



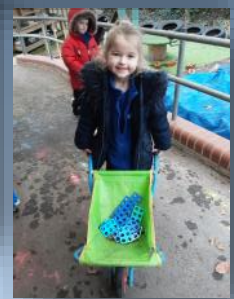
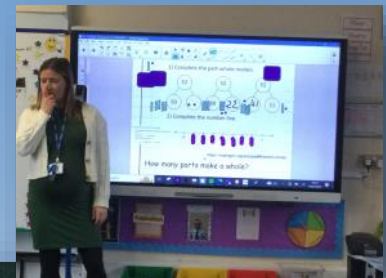
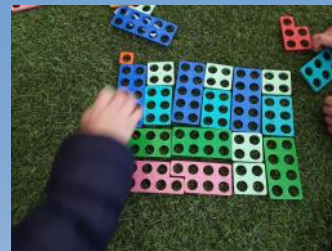
THE SOLENT SCHOOLS



Spring Newsletter 27 January 2023

Over the past couple of weeks, we have had the privilege of spending time in many of our classes across the infant and junior schools. The purpose of these visits has been to monitor the teaching and learning of Mathematics. More specifically the use of concrete, pictorial and abstract methods to support and develop pupils' skills and understanding in Mathematics. The key finding was that generally our pupils absolutely adore Maths and we could not be happier! Having had the pleasure of taking part in many lessons, we were pleased to conclude that this enthusiasm extends to our excellent team of teaching and learning staff. Within the classrooms, we found motivated and engaged mathematicians, who confidently and independently solve increasingly complex problems as they move up through our schools. Below you will find just a selection of the photographs taken on the day.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



The Golden Book is open every Friday at SJS! Today, we have celebrated this wonderful group of children. They have all been recognised for the effort that they put into school. This can be for a whole range of reasons from super poetry and amazing art work to just being the wonderful individual that they are!

Golden Group!





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

We have ended this week with a whole-school Outdoor Learning Day on a wintery theme. The children have enjoyed learning about colours in nature, repeating patterns, adjectives to describe natural objects, what happens when you paint ice, how to create a hedgehog with clay and sticks and lots, lots more. Thank you to the class teams who have set up exciting learning activities, building on the skills and knowledge of their particular year groups. Outdoor Learning Days are designed to present our learners with time to practise known skills and to challenge thinking.



Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

Early Years!

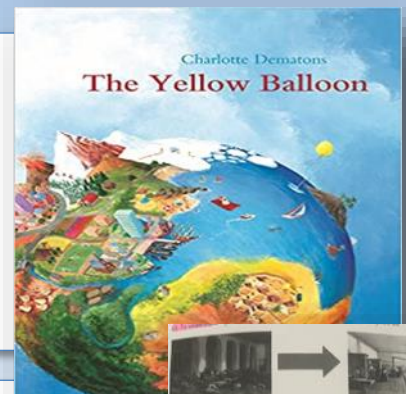
In Reception last week, we were busy exploring the concept of 'floating and sinking'. We made predictions about what we expected to see, carried out simple tests, discussed our observations and recorded our results. There were some great discussions about how a sponge would sink because it would absorb the water, and how the cup floated at the start, but as it filled up with water, it began to sink. What budding scientists we all are!



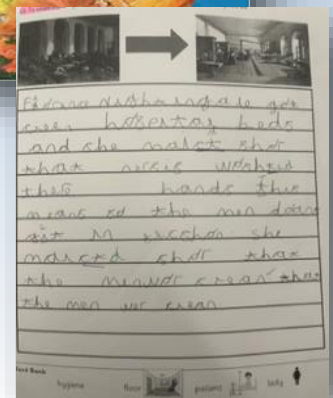
This week, Year R have been learning all about The Lunar New Year. We enjoyed reading the story about the Jade Emperor who raced the animals and rewarded the first 12 by naming a year after them. We took part in our own races, put ourselves in order, and had fun discovering which animal we matched with.

Year 1

Year 1 worked very hard last week to complete their stories based on 'The Yellow Balloon' by Charlotte Dematons. Each child planned their story using key words and pictures first. Once they were happy with their story plan, they wrote a beginning, middle and end. The Year 1 team have been very impressed with the children's writing. In other subjects, the children have learnt about one more and one less in Maths and Florence Nightingale in History.



Year 1 have been learning all about Florence Nightingale in our theme 'The Lion Inside'. This week they thought about the cause and consequence of the changes that Florence made. Mrs Cryer, Miss Earl and Mr Mason were all very pleased with their ideas! In art, children have begun exploring sculpture by making mice out of clay. These will be ready to paint next week. The children have also been writing their first 'book review' for our English text! Well done this week year 1!

