

THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Summer Newsletter – 27 May 2022

What a fabulous way to finish a wonderful half term at Solent. The pictures say it all! I hope that you all have a lovely relaxing half term break. We look forward to welcoming you back for the last half term of the year. We are already looking forward to a whole range of exciting enrichment activities, including SIS whole school trip, sports and healthy living week, end of year productions and leavers celebrations, to name but a few!

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



A special thank you to the FSS for giving each class a special Jubilee teddy as well as a lovely button badge





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SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

This week, we have participated in Engineering Fairy Tales Week. We have loved being engineers and finding ways to solve problems for our Fairy Tale characters. We have explored ways of protecting Jack's golden egg as he climbed down the beanstalk, helped the Billy Goats Gruff cross the bridge without waking the Troll up and found creative ways to get Rapunzel out of her tower. We ended our Engineering Fairy Tales Week with our Platinum Jubilee Celebration. Thank you to the FSS for our jubilee books, badges and class jubilee bear. Happy Half Term, everyone!



Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

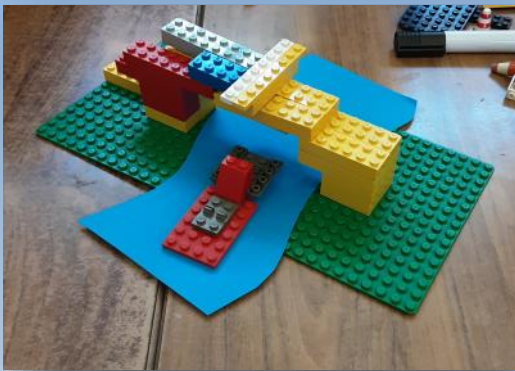
Early Years!

This week, we have had a very important STEM challenge in Year R. We were tasked with making something that would help Jack to protect the golden egg, as he dropped it down the beanstalk. We acted superbly, as engineers, to get to work on using a range of resources to create a protector for our eggs. It was lots of fun discussing our ideas and putting them to the test. We finalised our designs and tested dropping the eggs from different heights to see the results!



Year 1

Year 1 have been enjoying their STEM week all about The Three Billy Goats Gruff. They had to come up with a new way for the goats to cross the bridge without disturbing the grumpy troll! They thought of some creative ways including a zip wire, ear muffs for the troll, goat slippers and a hot air balloon! Earlier in the week, they explored making bridges out of different materials, and later on, made rafts. It was lots of fun trying to make the rafts float and was great for applying science skills!



Year 2

We have continued to feel proud in Year 2 this week and we have made sure that our school values such as responsibility, respect and perseverance have been evident. A big well down Year 2! We have also enjoyed STEM Week where we have all worked hard to help Rapunzel escape her tower. We have followed a design process to make sure our ideas would meet the objective to safely free her from the tower. We have also competed in groups to land an egg safely from a height without it cracking! It has been another amazing and exciting week!





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

On Tuesday evening, representatives from the student council attended a governors' meeting. They confidently answered questions set by the governors regarding their learning, school meals and other aspects of school life. In their last council meeting, all of the councilors thought of questions they could ask the governors. The questions they thought of were brilliant and really challenged the governors. A request that has come from the councilors is that they will be involved in the future recruitment of any governors, which the governing body welcomed! Another request from the councilors was related to the school dinners and having more vegetarian options...You have spoken and we have listened...After half term we will see the return of paninis and we have ensured that there will be vegetarian options included in the choices Well done to all of the student councilors, you were articulate, absolutely incredible in the meeting and the governors are very impressed by you! Finally I would like to wish everyone in the school community a Happy Half Term!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3

Last week, Year 3 discovered an opportunity that could help a new Guinness World Record be made! Wednesday 18th May, was National Numeracy day and our friends at Times Tables Rockstars wanted to achieve a new World Record attempt for the most people live streaming their national show, Rolling Numbers. After a technical hitch at the start, Year 3 managed to tune in, just in time to see the record be made and participate in their Rolling Numbers call and response for the 5 times table and get our very own certificate of participation!



