



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Summer Newsletter – 01 July 2022

Welcome to a bumper edition of our school newsletter! As you will be able to tell from the stories contained within, we are making the most of every opportunity to engage in activities and events both within and beyond school. I was lucky enough to attend some of these this week, including the Year 6 evening performance, and also a Year 2 Athletics event. These opportunities enable a range of pupils to engage in new experiences and even recognise talent that they didn't even realise they had. There are many more exciting events still to come this term as well as next. If you are keen and willing to accompany us, then follow the link on page 5 to join our ever growing volunteer bank.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



Showcasing Portsmouth

Wow, what an evening 4S had yesterday! 4S were lucky enough to be invited to take part in the Showcasing Portsmouth Event, last night at the Guildhall. We have spent the last few weeks learning lots of songs and actions, all about Portsmouth. It was an amazing event, where lots of schools from across the City came together to celebrate music and art. We are so proud of all of the children for learning the songs and actions flawlessly and performing like little stars! Well done, 4S - you were a credit to Solent!



Year 2 Quadkid Stars!

On Tuesday 28th June a selection of Year 2 pupils took part in a Portsmouth and Havant 'Quadkids' Athletic event. They travelled with Mrs Dallinger on the minibus to the Mountbatten Centre. Whilst there they competed in a range of events including long jump in a full sand long jump pit, sprint and 600m run on the athletic track and also a final relay race. The pupils represented our school incredibly well, demonstrating that, even at Year 2, they understand what it means to show a sense of fair play. Well done Year 2, you are a credit to our school.





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

It has been a very busy half term so far which started off with the whole school trip to Marwell and our Pattern and Print Arts Week. We are now focusing on being reflective about the learning that has taken place this year and how much progress we have all made. This is especially true of how we have grown in our understanding of the Schools' Values: Respect, Responsibility, Friendship, Teamwork, Perseverance and Aspiration. Class Teams are currently nominating children to receive the final Governors' Shield Award for this year and we look forward to announcing the winners soon!



Mrs Curthoys—Head of School SIS

Early Years!

Year R have continued their fantastic learning all about our topic—'Marvellous Me!' This week, we have been thinking carefully about our senses and focusing on what we can hear, see, touch, smell and taste. We have enjoyed going on a 'Senses Walk' in small groups, and exploring the 5 senses within our outdoor learning area through a variety of activities. We are super impressed with the vocabulary used to explain the different senses — Well done Reception!

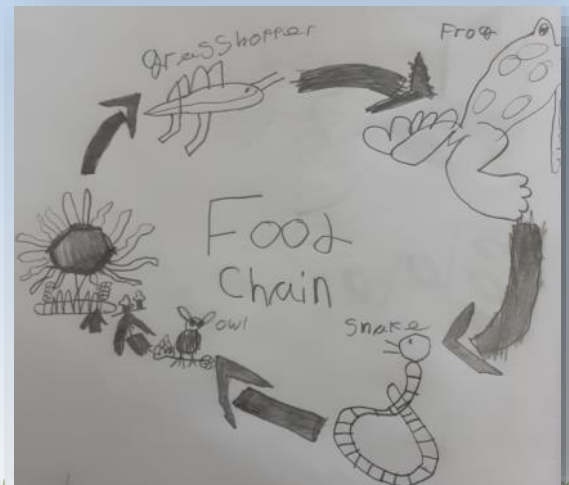


Year 1

Year 1 have had a lovely week! They have been thinking about time in Maths lessons and spent time ordering and sequencing events during the school day and days of the week. They have also talked about months of the year. When looking at clock faces, they have focused on o'clock. Next week, they will be exploring half past. In English lessons, the children have started their leaflets about their islands. Look at one of the super examples of island homework handed in.

Year 2

In English this week, we have been writing our own version of the story 'The Three Little Wolves and The Big Bad Pig'. We have been using what we know about predators and prey to choose the main characters for our story. We have had some great ideas and have worked hard to make our stories interesting and exciting! In Science we have been looking at food chains and thinking about what would happen if part of the chain was missing. We have also been busy rehearsing for our performances next week, we are looking forward to seeing you!





