



SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Dear Families of Silchester,

Happy Easter everyone! It has been a really lovely term at Silchester with much progress made in learning and many positive experiences for your children. As this is the end of term, the newsletter starts with a curriculum update from each teacher before the usual celebration of all that your children have achieved this week.

Mrs Dowling says...

Such a short but sweet half term! We have been totally 'royal-fied' with our castle theme, learning about other castles in England, having tea with the kings and queens. Amongst all this, we have found time to create scary monsters and describe them, fun with parachute games, visiting Tadley library and finding slow worms! The children for sure have earned a well-deserved rest!



Miss Dodson says...

And another half term has gone just like that! We started it off with such an amazing WOW week all to do with poetry... We had had a head start from the half term before when we were creating Rainbow poems based on our book "The Rainbow Bear", but we built on what we had already learnt about to create even more together as a class, and they have become experts! However, of course our main theme this half term has been The Great Fire of London!! The children have loved role playing outside, can explain exactly why the fire spread so quickly and widely, and wrote some excellent diary entries in our English writing lessons pretending they were there at the time! Lastly, it has been so nice to get outside, especially as part of our science topic all to do with plants. Throw in the school trip to the Living Rainforest(!), World Book Day, a judo session, a day with the RAP school, and you can see it has been busy yet exciting half term!!



Poetry WOW Week

"I wonder..." poem

I wonder why the stars twinkle at night?
And why polar bears are always white?

What is God made out of and how do we know?
And what made God long ago?

When did the first rainbow appear in the sky?
And when was the first elephant born and why?

Where did the first flower grow?
And where did all the dinosaurs go?

Who made animals big and small?
And who made good and bad for us all?



Poetry WOW Week

Our "I am..." poem



I am the jaws of a crocodile because I am always hungry. (Logan)

I am the fur of a teddy bear because I am cuddly. (Scarlett)

I am the wings of an aeroplane because I fly high. (Arlo)

I am the neck of a giraffe because I stand tall. (Maisie)

I am the horn of a unicorn because I sparkle wherever I go. (Emily)

I am the tail of a peacock because I am colourful and proud. (Zara)

I am the paws of a tiger because I move quietly and quickly. (Dylan)

I am the tail of a fish because I like swimming. (Lucy)

I am the horn of a rhino because I am sharp. (Silas)



I am the legs of a velociraptor because I run fast. (Rarley)

I am the pages of a book because I love to go on adventures. (Charlie)

I am the wheel of a car because I love to cartwheel round and round. (Lyla)

I am the legs of a cheetah because I love running. (Isaac)

I am the wheels of a race car because I am fast. (Jude)



I am the song of a bird because I love to sing. (Aurora)

I am the arms of a gorilla because I am strong. (Noah)



I am the paws of a cat because I creep and climb. (Saxon)

I am the colours of a rainbow because I am beautiful. (Maggie-Rose)

I am the flippers of a dolphin because I like swimming in the deep, blue ocean. (Emme)



Mrs Mitchell and Mrs Pulford say...

What an action-packed, speedy term it has been! We started with our poetry WOW week, where the children wrote some excellent poems and used fantastic figurative language. We then held our Rainforest Museum, celebrating all the children's hard work, before moving on to our Stone Age topic. We have been lucky to enjoy some glorious sunshine this term, so we have made the most of our PE lessons by practising our tennis skills. Year 2 also spent time working collaboratively with Year 1 during some tennis sessions, while Year 3 have been busy preparing for their Easter play. We hope you enjoyed watching the play—weren't the children amazing!

We all thoroughly enjoyed our Stone Age Day, taking part in a range of exciting challenges—from making Stonehenge using custard creams to creating our own salt dough jewellery. In DT, we learned about wheels and axles and designed and made our own moving cars.

I hope everyone has a wonderful Easter break. I look forward to hearing from Miss Cook and Mrs Pulford about all the fantastic learning in the summer term. Thank you for all your hard work, Hazel Class! 😊

Miss McNally and Mrs Hammill say...

