



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Autumn Newsletter—1st October 2021

Hopefully, you and your child are feeling a little more settled into school life and the associated routines. As our staff get to know your child a little better, it is the perfect time to begin to liaise with you regarding the way in which they have settled into their new class and focus upon the social and emotional and academic progress they are making as well as their next steps. This is the reason why we time our first round of parent and carer appointments for mid-October. Keep an eye out on your email inbox for a letter containing more details about these, as well as a link to sign up for your virtual appointment using Teams.

Mrs Wilby Executive Headteacher



The value of the month for October is 'Friendship'.



YOUNGmINDS
fighting for young people's mental health

#HelloYellow

On Friday 8th October, we are all becoming YoungMinds heroes once again. We are inviting all of our pupils and staff to come into school wearing yellow or bright coloured clothing to show our school community that they are not alone with their mental health! We want our children to understand that we all struggle with how we're feeling sometimes and it's normal to have ups and downs. We will be thinking about those little things that help us, such as spending time outdoors, reading a book or just talking to our friends and adults.



Solent Star Qualities

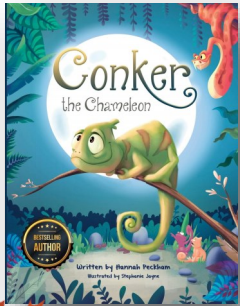
Sometimes it is hard to believe positive things about ourselves and easier to believe the negative things. Taking notice of our successes, strengths, talents and interests will build our resilience, self-esteem and confidence! In support of #HelloYellow, we are inviting our families to talk to their children and openly encourage them to share their star qualities. **If your child feels comfortable sharing these, then email them to yourpics@thesolentschools.org and we will display these at school. They may even be chosen to appear in one of our special assemblies next week!**

Fantastic Friends of the Solent Schools!

The Friends of the Solent Schools (FSS) are holding their AGM on 2nd Nov at 5pm. This year the AGM will be a virtual event, due to the restrictions that are still in place in our schools. As kind supporters of our school community, we would like to warmly welcome you to attend. If you have exciting innovative fundraising ideas that you are keen to run, or just want to support your child's school and help raise valuable funds - then this is your opportunity to get involved. If you would like to attend the meeting or submit a nomination for one of the committee posts please use the FSS contact us page on the school website or [click here](#). If you would like any further information please email fss@thesolentschools.org or visit the FSS Facebook page to see some of our past events and activities! We can promise that you will have lots of fun, and will make a significant difference for all the children at Solent!



SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL



This was the first week that all of our wonderful Reception children were in school full time and we wanted to make the week really special by having a whole-school PSHE focus about transition and coping with change. Each class received a copy of 'Conker the Chameleon' from the FSS (Friends of Solent Schools) to read and respond to. We thought about the feelings associated with change and how important it is to talk about our feelings with people we trust. None of us like change but sometimes other people are able to point out the positives that change can bring about when we are struggling to see them for ourselves!

Mrs Curthoys-Head of School SIS

Early Years!

The children have enjoyed learning all about 'Conker the Chameleon' this week for our PSHE focused week. This has seen us learning all about different emotions and how to talk about our feelings. We have been linking our emotions to the different colours of the rainbow. For example, red for angry and yellow for happy. We have created finger print rainbows, sorted colours into groups and practised our fine motor skills. Well done, Year R!



Year 1

Year 1 have had another super week of learning. Our focus in PSHE has been the story of 'Conker the Chameleon' to explore our own feelings and emotions. We have made a rainbow of our feelings and look out for the Cha'ME'leon tree in the window and the homework linked to this. We have applied our colour mixing skills to paint Evil Pea, then made a 'Wanted' poster to catch him! We have also been learning about the four countries the United Kingdom. Do you know the names of any capital cities?



Year 2

This week, we enjoyed our whole school PSHE focus week. We explored a story called, 'Conker the Chameleon'. The children listened intently to the story and loved Conker! We learnt how it is good to talk about feelings and talk to people we know and trust. We thought about our own mental health and discussed things we are good at and friends and family who can help us with our feelings.

Please look at our chaMEleon tree in our Year group window!





SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Hello October! As we are at the beginning of the new month, we are moving on to our next value of the month, which is **friendship!** It is not that we forget about responsibility, but we build new skills through the next value. Through assembly on a Monday, we will be exploring what characteristics are most important in positive friendships and how to be a good friend to others. We are aware that sometimes we can experience conflict in our friendship group, so we will be exploring strategies that we can use to help resolve these. One element our pupils are excellent at doing, is giving each other friendship tokens. We look forward to hearing them being given out over the next month.

Mrs Peterkin-Aldred-Head of School SJS

Year 3

This week, the time has come for Year 3 to hang up their Poetry writing hats and say a fond farewell to poems. As we have come to the end of our English learning unit, the children have certainly shone as they have now written and published their very own final poems all about their favourite animal! They have created shape, free verse and acrostic poems. Next venture in English will be exploring Non-fiction texts; delving deeper into the wonderful world of animals. Perfect timing as we are taking a 'Walk on the Wild side' in Science too!

Year 4

With our trip to Calshot fast approaching, we are now starting to get very excited. The children are looking forward to sharing a room with their friends, and the super activities that Calshot has to offer. Just a reminder, that today is the Calshot deadline for signing up. Later today, you will receive a letter with a full kit list, of things you will need, a copy of the medical form for you to complete, and information about a virtual parents' evening, that will be accessible via the website from 3pm, on Tuesday 12th October. Any further questions, then please do speak with your child's class teacher.



Year 5

Super Science!

This term our Science topic is The Earth & Beyond! To introduce the topic and to engage the children and their learning we visited Winchester Science Museum. The children had an amazing time exploring space and the solar system by completing a series of interactive activities and workshops! During the children's workshop they explored refraction of light and learnt that light we see is made up of many different colours (all colours of the rainbow in fact)!



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Year 6

Over the last week, Year 6 boys have been really excited to be back playing League games for the Under 11's Portsmouth FA! After a series of frantic and highly energetic play-offs taking place over several days, they finished in 2nd place, having narrowly missed out on an overall victory! They showed themselves to be fantastic representatives of the school - exemplifying the values of teamwork and great sportsmanship along the way.



Harvest Celebration

Harvest is a time when our school community come together to reflect upon what we are thankful for. This year we have been asked by the Portsmouth Food Bank to be 'rice pudding and sweet/chocolate treat' champions. Please send your donations into school with your child between Monday 11th October and Friday 15th October.

Please don't forget that scooters should not be ridden on either school site. Unfortunately, with the current scaffolding up, there is also not space to store scooters or bikes currently at Solent Junior School. We are hoping that we will be able to offer this storage space once again in the new year. Assuming the roof is finished on time!

Solent Infant School Vacancies

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to work within a school environment? Solent Infant School are currently advertising for a midday supervisory assistant and also an administrative assistant to work in the school office. If you are interested in the midday supervisory role, please call the infant school office. If you think you might be suited to the administrative assistant role then please [click here](#) to be taken to the Portsmouth City Council job site.

Inset Days

Monday 28th February 2022

Additional Bank Holiday
Tuesday 3rd May

Friday 17th June 2022
Monday 20th June 2022