



SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Dear Families of Silchester,

A very happy new year to you all and a warm welcome back!

WOW Week for Wellbeing

The first week of term has been a pure delight at Silchester! Kicking off with our WOW Week to Wellbeing was a lovely way to start our year together. We have been learning how to look after ourselves and each other and the importance of maintaining positive mental health and wellbeing. Each day has had a different theme, Thoughtful Tuesday, Wishes Wednesday, Thankful Thursday and Friendship Friday.

We went on a whole school walk, delivered messages of compassion to houses around Silchester, practiced yoga, had Relax Kids, made fruit kebabs, friendship bracelets and neurodiverse cupcakes, created gratitude journals, learnt how to fill buckets and bonded with our new buddies! Your children have been absolutely brilliant throughout and the ripples of effect from our WOW week have been felt across the school.



Five ways to wellbeing

Huge thanks to Rachel Dowling for organising, the PTA for funding, Marta Jones for Relax Kids, Caroline Dougall and Lynn Hazell for the yoga sessions, Rich Edwards for organising an exciting tree harvester for us to see on our walk and for every member of staff at Silchester who has worked hard to make this week such a successful one.

There were so many 'glimmer' moments to share that there is an additional document attached to this email with highlights, quotes and a photo montage so that you can see what we've been up to! Next week, we will be back to our normal curriculum and I will share our learning overviews and new homework grids with you all next Friday.

School Buddies

This week, the children have been introduced to their new school 'buddy'. Year R are partnered with Year 4, Year 1 with Year 5 and Year 2 with Year 6. Year 3 have been made our Community Compassion Crew so they are 'buddied' with the community. These buddies will stay the same throughout their time at school to promote mixing of different ages and enable our older children to support and mentor our younger ones. Periodically throughout the year, these buddies will work together, read together and support each

other. It has been lovely to witness our buddies in action. We would also like to extend a warm greeting to the 6 new children and families that have joined us at Silchester this week – we are delighted to welcome you.

New Mud Kitchen

Our Forest Schools area has had a makeover during the Christmas holidays and now contains a fully functioning mud kitchen.

Huge thanks to Billy Clapson for his hard work and talent making this for us and to the PTA for sponsoring. The children have been outside enjoying it already!



Library Volunteers

We are looking for some parent volunteers who would like to help look after our school library. The school library service will be putting on some training for these volunteers at school in the afternoon of Tuesday 16th January. If you are able to support the school in this way, please can you email the school office to register your interest.

Upcoming Key Dates

Tuesday 9 th January	Drama 4 All Workshop – Year R, 1 and 2
Tuesday 16 th January - pm	Training for library volunteers
Friday 19 th January	Year 2 Trip to QMC
Friday 19 th January	Wacky Rules Day (PTA)
Tuesday 30 th January (TBC)	Year 1 Trip to Milestones
Tuesday 6 th February	Cross Country Tournament
Friday 9 th February	Fire Service visit to school
Monday 12 th February – Friday 16 th February	Half Term
Monday 19 th February	INSET DAY
Friday 23 rd February	PTA Family Quiz

I really hope that you and your families have a lovely weekend and I look forward to seeing you at the gate on Monday.

Kind Regards,

Rachel Moir

Rachel Moir
Head of School