Year 4

Today, in Year 4, we have had a lovely day celebrating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. We have made bunting, decorated our classrooms and completed lots of Jubilee themed activities, including a collage of the Queen's silhouette and mindfulness colouring. This week, we have had lots of assemblies themed around the Platinum Jubilee, and we have enjoyed learning lots of new things about the Queen. We have had a fun, creative last day of term and enjoyed dressing up in red, white and blue!

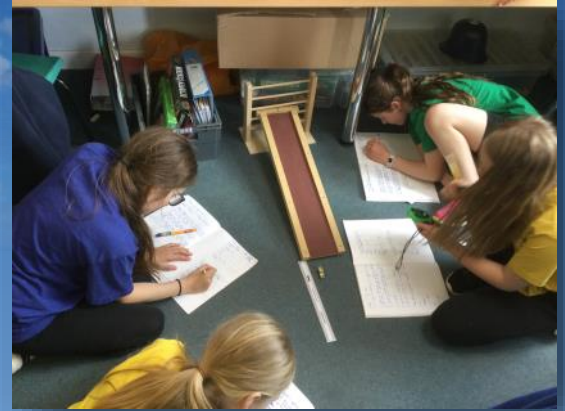




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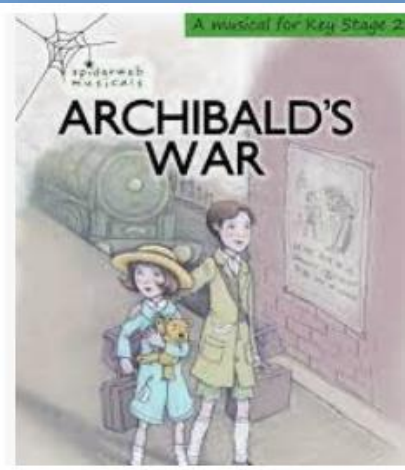
Year 5

As part of our Science topic on Forces, year 5 have been conducting fair tests to explore which surfaces cause the greatest amount of friction. Using various ramps with a mixture of textures including foam, sandpaper, carpet and wood, the children observed toy cars travelling from the top to the bottom of the ramp. For their measurements, they recorded the time it took to get from the top to the bottom but also the distance the vehicle travelled when it reached the bottom.



Year 6

Well it has been a week spent on tenterhooks for year 6 as they eagerly awaited news from their auditions for our Year 6 Production. Mrs Winslade, Mrs Scobie and Mrs Sharpe thought they had been transported to the West End when watching the audition pieces as the children not only oozed confidence but also showed their commitment in the way in which they had rehearsed their pieces. All parts have been distributed today and the songs are being uploaded to teams so it is now over to our wonderful year 6 to learn their lines and practice the songs ready for our return. Archibald's war will be performed on 28th June.



Governing Body Comes Under Scrutiny!

On Tuesday 24th May, the junior school council reps met with the full board of Governors. The children had prepared some tricky questions for the Governors such as 'How do you think, as Governors, you can help our school community more?'. The Governors had also prepared some questions to ask the school councilors such as 'We all find subjects challenging at times. What support do you receive when you come across a subject that you find challenging?' The Governing Body was very impressed with how articulate, confident and knowledgeable our pupils were. The School Councilors were very impressed with just how much precious voluntary time our Governors commit to supporting us in making our schools such lovely places to learn!





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Keeping an Eye on Service Children

Service children from Solent Infant School enjoyed spending time together to paint an eye on a pebble as part of the Portsmouth City Project "Keeping an Eye on Service Children". We will let you know where and when you can view the final installation in Portsmouth of all the pebbles in due course.

Solent Sporting Stars!

We are very proud of our Under 11 Girls Football Squad who travelled all the way to Bromley to compete in the National League Trust South East Regional Finals. The team played with determination and resilience, demonstrating a level of skill that has clearly improved as the season has progressed. Well done girls. We are very proud!



Dates for the Diary

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

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.