



# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Summer Newsletter – 17 June 2022

Overall, it has been a very 'arty' week here at Solent. The sun has certainly helped with plentiful opportunities to take learning outdoors. Sandwiched into the middle of the week, we received an NSPCC safeguarding audit visit and are very pleased to announce that both Solent Infant and Solent Junior Schools are both fully compliant in all areas. We will share some quotes, highlights and next steps with our school community once we have received the final report. So now to relax over the long sunny weekend. I hope that you enjoy the extra precious time to spend with your children!

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

## Transition Has Begun!

Every year, the Solent Schools build a transition program around the specific needs of each cohort as they move from Year 2 to Year 3. This year, the transition visits began during arts week, which gave the pupils a fantastic opportunity to share an outdoor art activity together. The Year 2 pupils are all buddied with Year 5 pupils, who will move into Year 6 in September and provide the pupils with a friendly face upon arrival and throughout their first year at the junior school.



## Scooter Safely

Now that pupils are starting to 'scoot' into school once again, please can we remind you that pupils must not scoot once on the school site. This includes the driveway entrance at SIS and car park at SJS. If you are intending to leave a scooter on site, please also ensure that it is clearly marked with your child's name to avoid confusion. The main pedestrian entrance at SIS is always the tunnel. The driveway is predominantly for cars and should only be used by pedestrians with buggies or wheelchairs, or scooters being walked on site, rather than ridden. If you are using the driveway, please use the pavement rather than the road section of the drive as this is used by cars.

Have you ever thought of volunteering at the Solent Schools? Or perhaps you have been a little hesitant to apply, wondering what it might be like? Well, our Parent Governor and volunteer Iain Sutherland has been out and about. If you would like to find out a little more then follow this link:

[Gallery | Solent Infant School \(thesolentschools.org\)](#) or

[Gallery | Solent Junior School \(thesolentschools.org\)](#)







# SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

Inspired by our recent whole school trip to Marwell, we have spent the week exploring Pattern and Print in our Arts Week. We have collaged, drawn, pastelled, painted and printed! It has been great fun looking really carefully at the patterns and discussing what we could see. We also worked hard to reflect upon our artwork and talk about how we could improve it. We have got better at looking closely for details. Year R and Year 1 were also excited to welcome back Ruth Morgan, from the Portsmouth Music Hub, with Spark the Dragon to receive their Art Award certificates.

Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS



## Early Years!

We have had a fabulous week celebrating all things Art. Linked to our recent trip to Marwell Zoo, we have been recreating a range of 'prints and patterns'. We have particularly enjoyed tearing and layering different paper to recreate the patterns of tigers, snow leopards, zebras and giraffes.

The children have been excellent at making links between their previous and current learning: we have learnt that a baby giraffe is called a calf, a baby zebra is called a foal and a baby tiger is called a cub.



## Year 1

What an amazing Arts Week Year One have had! We used the trip to Marwell Zoo as inspiration for some fantastic art linked to pattern and print. We have printed and drawn feathers, looked at the colours and patterns on different animals and used different skills and media, such as paint, pastels and paper, over the week to make a final 'picture' of an animal focusing on different body parts-phew! We even managed to squeeze in some writing about Marwell and some Maths!

## Year 2

We thoroughly enjoyed our trip to Marwell and saw lots of patterns and prints on many animals. This week has been Arts Week and we used the animals from the trip to inspire our art work. We made a wonderful class tile of different patterns and prints and used media of our own choice. We learnt about a South African artist called Esther Mahlangu, who is famous for her bold, large-scaled contemporary paintings that reference her Ndebele heritage. We also created our own zebra or giraffe painting and built up to the final piece over a few days.







# SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

As I mentioned last week, at lunchtimes we are all back together as a whole school and it has been lovely to watch. This week, I have joined the children on the playground and it has been a great opportunity to catch up with different children to discuss their days. The lunchtime staff have worked incredibly hard to zone the playground with a variety of games from the quiet area in the top playground to skipping, Frisbees to an area called "Funky and Fit", where they play different structured games lead by our adults and also senior pupils. Having the zones in the playground, supports all children in having an area to go and feel secure, which has a positive impact on the confidence of our pupils as well as ensuring that our lunches are a positive experience for all. I am looking forward to this being further developed when we have our new equipment installed over the summer holidays!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

## Year 4

This week has been Arts' Week! Our focus for the week has been the Brazilian artist Beatriz Milhazes. Her art work uses big, bold shapes, overlapped to create eye-catching pieces of artwork. This week, the children have been sketching different pieces of her artwork, then they have created their own artwork based on her Modernism style.

Firstly, they created a watercolour background. Then, they looked at Brazilian landmarks and created shapes (a motif) to layer their pictures with. Here are the results!



## Year 4

We are so incredibly proud of the whole of Year 4 this week! They are the first year group to ever complete the Year 4 Multiplication Check! This is a tricky test with very short time limits, and all of the children rose to the challenge of this test. Every child was calm, composed and tried their absolute best, which is all we ask for. We hope they enjoyed a little treat earlier this week as reward to say well done. A big well done again Year 4, from all of the adults in The Year 4 Team.







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## Year 6

This week, year 6 have once again ventured into fictional writing. They have been using images, videos, news reports and eye witness recounts to generate language linked to being caught in a Tsunami. Finally, we used the trailer from the 2011 film, 'The Impossible' to further inspire a writing journey. The children were all given the opportunity to use their own way of planning. So far the outcomes are very impressive!



### Inset Days

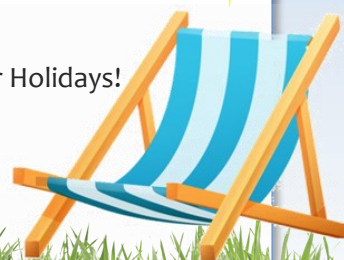
Friday 17th June 2022  
Monday 20th June 2022

## Dates for the Diary

Monday 13th—Friday 17th June	Arts Week
Friday 17th June	Inset—School Closed to all pupils
Monday 20th June	Inset—School Closed to all pupils
Tuesday 21st June	Sooterbilty Year 2
Thursday 23rd June	Family Values Course (SJS Meeting Room)
Friday 24th June	Class photograph day
Tuesday 28th June	Year 6 production to parents (1.15pm & 6pm)
Wednesday 29th June	Year 3 Disability Awareness Day
Thursday 30th June	Year 6 Disability Awareness Day
Thursday 30th June	Showcasing Portsmouth event at Guildhall
Friday 1st July	Year 3 new parent & carer meeting (9.10am)
Monday 4th July	Summer Open Afternoon (work share)
Monday 4th July	Year R Gymnastics Festival (set group)
Monday 4th July	Year 6 transition day at Springfield
Tuesday 5th July	Year 6 transition day at Springfield
Week of 4th July	Progress Reports home to parents & carers
Wednesday 6th July	Year 2C celebration to parents & carers
Thursday 7th July	Year 2MA celebration to parents & carers
Friday 8th July	Year 2M celebration 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!



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.