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

The value of the month for June has been teamwork and we have been looking at what makes Team Solent so special! There have been lots of reasons; from working together in class teams, helping set up games at lunchtime, to supporting our friends when they need help in their learning. One excellent example of teamwork was the Year 6 production! I was taken aback by how amazing everyone was during the performance. From the prop makers, lighting and sound crew to each performer, they all pulled together to create an incredible show which entertained everyone in our community. Special thanks to all of the Year 6 staff for their hard work to enable this to happen. Finally a huge well done to every pupil in Year 6, you really are Solent Superstars!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3



Despite the end of the Summer Term soon fast approaching, Year 3 are still getting stuck into their learning as we continue to delve deeper into our new topics for Maths and English! We have been busily putting our Geometry skills to the test as we refine our measuring skills, explore angles and investigate different types of lines from horizontal to perpendicular! In English, we are well under way with studying adventure stories; deciding carefully on how to create interesting sentences to hook our readers in, and developing our ideas in preparation to create exciting settings, plots and characters for our own stories!

Year 4

Next Wednesday 6th July 2022, Year 4 will be competing in their very own Sports' Day. This will be held on site, and the children will be competing in different activities, including relay races, egg and spoon race and hockey and football dribbling. On this day, the children will need to come into school in full P.E. kit, in addition to their usual PE days. Please ensure that children have a water bottle, a hat and that they apply sun cream, as all of the events will be held outside. If the children would like, they may also bring an extra snack to enjoy after the activities. We look forward to enjoy this sporty event next week!



Year 5

Over the last few weeks, the year 5 children have been enjoying getting to know their year 2 buddies. On Friday, the year 5s had to support their year 2 buddies to solve a treasure hunt around the school. There were clues to work out which would reveal an area of the school that the children had to find in order to uncover a letter. Those who completed all clues should have uncovered the message 'Welcome to Solent Juniors'. The year 5s demonstrated their responsible, caring and nurturing qualities and we hope that all year 2s are excited to return to the juniors again this coming Friday for a sports-filled afternoon with their buddy.



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Year 6

WOW! WOW! WOW! Year 6 you were amazing in ALL of your performances this week. Here is just some of the feedback we have had:-

“ They didn’t make any mistakes”

“ We can't believe they only had a few weeks, it looked like they'd been rehearsing for months!”

“I loved their songs”

“I liked the way their voices changed from low to high”

“ I just wanted to say how amazing the production was.”

We are all super proud of the year 6 children , whatever their role in the production from tech to cast to choir.



The Fantastic Friends of the Solent Schools (FSS)



The FSS will be holding its AGM in September (Date-TBC), and all the committee posts will become available for you to nominate yourself for. As the chair for the last six years, I will be standing down from the committee as will our fantastic Treasurer - Izzy Cordery - who has also been onboard for all of that time too! We have had an expression of interest for the chair's position, and would absolutely love to see as many people as possible put themselves forward, for either the committee positions or indeed to help out with all the fabulous activities and events the FSS organise. I know I speak for myself, the current committee, and all those who have given up their time so freely over the last six years - in saying that it is the most incredibly rewarding experience to be part of organising fun events for the Solent children and their families, and of course raising funds for the schools. The covid years have been interesting in terms of fundraising but thanks to some amazing people we have managed to raise a little more for those vital funds - so a special thanks to those people too! The great news is that hopefully come September all of those well loved, familiar events will be back - with some exciting new events too! All of our children benefit greatly from the funds raised, and will absolutely love seeing you in and around school helping out.

If you would like more information, or to nominate yourself for a post then please get in contact with us at fss@thesolentschools.org or follow the link on the FSS page [here](#) on either school website. We look forward to hearing from you!



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS



Calling all Volunteers—Autumn Term Round Now Open!

The Autumn Term round for parents and carers to apply to join our volunteer bank is now open!

As shared in previous newsletters, we now hold a bank of volunteers. This bank is held for as long as a volunteer wishes to help within school. At the point of transfer from one school to the other, we are able to keep this information in the bank, with the permission of those volunteers. As such, you only need to complete this process once, if you wish to be added to the bank. Whenever we are looking for parents and carers to support us, by volunteering regularly in school, on school trips, residential or for special events such as sports days and dance performances, we will approach those who are stored within the 'volunteer bank'. We will not be able to use anybody who is not in this 'volunteer bank' as they won't have had the necessary safeguarding checks in place. Before adding an individual to the 'volunteer bank', we will ask them to complete our volunteer process including a volunteer application form along with other safeguarding checks. This information will then be stored and retained for future use.

If you would like to be added to the 'volunteer bank' please [click here](#) to complete an initial expression of interest. We will then be able to set you up a 'volunteer profile' within school.