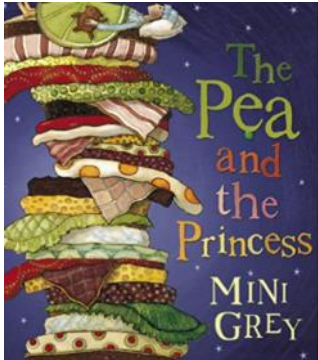




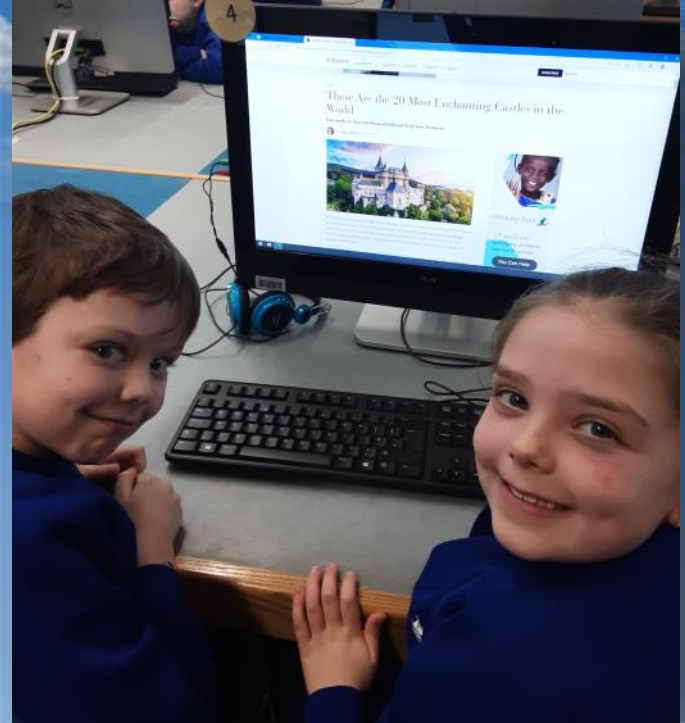
SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

Year 2 have continued to enjoy our 'Castles and Dragons' learning theme. In English, we have used the story, 'The Pea and the Princess' and have changed aspects of the story.

We are learning about 'effective searching' in our computing lessons and after discussing e-safety we searched for information to help us with our learning. We loved searching for castles and dragons!



Year 2



Year 2 have been very busy developing our sewing skills this week. We have designed and sewn together our very own dragon finger puppets. We have learned that sewing is harder than it looks and you must really concentrate and focus on your stitching! We really persevered, are very proud of our amazing textile work and hope to finish them soon by adding wings, horns or fire.



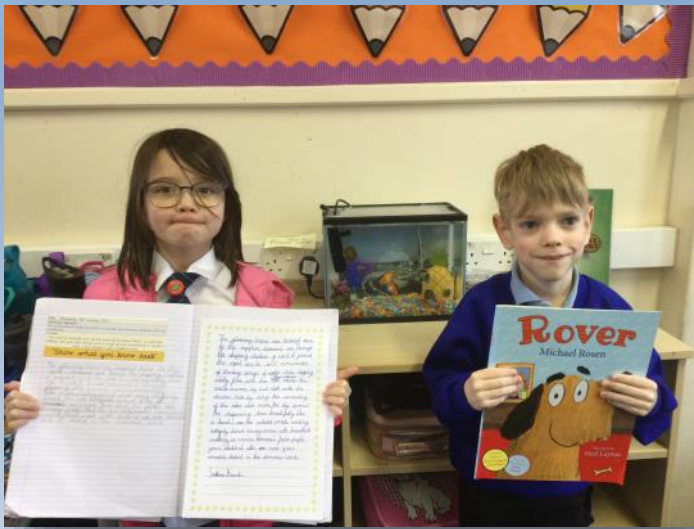
SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

A slightly shorter week for our children last week, with a Trust Inset day yesterday. The children are always fascinated to know that we are still learners at adults but this is such an important concept for them to understand. Even though it has been a shorter week, all classes have been equally as focused in their approach and we have still accomplished so much. From the JRSOs in Y3 going out in the freezing cold to Girls and Boys Football Tournament at HAWKS, again in the freezing conditions. As always those children who represented the school at these events showed impeccable behaviour and we were incredibly proud of them showcasing our school in such a positive way.

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3

We've started several new learning topics this term, including The UK in Geography, State Change in Science, the Holi festival in RE and much, much more! Year 3 have particularly enjoyed experimenting with ice and seeing how long it can stay frozen in their hands, visually seeing how objects can change state. The pupils have continued to enjoy their swimming lessons at the Mountbatten Centre as they continue to develop their water confidence and swimming skills.



Our wonderful Y3's have completed their fantastic descriptions of Southsea Beach this week. They have tirelessly redrafted, edited and published their paragraphs using some amazing Tier 2 vocabulary, including similes and maybe even the odd bit of personification and alliteration to make it sound extra memorable for their readers. To think we started this writing journey with Rover by Michael Rosen, in the cold dark days of January; their descriptions certainly make us think of the glorious summer days down at the sea front!





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL



Year 4

Last week, Year 4 became amazing poets and have shown off all of what they have discovered about the different styles of poetry. Year 4 have created their own poems, drawing upon the structure of a range of poetic forms, about 'a journey of...'. We have been amazed at how effectively Year 4 have applied various poetic devices to their work, and also the imagination shown. We have seen examples of a journey of a lead, an abandoned shoe, and an item of food as it travels through the digestive system. Well done Year 4!

This week in Year 4, we have introduced our new topic of Imaginary Settings in English. The children have loved reading and discussing existing imaginary setting texts from a range of authors including *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S Lewis, *The Lord of the Rings* by J.R.R Tolkien and *Peter Pan* by J.M Barrie. The children then had the chance to get creative, planning and writing their very own setting description of Neverland, complete with a beautifully hand drawn map.



Year 5

Last week, the children were introduced to their new topic unit focusing on the Anglo Saxons and Vikings. We discussed their prior knowledge and they shared what they would like to find out throughout their learning journey. To support this, we have been focusing on the book 'Viking Boy' by Tony Bradman in Guided Reading. We have explored some of the vocabulary within the text, whilst using our comprehension and inference skills to build our understanding.



This week year 6 have been delving in to the world of Materials and their Properties. We have explored lots of 'what if' style questions based on the world around us and how materials are chosen for specific purposes because their properties closely match requirements. To further embed our learning. We are applying what we know to planning and carrying out a fair test to see how best to keep a warm fluid warm. Our options include adding a lid, wrapping the cup in different materials and trying cups made of different materials.



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Dates for the Diary!

Spring 2023

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