



## SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Compassion, Courage & Respect*

Dear Families of Silchester,

At certain points this week, you could be forgiven for thinking that our school was full of actual magic! Children have been flying around the field on their quidditch broomsticks; creating stone age tools, jewellery and cave paintings; and princesses, superheroes and animals have been taught by Snow White and Minnie Mouse!

### Ofsted Report

It has also been the week that we could finally share our Ofsted report with you all. The report shows that we have been judged as good in every area. It also highlights our 'happy and harmonious' and 'positive community' saying that 'the warm, friendly atmosphere in school is testament to the school's vision and values.'

The inspectors were incredibly skilled, robust, insightful, thorough, and warmly human! As Mr Golding's letter explained, the report is fairly short and professionally phrased. However, it is outstanding and a huge relief that our special little school, with its big heart, has been officially recognised. An extraordinary amount of work, time, patience and love has been poured into Silchester by you all. I couldn't be more thankful and proud of our children, staff and parenting community.

Whilst it is a nice to have, it really won't change the journey we are on. Our day-to-day, our desire to do the best for our children, to provide positive experiences and relationships, and to approach all with compassion, courage and respect, remains the reason we do what we do.



### Celebrating Success!

It is with great pleasure that I can celebrate and boast about some of the recent outside school achievements of some of our students.



#### Henry – Cross-Country Star

Following the recent cross-country event in February, Henry Johnson was invited back to represent Basingstoke against the best year 6 athletes in the South. Out of 121 boys Henry came 70th! That is such an achievement, and we are really proud of Henry's speed and stamina.

#### Summer and Olivia – Gymnastics Champions

Last weekend, both Summer Rogers and Olivia Burton were successful in qualifying for the British Gymnastics Team. They were both so proud to show their shiny medals during worship on Monday and it is fantastic that their talent and dedication to practice has been rewarded with this honour. We are so proud of them both and wish them every success!



## Stone Age Day

Hazel Class absolutely loved their Stone Age Day this week. What a triumph! The children loved learning from our visiting history expert. We explored lots of artefacts, tried on clothes and jewellery and found out about food, medicine and tools. The children then had the opportunity to make our own weapons, bracelets and cave art. The children looked great in their costumes and the physical timeline they made has really helped their chronological understanding of history. It blew their minds to learn that their timeline of history would even reach all the way to Sainsburys! Many thanks to Mrs Hunter for planning such a fun and engaging way to learn.





### Ms Rodway

Ms Rodway will be moving on from her role at Silchester from today. Leona Rodway started life at Silchester as a rugby coach! In her time here, she has supported many children either within whole classes, as a one to one or in small groups. She has run OT programmes, covered numerous lunchtimes and helped to fix all of our computer problems! Enormous thanks to Leona for the many years of service she has dedicated to Silchester School and its children. We all wish you every success and happiness in your next chapter.



### Art Trip to Willink

Next Thursday, Sycamore(4), Oak(6) and Ladybirds(R) get their turn to visit The Willink to create some art. When the other three classes went, they created some beautiful prints which now adorn our corridor. Many thanks to Mrs Dowling and Joanne McDonald (Arlo's mum!) for enabling this creative experience. The children will be transported via minibus within school time, supervised by school staff and lunch arrangements are not affected. Therefore, nothing additional is required for this free excursion, other than for you to know it is going ahead!

Any questions or concerns, please contact the school office. We look forward to sharing their artwork with you in due course.

### Junior Road Safety Officers – Competition

Our JRSO's have been remembering how to stay safe when we are crossing the roads.

We thought it would be great to create our own road safety posters to display around school.

If you would like to design a poster, they need to be handed in to your class teacher, by Friday 21st March.

Can you design our new Green Cross Code poster?

Design a poster which tells other people how to cross the road safely. Don't forget to include:

#### Stop, look, listen and think

- Find a safe place to cross where you can see what is coming
  - **Be bright be seen**
- Make sure traffic can see you



Our JRSO team will then have the fun but difficult task of choosing winners from across the year groups. Winning posters will be displayed around school and shared in our newsletter and on our website. Good luck!



### Red Nose Day

Red Nose Day is on Friday 21 March 2025. This year, they are celebrating 40 years of *going big, giving big, and feeling good together*. School Council would like to recognise this charity day by encouraging everyone to come to school wearing their own red clothes (or school uniform, if they would prefer.) Donations will be collected by our school council at the gates and in their classrooms.

