



SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Dear Families of Silchester,

Home Learning

I just wanted to say thank you for all the support you have given your children with their home learning projects. Seeing as how we only launched the homework grids last week, there has been a great response. I have seen lots of incredible models, posters, castles, photos and all sorts coming into school. It is a real joy to see the children so proud of their efforts. We gave out the first lot of reading rewards today also so some children may be returning home with a book prize to share.

Remembrance Day

I was ever so proud of our year 5 and 6 children today. We walked across the muddy field in the rain to pay our respects with a Remembrance Service held by Reverend Karen West. The children laid a wreath, contributed to the service and were exemplary in demonstrating our values of compassion, courage and respect as we remembered those who showed and continue to show compassion, courage and respect for others.



School Council

Many congratulations to our newly elected School Councillors. Their role is an important one as they provide a voice for all pupils to have their opinions represented and their ideas for impact brought forward. They had their first council meeting this week and have come up with the following plans for how our school can promote both Anti-Bullying Week and Children in Need:

Anti-Bullying Week

To raise awareness of Anti-Bullying Week, we shall start with Odd Socks Day. It's a fun opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality and what makes us all unique!

Odd Socks Day 2023 is supported by CBeebies presenter Andy Day and his band 'Andy and the Odd Socks'.

Silchester will be celebrating our own differences. We are asking all of the children and staff to take part in Odd Socks Day on **Monday 13th November**. In fact, if children want to, they can continue to wear odd socks all week!

There is no charge for wearing odd socks as part of their **normal school uniform** and it would be lovely to see as many members of our community getting involved as possible. We shall be exploring anti-bullying during the week in school and their theme this year, which is 'Make a Noise About Bullying!' It could be a noisy week!



Children in Need



Children in Need is on **Friday 17th November**. Our School Councillors thought that this would be a good opportunity to demonstrate compassion to others and as such we would like to mark this as a school and give the children a chance to contribute to the charity.

To keep things simple and affordable, children can come to school wearing comfy or spotty clothes, Pj's, slippers or dressing gowns. (Remember we will still need to have sensible shoes to go outside and, layers in case we get too hot!) This year, Children In Need is celebrating 'the power of positive relationships' with their signature 'be SPOTacular' appeal. We would ask that in return, children bring in a donation that we can collect in school to send to the charity as part of their annual fundraiser. The School Councillors and I will be on the gate with buckets on Friday morning to collect any donations.

Phonics Workshop

On Tuesday this week, Mrs Dowling and Mrs Mitchell will be running a phonics workshop for parents of children in Year R or Year 1. The event will start at 6pm and give you an opportunity to learn how we teach phonics, reading and spelling in school.

PTA

Thanks to everyone who made a Christmas purchase via the PTA initiative. They managed to raise £360 for the school which will go towards enhancing the experiences and resources for our children. Also, special thanks to the PTA for hosting our first Film Night of the year this Friday. We do hope that all of the children attending have a really enjoyable time.

And in Sporting News...



Our girls' football team had their very first football match against Castle Hill primary school, before half term. We lost 4-0 but I couldn't have been prouder of the girls for their grit, determination and excellent sporting behaviours, against a very strong team. Well done girls! Additionally, both our boys' and girls' football teams also showed similar resilience and respect in their matches against Bishopswood this week. Thanks to Miss Robson for organising our sports fixtures and giving the children these experiences.

Upcoming Key Dates

Monday 13th November	Anti-Bullying week and Odd Socks Day!
Tuesday 14th November	6pm Phonics Workshop for Parents – YrR and Yr1
Friday 17th November	Children In Need Day
Friday 17th November	PTA Movie Night
Friday 24th November	9am Stay and Read Event
Friday 24th November	PTA Christmas Jumper Jumble Sale
Friday 1st December	Friday 1st December PTA Christmas Market
Sunday 3rd December	10am Church Service at St Mary's the Virgin to welcome Mrs Moir
Sunday 3rd December	PTA Santa's Grotto
Friday 8th December	Flu Immunisations
Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th and Wednesday 13th December	Nativity
Tuesday 12th December	6pm Carol Concert
Thursday 15th December	School Christmas Lunch & Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 15th December	Last Day before Christmas Holidays

Wishing you all a great weekend and looking forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday,

Kind Regards,

Rachel Moir

Rachel Moir
Head of School