



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Bumper Summer Newsletter July 2023



It has been wonderful to welcome our new pupils into school this week as part of our annual transition project. Our new Year 3 pupils had been on a number of visits with their Year 5 'buddies' leading up to this day, but today and yesterday gave all classes the invaluable opportunity to work within their new class setting, to get to know their peers, and also their new class adults. They seem to have thoroughly enjoyed the experience, but no doubt will now also be pleased to return to their old class base next week to see out their school year.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



Solent Junior School
Sports day 2023. Well
done Widley Winners!

Solent Infant School 2023 Whole School Trip to QE Park





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

Over this last half term, we have launched our new learning themes: "Marvellous Me!" in Year R, "Here comes the Sun" in Year 1 and "Predators" in Year 2. The children have been showing what they know already, thinking about what they would like to find out and learning the vocabulary that will help support their growing knowledge in the coming weeks. Thank you to everyone who came along to our Curriculum Fayre earlier this half term to learn about how we inspire the children to write creatively.

Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS



This term our topic is Marvellous Me! We have been focusing on our bodies, how they work and how to keep them healthy. We have talked about the bones in our bodies and what we need to stay alive. The children have also really enjoyed looking carefully at their facial features and trying hard to draw half of their face. We have been so impressed with the attention to detail and colour choices the children have made completing their self portraits.

Early Years!

What a fabulous final half term in Year R! It was such a delight to see everyone come back to school with big smiles, following a lovely, sunny half term break. We have seen the launch of our latest learning theme 'Marvellous Me!' Over the last few weeks, the children have been exploring everything that makes them marvellous! We have loved seeing some of the children's self-portraits and we are super impressed with their developing art skills.



In maths, we have been practising our sharing and grouping skills. We have been making sure that each of the groups were equal and fair, which is something we have also been practising in our play. We learnt that even numbers can always be shared equally into 2 groups, but odd numbers cannot.



With the warmer weather, Reception have been able to enjoy more time spent on their balconies. We have been practising our personal, social and emotional skills by turn taking, role playing and being imaginative with others.





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

Year 1

Year 1 have been enjoying their final half term! The half term started with a 'hook' for our English book, 'Message in a Bottle'. In the story, Lion wants a friend to play guitar with so we used the boom whackers to play a song for Lion. We had SO much fun and we are confident Lion will want us to join his band!

We have also been learning all about fractions in maths and have found halves and quarters of shapes and quantities.



Our theme for this half term is 'Here comes the Sun'. In English we have started to write leaflets advertising Lion's paradise island from our book 'A message in a Bottle'. In History, we have been learning about the Victorian seaside and comparing it to seaside holidays today. We had great fun exploring a Victorian suitcase and dressing up in Victorian outfits! We thought that the swimming costume was very funny and not very easy to swim in!

Wow! Last week, Year 1 ventured on two trips. One trip to Queen Elizabeth Country Park and another to St Andrews Church. The children had a great time at the church and met Reverend Gully. Reverend Gully discussed baptism and how special water is. Some children were even chosen to act out a christening. The children were enthralled and came away from the church saying how great it was. The Year 1 children should be very proud of how they represented Solent Infant School.



This week, Year 1 have taken part in lots of transition activities. The children have met their new Year 2 teachers and have had a chance to explore their new classrooms. They have had joined in with a Year 2 PE, Music and Computing lesson. Linked to the story of 'The Rainbow Fish', the children have thought about friendship and sharing, and discussed making new friends in their new classes. They made some lovely colourful rainbow fish of their own!



SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

Year 2

Year 2 are having a fantastic final half term! They enjoyed their 'Buddy Visit' to the Junior School and made sure they all looked super smart for the school photo. In Science, the children completed their longitudinal study into minibeasts in the school grounds and found that there seemed to be far more in the summer, than the winter. Mrs Lempriere was especially proud of the speakers at the English Workshop! The children involved confidently explained why they love reading and writing and were so confident speaking in front of the audience!



Year 2 have enjoyed their writing about Twisted Tales. We looked at the story of The Three Little Wolves and The Big Bad Pig and used all of our super Literacy Skills to make predictions, discuss our favourite vocabulary and sequence the events in the story. We then wrote a retell of our own version of the story by changing the characters to our favourite Predator and Prey. The school adults have been really impressed with the super use of vocabulary and careful story map planning. Well done, Year 2!

In Science, we learnt about food chains in preparation for our trip to Queen Elizabeth Country Park (QECF). We were amazed to learn that not all predators and carnivores must be large like a wolf. At QECF, we continued our food chain learning with a hunt for minibeasts. We identified and named many different creatures. We compared what we found at QECF with the creatures that we found in our own school orchard and discussed why there were differences. We had a wonderful time!