This half term has been full of rich learning and memorable experiences across the curriculum. In English and Guided Reading, the children were completely captivated by *The Animals of Farthing Wood*. They followed the animals' emotional journey through both the text and selected episodes, which inspired some fantastic writing.

The children produced thoughtful first-person narratives from the perspective of their chosen animal, skilfully using coordinating and subordinating conjunctions to extend their ideas.



In Maths, we focused on developing confidence with word problems. While this remains an area we will continue to build on, it has been wonderful to see the children growing in their understanding and applying formal written methods. Many are now confidently using the column method for addition and subtraction, including exchanging.

Our topic work explored the question, “Where does our food come from?” The children particularly enjoyed tracking the journey of treats such as chocolate and sweets in the lead-up to Easter,

making meaningful links between geography, history, and everyday life.

In Science, Mrs Hamill led some exciting learning around magnets and how they work. This hands-on learning culminated in a fantastic game-making session, where the children applied their understanding in a creative and practical way.

Finally, a huge highlight of the half term has been the preparation for our Easter play. The children have shown incredible enthusiasm, teamwork, and resilience as they have written, edited, rehearsed, and brought the performance together. We are incredibly proud of everything they have achieved.



Mrs Cook and Mrs Forrester say...

This term has been a particularly full and engaging one for Year 5. In English, the children have explored poetry through *The Lost Words*, reading a range of poems and using these as inspiration to write their own. Year 5 have truly excelled in crafting their own imaginative and thoughtful poems. In Maths, we have developed our mathematical fluency across addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, including the use of formal written methods. Pupils have also learnt to interpret negative numbers and have practised using a protractor to accurately measure angles. In History, the class thoroughly enjoyed their study of Ancient Greece, making meaningful connections to their class text, *Who Let the Gods Out* and *Shadow of the Minotaur*. In Science, we have developed our understanding of Earth and Space and recently enjoyed our trip the Science Museum. For Design and Technology, we designed and made our own mechanical toys. A short term, but a busy and enjoyable one. Well done Year 5!



Miss Dadral says...

This Spring term has been an unforgettable one for Year 6! We've thrown ourselves into every challenge with enthusiasm, creativity and (occasionally!) some very dramatic flair.

In English, we dove head-first into the world of **Macbeth**, producing a gripping retell, a persuasive letter, and a character journal — and yes, things got *a little gory* along the way! We also created our very own 'Good Guide' to **Silchester School**,



If you're planning to enrol your child at Stibchester school (starting September 2027), we would be delighted to welcome them to our wonderful village school.

My name is Kathryn Lo and I am one of the Captains here. As a small school with a huge heart, we take great pride in our commitment towards our core values of Compassion, Courage and respect.

Set amidst the tranquil stibchester wood, our school offers a range of classes all named after the environment that surrounds our school.

Woodbirds: Reception
 Year one: Chestnut
 Year two/three: Hazel
 Year three/four: Sycamore
 Year five: Birch
 Year six: oak

So, we invite you to explore stibchester through this prospectus. We hope you discover the unique qualities that makes our school a heartfelt place.

Mental and physical health is deeply important here at stibchester, we are passionate about supporting your child's individual needs. We are understanding that events go wrong and mistakes are part of our learning journey.

packed with humour, honesty, and brilliant advice for future pupils.

Alongside all this writing, we have been working incredibly hard on our **revision**. Every single member of the class has shown real maturity, resilience and focus as we prepare for SATs. The progress has been fantastic to see, and the effort has been outstanding.

And now... the countdown begins! It won't be long before SATs are behind us and Year 6 can finally discover the long-awaited announcement of the **End-of-Year Show** — excitement is definitely building!

It's been a brilliant term, and we're proud of everything Year 6 has achieved. Onwards to an amazing Summer term!

Return of The Rap!

