



# THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

## Summer Newsletter—15 July 2022

With just the final week to go, we would very much like to gather your views on the Solent Schools. As important stakeholders in our school community, your voice is very important to us. Please take the precious time to [click here](#) and complete a short survey. This feedback will provide us with the detail that we need to enhance our provision and make the Solent Schools an even brighter place to learn. Thank you in advance for the time taken in doing this.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher

### SIS School Council Meet the Governors!



It was the turn of the SIS School Councilors to quiz our Governing Body on Tuesday evening. What a bunch of budding politicians they are! They confidently articulated their questions and, when questioned by the Governors in return, were able to provide well thought out responses. This left the Governing Body very impressed!



### Welcome Back Year 6, We Missed You!

We are eagerly awaiting the return of our Year 6 explorers! They have just spent a sunny week camping at Fairthorne Manor and what a week they have had. A special thank you to all of the adults that accompanied them. We hope that you are now able to have a lovely relaxing weekend!







# SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

We have enjoyed our Sports and Healthy Living Week, learning lots of new sporting activities and finding ways to keep cool in our lovely summer weather. We have worked hard to improve our performance in a range of PE skills such as running, jumping and throwing and catching; we learnt a dance routine, improved our agility in the Adventure Playground and practised our pedaling skills too. Throughout the week, we have also learnt about oral hygiene, healthy eating and different ways to relax.



Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

## Early Years!

What a wonderful first Sports Week for our littlest learners! We have been so impressed by the enthusiasm, excitement and perseverance that the children in Year R have shown this week. We began our week with a Dance workshop, followed by a plethora of exciting sports skills activities, as the week progressed. We have enjoyed extra time on the bikes and in the adventure playground, as well as learning all about ways to keep ourselves healthy and safe.



## Year 1

Year 1 have enjoyed sports week this week. Although it has been very hot, they have worked incredibly hard to show off their sporting skills! All of the children have taken part in circuits, dancing, running and learning about the Commonwealth Games. They have also learnt how we keep ourselves healthy in lots of other ways. Year 1 have been busy making islands in geography, too. They have applied all of their knowledge this half term by making valleys, factories, forests and much more.



## Year 2

It has been a very hot few days in Year 2. However, this has not deterred the children from earning their S P O R T stickers for our whole school sports week! The children have engaged in football, running, and other activities. They also learnt about the upcoming Commonwealth Games in Birmingham and they discussed what it means to be a good sports person. The children have thoroughly enjoyed this week and they are looking forward to participate in different sports across the summer.







# SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

It has been another glorious week at SJS! The sun has been shining and whilst it has been warm, we have still all had a very productive week. The Year 6s have had an amazing week camping at Fairthorne and have completed lots of exciting activities from climbing, water rafting, camp fires and a disco! The school has been very quiet without them and we are looking forward to their return for their final week next week. In school, we have been equally busy and today we were delighted to welcome in a Hip Hop dancer into school to teach each class a routine. As shared previously in a newsletter, SJS won the opening dance for the Hampshire Games and this was our prize! Hopefully we will all learn some new moves so we can dance our way in to the weekend and the last week of this academic year!

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS



## Year 3

Wow- what an exciting start to the week! Monday was the day of our Ancient Egyptian Exhibition Extravaganza! The children looked fantastic dressed in their costumes and we were so impressed with their home-made artefacts! On the big day of filming, despite the sweltering temperatures, the children were like true professionals when it came to recording their Egyptian song, dance and topic learning- having a fun and productive day! We are really looking forward to sharing all of their learning with you, so watch this space for a link enabling you to join in with the fun on our Virtual Ancient Egyptian Exhibition!

## Year 4

This week, the children have been immersing themselves within their topic of 'Rivers and Rio' and have written a story based in Brazil. The children have used their knowledge of physical and man made features of Rio de Janeiro, and compared the economic differences between the city and the favelas to add further detail to their writing. This final Big Write has been a real opportunity to show off all they have learnt this year and we have been blown away by the quality of the work they have produced. Year 4, you are amazing!



## Year 5

Last Friday, Year 5 were lucky enough to be visited by Mrs Brown, who is studying to become a paramedic. She brought along the ambulance for the children to have a look at and gain some first-hand experience of life as a paramedic. The children had a great time playing with the patient lift, practising CPR on the dummies and stretchering each other around on the playground. The pupils improved their knowledge of first aid and thoroughly enjoyed their visit from the ambulance.





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## Phonics Update!

### Why Little Wandle Revised Letters and Sounds?

As a school we carefully considered what our pupils needed from a phonics programme and what was most aligned to our beliefs and philosophy for learning. We wanted to avoid products that appeared too commercial in order to reduce cognitive load for our children. Whilst the programme is predominantly aimed at Solent Infant School pupils, we were also keen to introduce one that could extend into Key Stage 2 for any pupils who may require extended support. After a significant amount of research, including discussions with and observations in other schools, we settled on Little Wandle Revised Letters and Sounds. We felt that this programme is similar to our usual phonics teaching, reduces cognitive load for pupils and ensures a consistent approach. It also links to high quality phonics books from Collins Big Cats (already in use). We will be providing more information on this exciting development, in September.