Year 2 have had the most amazing week! On Monday and Tuesday we went to the Juniors and spent the day with our new Year 3 teachers which was great fun and so exciting. On Thursday and Friday all our hard work learning the songs, our lines and rehearsing on the stage came to an end when we performed our 'show' end of year show Superkids to our parents and grandparents. We looked fabulous in our costumes with jazzy hair and face paints and our teachers were super proud of us and how well we performed.



SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL



It was so great to be able to see pupils preparing for our sports day last week. The weather really did work out well for us! I saw them practicing their throwing, jumping and running skills. The encouragement for teamwork, our value of the month for June, was so lovely to see and hear. I know that the children thoroughly enjoyed the big event. They have also been very excited about their transition days, where they have met the new class teachers. With some of our Year 6 children having been at their secondary schools over the past two days, it has given us the perfect opportunity to have a shuffle around and visit our new classrooms for these days. The new Year 3s have also been made very welcome and it was so lovely to see their big beaming smiles!

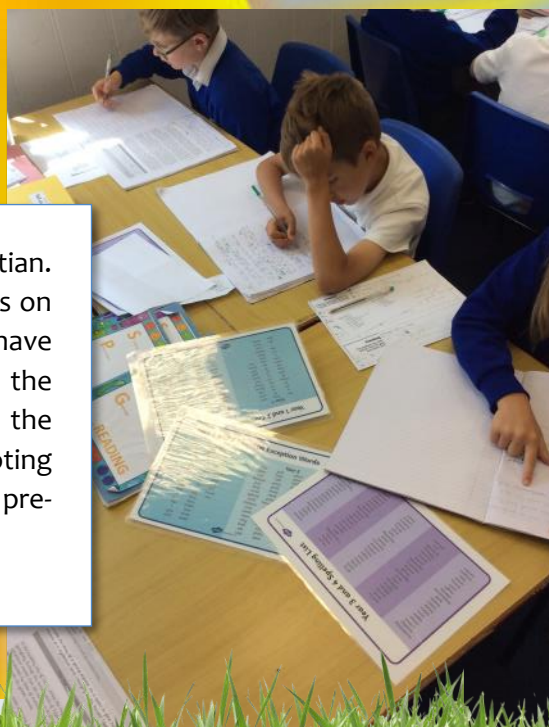
Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3

As part of our Art unit this half term, Year 3 have been learning about collage. The children have started by studying and evaluating famous artists who have used this technique effectively. In the upcoming weeks, the Year 3 will learn and apply this skill to our current topic: The Ancient Egyptians. Keep your eyes peeled for phenomenal pharaoh self portraits of Year 3 which will be showcased during our Egyptian Exhibition on Tuesday 18th July.



This week Year 3 have been on an exciting adventure across Ancient Egypt. They have been working hard on writing a story all about a child who is on an adventure to find the long lost treasures of Egypt. All sorts of things have gone wrong, the character Sam has been trapped inside a tomb, lost the map, been bitten by venomous creatures and even been haunted by the ghosts of Egyptian Gods and Goddesses. Year 3 have been troubleshooting how to get Sam out of these troubles and to safety as well as finding the precious treasure. Well done Year 3 they are incredible.





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 4

WHAT A WONDERFUL SUMMER 2! This half term, our INCREDIBLE Year 4 pupils completed the Governments Multiplication Tests! Not only did our pupils tackle this with resilience and confidence, but they also displayed a huge amount of respect for their fellow pupils and stayed quiet in order for the whole year group to complete their checks in silence! We are BEYOND proud of them all, and as a treat, we all had a mid week celebration and a little treat from the team! Well done Year 4!



Year 5

Last Friday, the Year 2 children visited the Junior School to see their Year 5 buddies! The children were each given a picture book and read the story together and then recreated an illustration from the book. Previously, we visited the Year 2's at the Infant school for an outdoor scavenger hunt. It has been lovely seeing the children getting to know each other as our future Year 6's support the current Year 2's transition into Year 3. Last week, we welcomed the Year 2's back for their final buddy visit before September.

Last Friday, Year 5 immersed themselves in a fun-filled DT day! They will be researched designed, made and tested/ evaluated their very own parachutes. This supports our current Science learning exploring forces! We explored the forces acting on our parachutes and considered the appropriate materials to use to make them successful! We cant wait to update you with how we got on!



Year 5 have been recently studying life in two contrasting cities in the world. Beginning by looking at their home town of Portsmouth and then the city of Lima in Peru; contrasting the Geography and populations between the two. To support the understanding of these two contrasting cities and their cultures, the year group have been reading 'Journey to Jo'berg' by Beverley Naidoo and studying 'Street Child' by Berlie Doherty. These texts highlight the difficulties of life in parts of the world or cities that have high levels of poverty.