We were thrilled to welcome *The Rap Man*, Rob, a world champion rapper, to school this week. He began with an

exciting whole-school presentation where the children challenged him with random words, which he instantly transformed into an impressive freestyle rap that left everyone amazed. Throughout the day, each class took part in a workshop where the children explored rhythm and rhyme, creating and performing their own raps with great enthusiasm and creativity. It was a memorable experience thoroughly enjoyed by all. A big thank you to Mrs Dowling for organising this fantastic opportunity and to the PTA for generously sponsoring the event.



Rocksteady Concert

What a performance the Rocksteady children gave us on Wednesday this week! Jo has done a great job at teaching the bands to play and perform in front of an audience. It was so nice to see how the children have grown in confidence and demonstrated great courage as they took to the stage – really impressive.



Easter Production

We were incredibly proud of the children for their wonderful Easter production this week. They told the Easter Story with such thoughtfulness and confidence, showing great courage as they performed on stage and remembered all their lines and songs so beautifully. The children have really loved getting involved in all aspects of the production, acting, singing, choreography, costume, direction and stage design. Their enthusiasm and teamwork shone through, making it a truly special performance for everyone who attended. A huge thank you to Miss

McNally and Mrs Bristow for their hard work, creativity, and dedication in bringing the production together so successfully.

Values Award Winners

The winners of this terms values awards (pictured below) enjoyed a treat trip to the pop-up café this morning for a hot chocolate, treat and a good chat! This is a particular highlight of my term and a great chance to reward children for always demonstrating our values of Compassion, Courage and Respect. It's also an opportunity for me to thank children for making a difference to our community with their efforts and to encourage them to continue with great plans for their future.



Parking Reminder

We kindly ask all parents and carers to park considerately around the school, particularly at drop-off and pick-up times.

School Lane access should only be used for staff and disabled access – everyone else should be using the pavilion car park.

Please ensure that the zigzag lines, keep-clear areas, and the disabled bay are always left unobstructed so that children, families, and emergency vehicles can access the school safely. Your cooperation makes a real difference to the safety of our whole community. Thank you for your support.

New After School Tennis Club

Wednesday Tennis After School Club (Years 1–4) – Summer Term

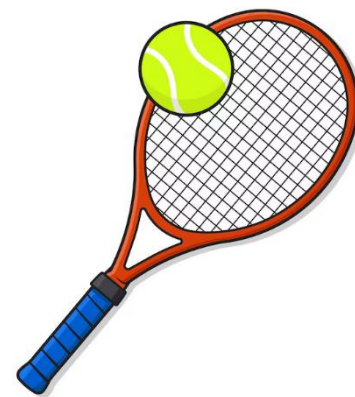
Pop Up Tennis / Riseley Tennis Club are continuing with the Wednesday tennis after school club at Silchester Primary School for Years 1–4, 3:15–4:15pm.

Dates: Wednesday 15th April to Wednesday 17th July – 13 weeks

Cost: £9 per session

Booking link: <https://bookwhen.com/popuptennis/e/ev-sbjo7-20260415151500>

If you have any questions, please use the following email address: info@popuptennis.co.uk



PTA News!

Silchester School PTA

HOW DID WE FUNDRAISE?

Spring Term 2026

Pub Quiz
(Dec)

£120

Disco
£897

2nd Hand
Uniform
£28

Break The Rules
Day

£455

Bags2School
£142

Dave's
Half-marathon

£103

WHAT WE HELPED TO FUND

£100 Stationary

£1000 WOW Week

£1500 School Improvements

£1000 School Trips (Y1, 2/3 & 5)

Pre-loved Uniform - Purchasing

We have plenty of preloved items – jumpers, cardigans, trousers, skirts and pinafores. If you wish to purchase pre-loved uniform items please contact Lizzie West via Facebook to check availability. Items are charged at £2 for logo items, and 50p per grey items. All funds go directly to the PTA Payment is via bank transfer or cash.

Name: Silchester School PTA

Account number: 00387022

Sort code: 30-18-45

Please reference “uniform”



Donations

- We do not need any more grey uniform items or white polo shirts (even those with logos) as we have a considerable number in stock already.
- We will welcome donations of jumpers and cardigans with the school logo. Please pass to the school office, for the attention of Lizzie West.

