end goal and having ownership of their work really engaged the children. Their dancing, choreographic skills, creativity and performance skills have really improved through this competition. The judges were so impressed

by our school, as we were the only school to submit a piece from each class, they couldn't choose a winner. A certificate wasn't enough for our tremendous effort so they have given us a professional dance teacher for the day where each class will get workshop in Hip Hop. Well done team Solent – we are all super proud of you! Mrs Brook.



### Solent Super Stars!

On Tuesday, two teams of year 5/6 hockey players arrived at Admiral Lord Nelson school full of enthusiasm for their first hockey tournament. The teams played against different schools and showed skill, teamwork and determination. Team 1 won all of their games except one which they drew. Team 2 had a mix of wins, losses and draws. Both teams showed resilience and a superb sporting attitude. It was lovely to have so many parent supporters cheering on the teams and all Solent pupils were a credit to the school. All pupils took home a free t-shirt as a memento and reward for their hard work. I hope the experience inspired all our pupils to continue with hockey and to believe in themselves.



### Help Keep Solent Safe!

Please help us to help us keep our precious school community safe by driving safely around our schools. Last week, we had a close miss due to parents and carers who were parked on double yellow lines and near crossings. Please do not park across residents driveways as this does not allow important passing places and results in cars reversing, whilst children are crossing. It is your responsibility to change your habits so that we can avoid any of our pupils getting hurt!



# SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

The bunting is up around the playground and preparations are in full swing for our special Platinum Jubilee Celebrations on Friday, 27th May. Thank you to the Friends of the Solent Schools (FSS) for buying our jubilee flag, which will be flying from our flagpole next week, and another "Thank You" for buying a jubilee-themed book for each class. These will be gifted to each class next Friday with other jubilee memorabilia. New bedding plants, also from the FSS, arrive after Half Term — please let Mrs Curthoys know if you can help with planting!



Mrs Curthoys—Head of School SIS

## Early Years!

As we come to the end of our Get Up and Grow topic, the Reception team would like to celebrate some of the fantastic home learning that the children have completed this half term. We have been really impressed with the creativity and uniqueness of the learning that been shared on Tapestry. The children love sharing their home learning with their friends each week and they have all been so proud of each other.



## Year 1

Year 1 have had another very busy week! We have been reading The Three Billy Goats Gruff in preparation for our upcoming Engineering Fairy Tales Week. The children have helped make story maps and acted out the story themselves, 'trip trapping' over the bridge in the orchard area. They really got into role as great goats or very scary trolls!! In Maths we have continued sharing into equal groups and have been finding halves using shapes and numbers. Keep up the great work Year 1!



## Year 2

The teachers have been very proud of the Year 2 children this week as they have worked very hard and persevered. Some of the work has been very tricky but we enjoyed the challenge and always did our best. We enjoyed our dance lesson on Tuesday with Verity, our dance teacher, and we remembered some very involved moves!

Many Year 2 children visited the Junior School on Wednesday, after school, and were very excited to tell the Year 2 teachers all about it.





# SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

In May, our value of the month is Respect. In my assemblies we have been exploring how to show respect. We can show respect for people, places and things. Each of the classes has come up with four aspects that show respect that we will all commit to in the Solent Community. Here are some of the commitments the classes are making; listening when other people are talking, having good manners, ensuring we recycle, keep our learning tools safe, show respect to those around you by using kind words and thinking before you speak! As you can see they have thought very carefully about how to show respect and understand that this is in and around our school, as well as when they are out and about in the local community.

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

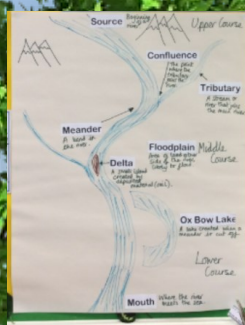
## Year 3

Over the past few weeks, during our French lessons, we have been learning how to say the different names of fruit! To do this, we have put our skills to the test through a variety of activities; from playing guess my fruit, to cutting out and using our own set of fruity flashcards, to matching up the spoken words to pictures given. Not only that, but this week we went a step further and started to explore how to differentiate between singular and plural fruits! Our reading, listening and pronunciation skills are coming along nicely as we recall the French words for our fruit friends!



## Year 4

This term in Geography, our topic is called 'Rivers and Rio'. We are learning all about South America, with a focus on Brazil. So far we have begun to explore how rivers are formed and learnt the names of the different parts of a river. We have explored some of the animals that live in the Amazon River and used this knowledge to help write rainforest setting descriptions in our English writing. We have developed our map and atlas skills, by labelling a map of South America. We identified the countries, their capital cities, plus we labelled the Amazon River, the Andes Mountains and the Equator. Later this topic, we will explore more about the Amazon Rainforest and learn about the city of Rio de Janeiro.



