



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Spring Newsletter 13 January 2023

It was great to be able to welcome some of you into school for our Family Liaison and Curriculum meetings last Tuesday. Despite the stormy wind and rain, we had a larger turnout than previously, which is great news. Below, you will see the feedback that we received in response to the meeting evaluation. Our next evening curriculum meeting takes place on Wednesday 8th March 6-7pm at Solent Infant School. Due to the popularity of these events this year, we will also be scheduling an afternoon (2pm) meeting for the second half of the Spring term. Watch out for the invite to this meeting which will be coming home soon!

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



Registration Round Open!

Have you ever thought about joining us as a volunteer on a school trip? Or perhaps even offering some of your precious time to volunteer in school on a regular basis? Or maybe you'd prefer to help out at one of the fantastic FSS events planned in this year? If so, then please register to join our growing bank of volunteers. Once registered, the record will follow you through our schools. You need only apply once! All you need to do is [CLICK HERE](#), or scan the QR code to the left, and complete a quick jot form. The school office will then contact you back and take you through the process.



Curriculum Evening

At the end of our curriculum meeting, parents and carers were asked to complete a short evaluation. Each question was given a rating of up to **5 stars**. We received 30 evaluation submissions in total. Below, you will find the response, with each having an average star rating:

- I found the event useful. **4.9 stars**
- The information provided was relevant to my child. **4.8 stars**

I understand more about:

- How the schools keep my child safe. **4.9 stars**
- The Solent School Values. **4.8 stars**
- British Values. **4.8 stars**
- Pupil Voice at the Solent Schools **4.8 stars**

I know more about:

- Teaching and Learning in Mathematics **4.7 stars**
- How to support my child in Mathematics **4.7 stars**

What would you like now?

Top tips on how to improve your child's maths at home. A crib sheet to support us with maths and phonics.

Many thanks to all those who attended and also provided feedback. We are now busy planning a daytime curriculum meeting and will include the requests above. We would also like to extend a special thank you to Miss Rudd, Matthew, Maddie and Hannah from Springfield for their excellent social media presentation!

The meeting was really informative. One hour was ideal. Short snippets were fab!

Very well planned & presented.



I enjoyed it. I am glad that I attended this time.



SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

After a dark, windy and rainy week, it has been wonderful to end the week with sunshine and outdoor playtimes! Last week's Arts Week provided a creative hook into each year group's new learning theme: Year R have become Explorers, Year 1 are finding out what it means to be brave in their theme of "The Lion Inside" and Year 2 are excited about Castles and Dragons. Remember to have a look at the year group tabs on the website where we share the curriculum overview for each half term and a Knowledge Organiser linked to one of the focused subjects; these will help you to find out more about how you can support at home, through discussion as well as through the completion of the home-learning tasks.

Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

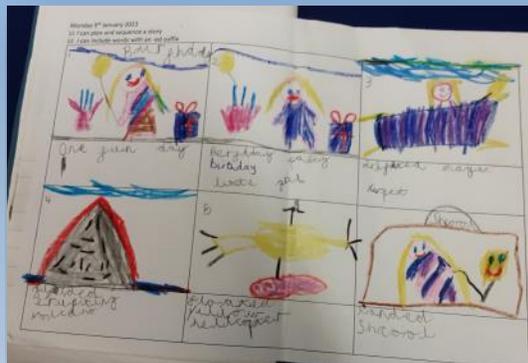
Early Years!

This week, as part of our new Explorers theme, the children in Reception have been learning all about maps. At home, many of the children delighted in creating their own maps, representing simple journeys that they had been on from their homes. We really enjoyed sharing all of these in class, with the children explaining the key things they had seen and the places they had passed. We are very much looking forward to learning more about our local area together.



Year 1

In Arts Week, we created art linked to the book 'The Yellow Balloon'. The book has no words, just illustrations! This week we are writing our own story about the balloon's magical adventure around the world. We have picture planned our story and written the beginning. We are looking forward to completing it next week! In Maths, we have been working with numbers 11-20. We have used dienes to represent the number of 10's and 1's in these numbers.



Year 2

Following our fun packed Arts week, Year 2 have now begun our new theme of 'Castles and Dragons'. We read different versions of the story of 'The Princess and the Pea' and devised our own actions to help us remember and retell the story. In Maths, we have been busy with our rulers measuring everything in sight, from the smallest rubber to the classroom itself, using centimetres and metres. Don't stand still or we might measure you!





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

It was the Year 4 JRSOs turn this week and whilst many may thinking the rain was not a good day to go out on, it was actually the ideal day! The JRSOs were full of praise for all of those children, both infants and juniors, who were walking into school getting a little wet. The JRSOs ventured up Farlington Avenue towards Blake Road and then back down and along past the infant school. They understood that it was raining and so tempting to drive to school however if every one did this the roads and environment would not be safe or in a good way. A few cars were noticed parked on double yellows and the JRSOs did enquire if they could have tickets like traffic wardens! They may not tickets however they have perfected their disapproving frowns! Following on from last week's newsletter issue talking about new year's resolutions, maybe walking to school (even if it was parking a few roads away) could be everyone's focus for 2023...

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3

This week, Year 3 are starting to embark upon their new Geography topic 'The United Kingdom'. To kick start our topic off, the children were left a range of 'postcards' from various members of our school staff sharing beautiful pictures of places they have visited within the UK over the years. After getting a snippet of the range of wonderful, different places they are to be explored, the children were set the task of using the atlases to locate numerous cities within the UK and labelling them on their own maps. Year 3 are already looking forward to their next Geography lesson!