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Year 6

Before half term, auditions took place for our fabulous summer performance and parts were allocated so that the children could start learning their lines. Last week, we completed our first run through of scenes 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, with pupils demonstrating excellent facial expression, clear speaking voices and great comic timing. The children started to get more of an idea of the plot and we think the rest of the school and parents are in for a real treat when we get to perform to them.



Before half term, we started to explore an exciting enterprise opportunity called 'Virgin Money: Make £5 grow'. Year 6 have looked into budgeting, teamwork and enterprise skills to help them with their planning. They have come up with their own ideas of what they want from their business and to make sure it stands out from others. Everyone has shown all our schools values and we can't wait to have the opportunity to sell the product/service to the rest of the school. We would love to see as many of you there as possible! Keep your eyes open for the date!

Over the last week, year 6 have ventured into non-chronological report writing - they have been researching and creating Earthquake survival guides. Pupils have been using images, videos, news reports and eye witness recounts to generate language linked to being caught in an Earthquake, and used these to create leaflets of their own design. The children were all given the opportunity to use their own way of planning. So far the outcomes are very impressive!



The last week has seen many of our year 6 pupils visit their future senior schools as part of their transition activities. Having completed some pre-transition activities around moving, on, fears, excitement and questions, the pupils have all come back from their respective schools, buzzing with excitement for their future. Activities included

using the Science labs, DT - making key rings and cookery. Safe to say the pupils all now feel ready to move up - its just the small matter of the final two weeks to go to get survive!





THE SOLENT SCHOOLS



Look at our wonderful new SIS playground markings! We are so pleased with the result. SJS will also be having some fresh new court markings painted over the Summer holidays!



PCOPS!

Last week our amazing members of the 'Primary Council of Portsmouth Students' (PCOPS) students went to visit Portsmouth University to take part in a fantastic 'Student Voice' celebration. During the day, our students got the chance to listen to some very important guests, such as, Stephen Morgan MP; the Vice Education Minister for the City and the founder of the 'Student voice' action groups, as well as taking part in a number of action group workshops. Our PCOPS then got the chance to perform their own presentation about all the wonderful things that our student council has been up to this year. They created and presented the slides with superb enthusiasm and confidence. We could not be prouder of their efforts – especially Elliot who stepped in to introduce some of slides he had not planned to help those who were nervous. Very well done PCOPS, we are incredibly proud to have such great leaders of the future in Solent!





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FSS Love Where You Live!

Super Solent Super Fair is now fast approaching. On the day of the fair, Friday 14th July, the FSS would like to invite all pupils to come into school in non-school uniform in exchange for either a cake donation (for the refreshments stall), or a tombola prize. Please send your child into school with their contribution and the FSS will ensure it makes it to the fair safely!

SUMMER FETE

Earlier on this half term, we started Art and DT Club at the Infants and Mrs Ray and Mrs Cryer are so impressed with how creative and clever children from across all three year groups have been.

In the first two weeks we focussed on our DT skills. We made fabulous pencil pots, climbed through a piece of A5 paper and had a cup tower building contest!



Summer 2 2023

Wb Mon 10th July	SIS Sports & Healthy Living Week
Wb Mon 10th July	Progress Reports emailed home
Thurs 13th July	Year 6 Performance to Parents and Carers
Thurs 13th July	Pop in and Meet the New Teacher (SIS 3.30—4pm SJS 8.20— 8.30am)
Mon 17 July	Year 3 Egyptian Dress Up Day
Wb Mon 17 July	Year 5 Bikeability
Mon 17 July	Optional Summer Parent/Carer Appointments
Tues 18th July	Year 3 Egyptian Exhibition Drop in / Work share
Tues 18th July	Uniform Drop and Shop

Friday 21st July Break Up Summer Holidays!

Mon 4th Sept Inset Day

Inset Days 2023-2024

Monday 4th September
Friday 17th November
Friday 19th January
Friday 21st June
Monday 24th June



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

- Official -



Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Summer Reading Challenge 2023

Ready,
Set,
Read!

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

Library and Archive
Service

Central Library
Guildhall Square
Portsmouth
PO1 2DX

Date: June 2023

Summer Reading Challenge

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to invite your child to take part in *Ready, Set, Read!*, this year's Summer Reading Challenge, which launches in all Portsmouth Libraries from **Saturday 8 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. It is also a really fun way to spend time during the holidays as all our libraries will be offering lots of activities during the summer. 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!

To find out more about this year's theme, check out the trailer on YouTube:
<https://youtu.be/ExdzL0s4E>

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 24 September**.

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

Yours sincerely

David Percival
Library and Archive Service Manager