Stikins



We have teamed up with ‘Stikins’, meaning we can now earn 30% commission on all orders placed – just use our fundraiser number 17969



Dave’s Row

A huge congratulations to Dave Holby-Wolinski for completing the Reading Half Marathon on Sunday 22nd March. He ran carrying his trusty rowing machine – although this encountered some technical issues on mile 2 making the remaining 11 miles even more challenging. Many would have faltered – but not Dave! He and the rowing machine went on to complete the event in 5 hours 23 minutes. If you would like to donate to recognise this incredible effort please follow the link below:

https://wonderful.org/fundraisers/Nx9b1?fbclid=IwY2xjawQUO3RleHRuA2FlbQIxMQBzcnRjBmFwcF9pZBAyMjlwMzcxNzg4MjAwODkyAAEe4ep_cysEhs8xQSOVbHilLNPLsMic0tcRPrG2cduPcU8Q6wkfncFAdRBKpH0_aem_1KaLg5wpL116fUlxDKqWQ

Next meeting

Every parent/guardian of a pupil at the school is a member of the PTA. If you feel you can offer time, ideas, or expertise to help us maximise our support and enrichment of the work the school does please make contact with a member of the PTA via silchesterpta.chair@gmail.com, through the Facebook page or in-person on the school run ☺ We would love to have all of you supporting projects that benefit your children in whichever ways you can. If you are able to join us our next meeting is 8pm Tuesday 28th April at The Calleva Arms

Future Events

Treat Tuesday – lolly sales at the end of the day every Tuesday (weather permitting)

Break the Rules Day – Friday 22nd May

Bag2School Collection – Thursday 4th June

Silchester's Got Talent – Friday 12th June

Colour Run – Friday 3rd July



Upcoming Dates

DATE	EVENT
30 th March – 10 th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 20 th April	Class Photos
Thursday 23 rd April	Drama Workshop
30 th April, 7 th May, 14 th May, 21 st May	Sycamore Class Swimming Lessons
Monday 4 th May	MAY DAY BANK HOLIDAY
Monday 11 th – Thursday 14 th May	Year 6 SATs
Monday 18 th – Friday 22 nd May	Walk to School Week
Friday 22 nd May	PTA Break the Rules Day
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	HALF TERM HOLIDAY
Thursday 4 th June	Bags2School Collection
Friday 5 th June	Sports Day (first attempt!)
Tuesday 9 th June	PTA Meeting – 8pm at The Calleva
Friday 12 th June	Silchester's Got Talent
Monday 15 th June – Friday 19 th June	Ladybirds Cycling Proficiency Week
Thursday 18 th June	Whole School Pilgrimage to the church
Tuesday 23 rd and Wednesday 24 th June	BPSM Choir Performances at The Anvil
Thursday 25 th June	Year 6 Leavers Service at Winchester Cathedral
Tuesday 14 th and Wednesday 15 th July	Year 5 and 6 End of Year Production
Wednesday 15 th July	Sycamore Class River Study Field Trip
Friday 17 th July	Year 6 Paulton's Park Trip
Friday 17 th July	The Secret Garden Production in school
Tuesday 21 st July at 9:30am	Year 6 Leavers Assembly
Wednesday 22 nd July	FIRST DAY OF SUMMER HOLIDAYS
Wednesday 2 nd September	FIRST DAY OF NEW SCHOOL YEAR
Amazon Wish List	https://amzn.eu/diet9uj

I hope that you all have a fantastic Easter holiday full of friends, fun and family time. Looking forward to seeing you all again when school starts back on Monday 13th April.