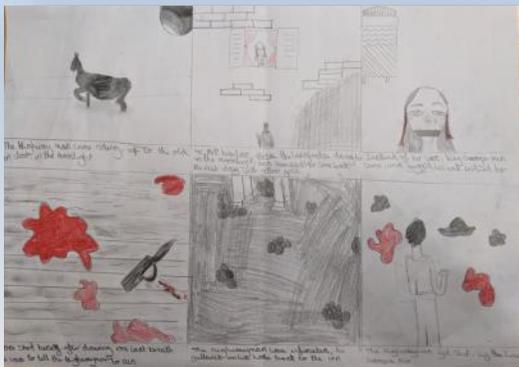
Year 4

This week in Year 4, the children have been introduced to their new Science topic for this term, magnets! The pupils thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to explore how magnets work through experimenting. The children were asked to test whether or not different materials were magnetic or not. This opened insightful questions amongst the children as to why some materials were magnetic and why some weren't. We were so impressed at their answers and the discussions which were had. We can't wait to explore this topic further this term!



Year 5

This week Year 5 have been continuing with 'The Highwayman'. During Arts week, they used their knowledge of the poem to create a storyboard. They summarised the main events and created an illustration for each scene. To create emphasis, they used one bold red colour in each scene and then developed their sketching skills in pencil. They created some effective and interesting pieces which re-told the tragic story.





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 6

As you will have noticed, year 6 were absent from last week's Newsletter—this was deliberate. At the time of compiling, year 6 were still in the middle of their fabulous day trips to Fort Nelson which in turn was feeding into their Arts week work.

On Wednesday, Thursday and Friday last week,

6W, 6P and then 6S travelled up to Fort Nelson to take part in their FANTASTIC 'Protect the Ports' interactive visit. The look on the children's faces when they were

met at the entrance by a fully uniformed Sergeant was priceless. The tone of the day was set. The children had now become trainees who would need to prove their ability to join either the ATS, ARP or Home Guard. The day was split into 3 training sessions covering each area; with drills, facts and information interspersed throughout. The children were required to march to each location, respond in unison with, 'yes/no sergeant.' and win points for their Squad. It was a fabulous day—so much so that we have already booked for next year.

Focusing so intently on Portsmouth tied in beautifully with our first writing unit this term—a newspaper report describing the events of the Portsmouth Blitz (10th/11th January 1941). This became the focus of our Arts Week work—telling the story of the Guildhall burning down during the Blitz—using watercolours, silhouettes and pastels.





THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Dates for the Diary!

Spring 2023

Tues 17th Jan	School Nurse Clinic at SIS (both schools can book)
Weds 18th Jan	Year 3/4 Dodgeball Festival
Thurs 19th Jan	INSET Day
Tues 24th Jan	Uniform Drop and Shop
Fri 27th Jan	SIS Outdoor Learning Day
Mon 30th Jan	YR-6 Work Share (SIS 3.30—4.15pm SJS 3.15-4pm)
Thurs 2nd Feb	YR-6 Work Share (SIS 3.30—4.15pm SJS 3.15-4pm)
Fri 3rd Feb	Y3 Sandwich Making
Mon 6th Feb	Parent & Carer Appointments (until 6pm)
Tues 7th Feb	Uniform Drop and Shop
Tues 7th Feb	SJS Forces Friends Lunch
Thurs 9th Feb	Parent & Carer Appointments (until 6pm)
Thurs 9th Feb	Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament

Half Term Mon 13th—Fri 17th Feb

Tues 21st Feb	Uniform Drop and Shop
Tues 21st Feb	School Nurse Clinic at SJS (both schools can book)
Thurs 23rd Feb	Y3 & Y5 Cricket Coaching
Fri 24th Feb	SJS Dance Lie at Portsmouth Guildhall!
Mon 27th Feb	Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament
Weds 1st March	Y1 Golf Event
Thurs 2nd March	World Book Day (No dressing up)
Mon 6th March	Y5/6 Girls Football Tournament at Goals
Tues 7th March	Uniform Drop and Shop
Weds 8th March	Y3 Holi Festival Celebrations
Weds 8th March	6-7 pm Parent & Carer Curriculum Evening Mtg
Thurs 9th March	Y3 and Y5 Cricket Coaching
Mon 13th March	Science Week!
Mon 13th March	Y4/5 Boys Football Tournament Goals
Thurs 16th March	Y3 /5 Cricket Coaching
Fri 24th March	YR Farm Festival
Wb 27th March	Spring Term Progress Reports Home
Fri 31st March	Y6 WWII Day

Easter Break Mon 3rd—Fri 14th April

Summer Term

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)

FSS Dates

Friday 3rd February

Spring Term Quiz Night 7.30pm—10pm

Friday 24th March

Junior School Disco (Y3 & 4 5-6.30pm, Y5 & 6 6.30—8pm)

Friday 31st March

Easter Egg Hunt

Friday 19th May

Summer Family Picnic Evening

Friday 23rd June (Back up 30th June)

Movies Under the Stars

Friday 14th July

Summer Fayre

On occasion, there may be an unavoidable delay opening, in which case we appreciate your kind patience.

School Times

SIS

Gates AM open	8.40—9.00am
Doors AM open	8.50—9.00am
Gates PM open from	3.05pm—3.30pm
Pupils out at	3.15pm

SJS

Gates AM open	8.25—8.40am
Doors AM open	8.30—8.40am
Gates PM open from	2.50—3.10pm
Pupils out at	3.00pm