## Parent Liaison Reps Required!

Next academic year, we would like to resume our parent & carer liaison meetings. As such, we are now seeking one parent or carer rep for each class to attend the meetings as a voice for that class. The meetings will be held once every half term and will be a mix of daytime / evening meetings to suit all attendees. All we ask is that the rep brings along topics for discussion on behalf of other parents and carers and that you are happy to respond to questions from the school as a voice for other parents and carers. We will ensure that other parents and carers know who you are. Your reward will include tea and biscuits, priority access to events and also a great opportunity to get to know a wider group of parents and carers, as well as senior leaders in school. If you would like to put your name forward for this role, please [click here](#) to complete a very brief jot form. **We still need reps for the following classes: 2MA, 2RM, 3NS, 4S, 5C, 5W, 5P, and 6S!**

## Dates for the Diary

Wednesday 20th July

Year 6 to Paultons Park

Thursday 21st July

Year 6 leavers party

Friday 22nd July

Break Up for Summer Holidays!





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## Save the Date! 2022-2023

All dates are subject to change where unavoidable.

### Autumn 2022

Thurs 1st Sept	Inset Day
Fri 2nd Sept	Inset Day
Mon 5th Sept	Back to School! (except YR)
Tues 13th Sept	2.20—2.50pm Y4 Parent & Carer Expectation Mtg
Thurs 15th Sept	2.20—2.50pm Y6 Parent & Carer Expectation Mtg
Fri 16th Sept	2.20—2.50pm Y5 Parent & Carer Expectation Mtg
Mon 19th Sept	2.30—3pm Y1 Parent & Carer Expectation Mtg
Tues 20th Sept	6-7.00pm Y3 Welcome Meeting
Fri 23rd Sept	2.30—3pm Y2 Parent & Carer Expectation Mtg
Tues 27th Sept	9.15am or 6pm YR Welcome Meeting (1 hour)
Mon 10th Oct	Y1-6 Work Share (SIS 3.30—4.15pm SJS 3.15- 4pm)
Thurs 13th Oct	Y1-6 Work Share (SIS 3.30—4.15pm SJS 3.15- 4pm)
Mon 17th Oct	Parent & Carer Appointments (until 6pm)
Thurs 20th Oct	Parent & Carer Appointments (until 6pm)

### Half term Mon 24th Oct—Fri 28th Oct

Tues 8th Nov	6-7pm Parent & Carer Curriculum Evening Mtg
Weds 7th Dec	5.30—6pm Solent Schools Carol Concert

### Christmas Break Mon 19th Dec—Tues 3rd Jan

### Spring 2023

Tues 10th Jan	6-7pm Parent & Carer Curriculum Evening Mtg
Mon 30th Jan	Y1-6 Work Share (SIS 3.30—4.15pm SJS 3.15- 4pm)
Thurs 2nd Feb	Y1-6 Work Share (SIS 3.30—4.15pm SJS 3.15- 4pm)
Mon 6th Feb	Parent & Carer Appointments (until 6pm)
Thurs 9th Feb	Parent & Carer Appointments (until 6pm)

### Half Term Mon 13th—Fri 17th Feb

Tues 8th Mar	6-7 pm Parent & Carer Curriculum Evening Mtg
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### Easter Break Mon 3rd—Fri 14th April

### Summer 2023

Weds 17th May	New Family Open Afternoon (New Year R & 3 2023) 3.30—5.30pm
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### Half Term Mon 29th May—Fri 2nd June

Fri 16th June	Inset Day
Mon 19th June	Inset Day
Mon 3rd July	Open Work Share (SIS 3.30-5pm SJS 3.15—5pm)
Thurs 13th July	Pop in and Meet the New Teacher (SIS 3.30—4pm SJS 8.20—8.30am)

### Expectation Meetings

The principle aim of these meetings is to give parents and carers a broad introduction to the year group their child has started in, meet the class teacher and to become familiar with the classroom environment. The meetings will be led by class teachers for the parents and carers of pupils in their class. They will take place in the classroom whilst the children are not in the classroom. Booking will be via the online booking system.

### Welcome Meetings

These meetings are designed for those parents and carers whose children are new to either SIS or SJS. Year R - There is one meeting in the morning and one in the evening. Parents and carers will be invited to choose one of the two dates for Year R. Booking will be via the online booking system. Year 3 - There is just an evening meeting.

### Work Share

Parents and carers are invited in to share work with their children – online booking system. Polite reminder, this is not an occasion to discuss children with teachers. Please note, the dates are the same for both schools, so that parents & carers are able to choose to attend both schools on the same evening. The time slots have been allocated to allow enough time to do this. Bells will sound at the beginning and end of each session.





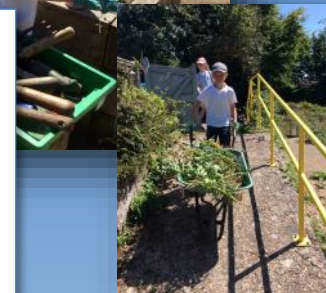
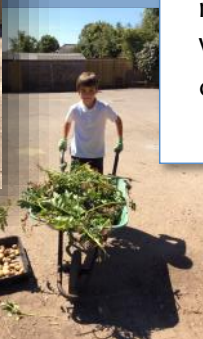
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## And Now For Something Completely Different!



The Eco-Warriors at Solent Junior School have successfully harvested their potatoes! They have decided to leave the cucumbers, peppers and tomatoes with a little more time to grow. Here you can see the smallest, biggest and strangest looking vegetable and some action shots of the harvest. The Eco-Warriors voted for each of these categories between them and selected winners. The Eco-Warriors have suggested that a local food bank could either use the vegetables for potato salad, mashed potato or tiny chips!

Watch this space as Miss Sweatman will be running a gardening club at SJS next year!



## Calling all Volunteers!

**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.