As we are also having a cricket taster day on the same day, please can you make sure that whatever the children chose to wear, it is also suitable for playing cricket in?! i.e. no mini-skirts and stilettos!!

### Rocksteady

It is still possible to sign your child up to join a Rocksteady band if you would like. These sessions will start after easter, so please see details below if you would like a place.

### With Rocksteady, children learn to play an instrument through fun and inclusive weekly in-school rock and pop band lessons.

It's the perfect way to learn new musical skills, make friends and have a great time - all at school! There's no musical experience necessary and instruments for lessons are provided.

Rocksteady lessons are also shown to boost confidence, improve wellbeing and encourage teamwork!



Scan QR code to find out more!



### Request from The Reverend!

In the last week before Easter, we will be transforming Maple Classroom into a prayer space. As such, we wonder whether any of you have any long lengths of flimsy material we could either borrow or have to transform the classroom. Any donations gratefully received.

### Coin Wars Victors!

Many thanks to all of you who emptied out your pennies for your children to participate in the PTA Coin War. The totals are in and altogether was raised a phenomenal £414.40 for The PTA who support and fund loads of additional experiences for our children. Perhaps even more phenomenal was the counting prowess of Jo Woods and her helpers who counted 13,951 coins!

The winning class with the highest total (minus sabotage!) was Hazel Class whose prize will be a movie afternoon with popcorn.



## PTA Easter Disco

Tickets are now on sale for the PTA's Easter Disco taking place on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> March.

<https://www.pta-events.co.uk/silchesterschoolpta/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=92960>

Alongside the disco, the children will be able to enjoy party games, glitter tattoos, nail painting, a packet of crisps, a bag of Haribo sweets and a drink of squash/water. If your child has an allergy to crisps or Haribo sweets, please let the school office know. All the food provided will be nut free.

### Year R – Year 3 = 3:15 – 5pm

Children are welcome to bring a change of clothes, that they can change in to, in their classroom at the end of the school day, before they will be collected by PTA volunteers to come to the hall for the disco. Children will need to be collected from their classroom after the disco by an adult.

### Year 4 – 6 = 5:30 – 7pm

Please arrive to the front door no earlier than 5:30pm. Children will be signed in to the PTA on arrival. At the end of the disco, children must be collected by their adults.

If you are able to help at the disco, please let the PTA know via PTA Facebook page and this will be greatly appreciated.



## Upcoming Key Dates

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 6 Bikeability – Bikes and helmets to school
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Year R, 4 & 6 – Art Trip to The Willink
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Red Nose Day – wear something red
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Cricket Taster Day – ALL to school in PE kits please
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	School Disco run by the PTA
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April at 2:15pm	Sycamore Class (Year 4) Easter Worship Performance
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April at 9:15am	Sycamore Class (Year 4) Easter Worship Performance
Amazon Wish List	<a href="https://amzn.eu/diet9uj">https://amzn.eu/diet9uj</a>

I hope that you and your families have a great weekend together. I look forward to seeing you all again on Monday.

*Rachel Moir*

Rachel Moir  
Head of School



# Silchester School PTA

**SAVE THE DATE**

We've got lots going on so don't forget to add these dates to the diary so you can join in the fun!

**14<sup>th</sup> Feb – Break the Rules Day!** Come to school with coloured hair, temporary tattoos or in your pyjamas! £1 donation for each rule broken (up to 5 rules).

**25<sup>th</sup> Feb to 7<sup>th</sup> March – Coin Wars!** Bring in your copper coins and fill up you class bottle to win the battle!

**28<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Discos.** YR, 1, 2 & 3 3:15-5:00. Y4, 5 & 6 5:30-7:00. Tickets available through the PTA website from 7<sup>th</sup> March (volunteers required)

**17<sup>th</sup> May – Family Evening.** Save the date for a family barn dance/disco/music event with BBQ. Stay tuned for more details.

**6<sup>th</sup> June – Silchester's Got Talent.** TBC

**4<sup>th</sup> July – Children's Inflatable Fun Day.** During school hours (no donation required)

**11<sup>th</sup> July – Rainbow Run.** TBC

Keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for more info  
[www.pta-events.co.uk/silchesterschoolpta/index.cfm](http://www.pta-events.co.uk/silchesterschoolpta/index.cfm)  
[www.facebook.com/groups/ptasilchesterschool](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ptasilchesterschool)



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