



## SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Compassion, Courage & Respect*

Dear Families of Silchester,

Firstly, a big thank you – both for all of the donations for Bags2School and for the food donations for our Harvest Festival. Both the charity that bring money into school and our local foodbank were delighted by your generosity. It is so lovely to see our value of compassion being lived out in practical ways by our community.



This newsletter serves to share some of the learning the children have been up to in school so far this term.



**Mrs Dowling says:** Ladybird Class have made the most fantastic start to their journey at Silchester. They have worked together making new friends, learning how to share favourite costumes and are showing a real love for learning. They have taken a special interest with P.E (which they ask to do almost every single day!) whether it be inside on my obstacle course being able to climb and jump or outside on the trikes taking it in turns.

I am so proud of each and every one of them and can't believe we are nearly at the end of the first half term already!

Well done Ladybirds 😊



**Mrs Mitchell says:** WOW! What a busy start to Year 1. In Science we have been learning about seasonal changes. Some of us dressed up in clothes for the different seasons and we designed our own seasonal outfits. We have been on an Autumn walk and found our own Autumnal treasures to create our own pictures. We have worked really hard in writing and have learnt to use adjectives in our sentences.



**Miss Dobson says:** We have had a busy few weeks in Year 2! Our topic has been all about "Light and Dark" so our key books have been "The Night Box" and "The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark". We have done some brilliant descriptions and stories already!

We have also made clay diva lamps as part of our RE and Art lessons as well as clay tea light houses! We can't wait to combine our RE and Science learning and hold some shadow puppets theatre shows next!

Finally, with the weather turning and the leaves changing colour, we made land art inspired by Andy Goldsworthy in one of our Outdoor Learning lessons. What care went into these beautiful pieces!

**Miss Ouazzani says:** This half-term year 3 have been volcanologists, learning all about volcanoes. Throughout the weeks, they have read a range of books linking to this topic and have written a non-chronological report on natural disasters. This week they have had great fun building their volcanoes in small groups using bottles, newspaper and plaster of paris (thank you everyone who bought in resources). Everyone got very messy using the powdery Modroc but the grown-ups were extremely impressed with the children's crafting - the models looked brilliant.



Erupting the volcanoes was of course a huge highlight for the children (and the adults!)

**Miss Robson says:** In Year 4, the highlight of our (my!) week is PE. We have been learning the skills of basketball and have been playing mini-matches. We have also been doing some fun team challenges. Year 4 are very competitive (which is great!) but we have also been learning how to work well in a team.

The children have loved writing 'Howlers' in English, based on Harry Potter and the Chamber of secrets – they really know how to tell someone off!

We have also been learning lots about the Romans and are gearing up for our trip to Calleva Atrebatum in the last week of term.



**Mrs Pulford says:** We have had a super start to the year in Year 5! In English our theme has been 'What makes someone extraordinary?' We have been inspired by mountaineers, scientists, dancers, female pilots and women who dared to follow their dreams. As part of our art topic linked to the book 'Everest' we created monoprints of Everest. In Geography we have researched ways of using sustainable fuels and the best ways to generate sustainable energy. In maths we have been deepening our understanding of place value and have investigated multiples, factors and prime numbers.

**Mrs Forrester says:** The highlight of Year 6 so far has definitely been the PGL trip, our new school values were very much on display as the children worked as team to help each other through all of the activities.

In our English lessons they have written some wonderful stories based on the book Way Home - the class were challenged to develop their use of vocabulary and they most certainly achieved it! In music we have focused on A short ride in a fast machine by John Adams - the children loved creating and performing their own versions.



### And in Sporting News...

HUGE congratulations to our Silchester Netball Team who were ambassadors for our school at their first away netball match this week. Not only did they show skill and great sportsmanship, but they also WON 14-2!

Thanks to Miss Robson for organising and for braving the minibus!

### PTA

Massive thanks to our PTA for all that they do. Our PTA support the school by giving their time and care to organise fun events for the children and fundraisers to enhance school experiences. They are putting together a programme of exciting events for the year. Should you wish to join or be able to offer any support or expertise, please do join their Facebook page or make contact via [silchesterpta.chair@gmail.com](mailto:silchesterpta.chair@gmail.com)

## Upcoming Key Dates

Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> October	Booking for Parents Evening slots open on Arbor
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Any PTA Christmas cards/merch ordered by this date will earn the school additional commission. If you are able, please order before this date.
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October	2pm – Open Day for New Year R's 2024.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET DAY
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	HALF TERM
Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	Parents Evenings
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	9am – Open Day for New Year R's 2024
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	School Photos
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Movie Night

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