## Year 5

This term in PE, the Year 5 children have been practising their cricket skills. We have been learning to throw and catch with accuracy and have learnt how to bat! The pupils have had lots of fun playing small team matches in their class groups. The children have been using the skills they have learnt in their PE lessons to bowl the ball accurately to the batter, who then runs between the wickets, whilst the fielders use team work to pass the ball back to the bowler.

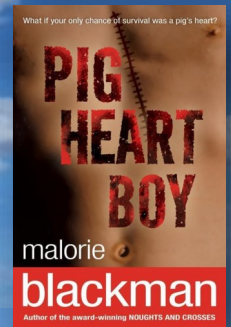




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## Year 6

This week, Year 6 have been building and refining their writing skills by writing a persuasive letter as part of their English work. The theme is based upon the book 'Pig Heart Boy' by Malorie Blackman, and draws upon the controversial aspects of cross-species transplants. Year 6 used their skills of writing, using persuasive techniques, and including aspects of all their SPaG learned so far. We are extremely proud of the year group for making a huge effort in this task!



## Plastic Pollution-Pamodzi

On Wednesday afternoon Steve and Claire from Pamodzi Creatives visited 5P to deliver an exciting art workshop on plastic pollution! This followed on from our STEM workshop a couple of weeks ago when we studied Sand Shrimp and the impact plastic pollution has on their lifecycle. The children created their own drawings of sea creatures to add to a big screen that will be showcased in an exhibition in St Mary's Church, details will follow very soon! 5P loved being artists and thoroughly enjoyed the experience!



## The Solent Schools Governing Body

*You asked, I investigated...*

I was asked by a parent how our children were served their lunchtime meals, their child had mentioned of food being served in burger style boxes and understandably the parent was concerned about food wastage and how environmentally friendly this was. I met with Mrs Wilby, Mrs Curthoys and Mrs Peterkin-Aldred to discuss this matter and this is what I found out...

On the children's return to school from the pandemic, classes were required to remain in bubbles, this meant eating lunch in the classroom and not in the main halls altogether. To ensure there was no cross-contamination, errors and food was delivered safely to the correct children, food was placed into eco-friendly recyclable cardboard containers.

As we now emerge from the other side of the pandemic, changes are in place to bring all children back into the main halls for lunch and food to be served back on plates. This is due to be put in place as early as this week!

For those concerned about the school's food wastage, we use the Portsmouth Food Waste service who take any left-over food. I would very much like to thank you for taking an interest and asking such great questions, (we don't have all the ideas) so keep them coming!

Sarah Turner, Parent Governor, The Solent Schools.



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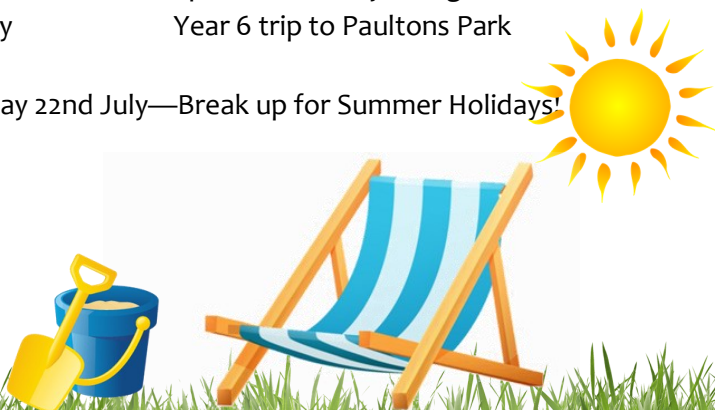
## Dates for the Diary

Monday 23rd May	SIS Drop and Shop
Tuesday 24th May	SJS Drop and Shop
Wednesday 25th May	U11 Girls National League South final
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!
Wednesday 8th June	New Year R parent meeting—Group A (9.15am)
Thursday 9th June	New Year R parent meeting—Group B (9.15am)
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
Tuesday 28th June	Group of Y1/2 attend Quadkids Athletics
Tuesday 28th June	Year 6 Production matinee performance
Tuesday 28th June	Year 6 Production evening performance
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)
Monday 4th & Tuesday 5th July	Transition days for Years 2 & 6 (Springfield)
Week of 4th July	Progress Reports home to parents & carers
Week of 4th July	Year 2 Celebration to Parents & Carers
Week of 11th July	Year 6 Residential to Fairthorne Manor
Week of 11th July	Sports & Healthy Living Week
Wednesday 20th July	Year 6 trip 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.