Dates for the Diary

Week of 4th July	Progress Reports home to parents & carers
Monday 4th July	Solent Schools Transition Day 1
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	Solent Schools Transition Day 2
Tuesday 5th July	Year 6 transition day at Springfield
Wednesday 6th July	Year 2C celebration to parents & carers
Thursday 7th July	Year 2MA celebration to parents & carers
Thursday 7th July	gam Family Values Course (held at SJS)
Friday 8th July	Year 2M celebration to parents & carers
Friday 8th July	Ambulance visiting Year 5
Week of 11th July	Year 6 Residential to Fairthorne Manor
Week of 11th July	SIS Sports & Healthy Living week
Monday 11th July	Year 3 Egyptian Day
Tuesday 12th July	SIS Guitar Concert
Thursday 14th July	Pop in and meet the new teacher!
Friday 15th July	Year 2 leavers disco
Wednesday 20th July	Year 6 to Paultons Park
Thursday 21st July	Year 6 leavers party
Friday 22nd July	Break Up for Summer Holidays!



Watch out next week for a full list of dates for next academic year!

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.



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Governor's Annual Statement

In September the Governors' Annual statement will be issued. It tends to be a rather "dry" document and I wanted, before we disappear for the summer, to take the opportunity to reflect on my first year as Chair of Governors.

We set ourselves several objectives for this year, not least of which was improving communication and visibility within our community; parents and carers, staff, pupils and all our neighbours.

There have been a few changes within the Governing Body, not least that we can again meet face to face. We are a friendly bunch; we have missed the company (and the tea and biscuits). We can at last re-establish contact in person. What a delight to visit Marwell in June with the entire Infant School.

This year we welcomed two new Parent Governors, Sarah Turner and Iain Sutherland. Both have quickly settled in to their roles and are performing valuable service. Hopefully you have seen their articles in previous Newsletters as well as Iain's video, linked from Newsletter 29. They are both very approachable- do take the opportunity to say hello if you see them around school.

Two of our Governors have called it a day after many years of sterling service.

Tessa Webber led the Junior School Governing Body for many years and then took us through the soft federation of the Infant and Junior Schools and into The De Curci Multi Academy Trust, devoting unimaginable hours of work. She has also ably supported me during my first year as chair and we are forever in her debt.

Alex Watts was an equally long-serving member. She was a strong advocate of our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) provision and was a great support to our SENCOs (special needs coordinators) at both schools. Her skills and experience have been invaluable.

Both ladies have more than earned the return of their Tuesday evenings (and all the other hours). We all thank them and wish them well. They will be much missed.

We will also be missing one of our Staff Governors, Charlotte Saunders, who will soon be concentrating on a 2026 new entrant to the Infant School. Our heartiest congratulations to her. She provided valuable insight and I doubt she has ever been seen without a smile on her face.

Staff who wish to volunteer to replace her, please form an orderly queue outside the Junior school Hall.

As I hope you are aware, we don't just sit around a table gassing and munching on biscuits. Every Governor has a role to play in supporting the staff and school leaders. We plan to have a rogues' gallery on the web site to enable you to match Governors' faces to their names and the roles they play in giving that support.

Leaders are only as good as the team behind them. I am most fortunate in having such a talented, enthusiastic and committed group working for the benefit of our children. I am indebted to them.

On a final note, we can now look forward to all getting together next term for some fun fund-raising activities with The Friends of Solent Schools. Watch out for Quiz Night-back for episode 14 in the series after a 3-year break. Your Quizmeister is already hard at work preparing so get a team together, bring a picnic, nibbles and something fizzy in a bottle (or two). You'll have a great time! Details next term.

Congratulations on making it to the last sentence, have a great summer and thank you for the support you all give to our Schools.

John Wademan

Chair of Governors, The Solent Schools.



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Summer Reading Challenge 2022

GADGETEERS

Presented by The Reading Agency.
Delivered in partnership with libraries.

**Library and Archive
Service**
Central Library
Guildhall Square
Portsmouth
PO1 2DX

Date: July 2022

[Click here](#) for a live link to the YouTube trailer.

[Click here](#) to register online

Summer Reading Challenge

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to invite your child to take part in **Gadgeteers**, this year's Summer Reading Challenge, which launches in all Portsmouth Libraries from **Saturday 9 July**.

Please encourage your child to visit the library and sign up and see the difference the Summer Reading Challenge makes to their reading and confidence.

To find out more about this year's theme, check out the trailer on YouTube:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIL1oiVZWkA>

Children can also register online: www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Every child completing the Challenge will be invited to the very popular winners' event to receive their medal. This will take place at **Southsea Castle** on **Sunday 18 September**.

Our staff look forward to welcoming you and your child to your local library this summer.

Remember, it is **FREE** to join the library and take part in the Summer Reading Challenge and there are **NO FINES** or reservation charges on books borrowed by children or adults!

Yours sincerely

David Percival
Library and Archive Service Manager