Rachel Moir

Rachel Moir



St Mary the Virgin, Silchester
Silchester Parish

Litter

Pick

Saturday 28th March
10.30am – midday

Meet in the Silchester Pavilion
car park (Pamber Rd, RG7 2PH)

Please bring your own kit if you have it,
otherwise equipment will be provided

Please feel free to leave whenever you're ready.
If you have any queries please email
Revd Karen: revkarenw24@gmail.com



Benefice of Tadley with Pamber Heath & Silchester

Palm Sunday

Led by The Rt Revd Philip Mounstephen
Bishop of Winchester

29th March, 11am

St Mary-the-Virgin, Silchester



Walk with a donkey from

Silchester Village Hall - 9.30am

(If wet, meet at Walls Carpark - 10am)

Visit the baby animal farm outside the
church from 10am - 11am

Opening Monday 30th March

Just in time for the Easter holidays!

WOODLAND GARDEN ADVENTURE GOLF

Sherfield-on-Loddon Garden Centre & Café



Brand new adventure golf course with 18 holes of fun for families, friends, and groups of all ages



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Discount*

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www.capitalgardens.co.uk/golf



Woodland Garden Adventure Golf



woodland.garden.golf



woodland_garden_adventure_golf



Sherfield-on-Loddon Garden Centre & Café, Wildmoor Lane, Basingstoke, RG27 0HL

SPRING SUMMER MENU 2026

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	MENU KEY:
WEEK ONE						
Option One	Macaroni Cheese	Phat Pasty Park Sausage Roll with Potato Wedges	Roast Chicken, Stuffing, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Spagheti Bolognaise	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce	
Option Two	Chickpea Curry with Rice	Mild Mexican Chili with Rice	Roasted Quorn, Roast Potatoes, & Gravy	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Cheese & Bean Pasty with Chips & Tomato Sauce	
Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	
Dessert	NEW Banana Mousse	Strawberry Jelly with Mandarins	Fruit Platter	Apple Flapjack	Orange drizzle Cake	
WEEK TWO						
Option One	Cheese & Tomato Pizza	Beef Chilli with Rice	Pork Sausage, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken Burger in a bun with wedges	Battered Fish with Chips & Tomato Sauce	
Option Two	Lentil & Sweet Potato Curry with Rice	Spaghetti & Meat free balls in a Tomato Sauce	Veg Wellington, Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Spinach & Cheese Whirl with Rice	NEW Cheesy Broccoli Frittata with Chips	
Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	
Dessert	Iced Vanilla Sponge	Peaches & Ice Cream	Freshly Chopped Fruit Salad	Jam Sponge with Custard	Oaty Cookie	
WEEK THREE						
Option One	Tomato Pasta	Beef Burger with Potato Wedges	Roast Pork, Potatoes & Gravy	Chicken Korma with Rice	Fishfingers with Chips & Tomato Sauce	
Option Two	NEW Chinese Vegetable Noodles	Cheese & Tomato Pizza with wedges	Vegetable Loaf with Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy	All Day Vegetarian Breakfast	Cowboy Sausage and Bean Hotpot	
Sides	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	Vegetables of the Day	
Dessert	Pineapple Upside Down Cake	Cheese & Crackers	Fruit Medley	Apple Crumble with Custard	Vanilla Shortbread	
AVAILABLE DAILY:	Jacket Potatoes with a choice of fillings, Salad Bar, Freshly Baked Bread, Fresh Fruit, Yoghurt					

If you would like to know about particular allergens in foods, please ask a member of the catering team for information. If your child has a school lunch and has a food allergy or intolerance you will be asked to complete a form to ensure we have the necessary information to cater for your child. We use a large variety of ingredients in the preparation of our meals and due to the nature of our kitchens it is not possible to completely remove the risk of allergen cross contact.

PICNIC BAG MENU

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
W E E K 1	CHEESE SANDWICH	HOT DOG	CHEESE SANDWICH	PIZZA	FISHFINGERS IN A BUN
W E E K 2	PIZZA	CHEESE SANDWICH	HOT DOG	CHICKEN IN A BUN	HAM SANDWICH
W E E K 3	HOT DOG	PIZZA	CHEESE SANDWICH	HAM SANDWICH	FISHFINGERS IN A BUN

All picnic bags will include vegetable sticks, cucumber slices, apple slice, orange segment and a pudding