



SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Dear Families of Silchester,

Your children continue to impress with their learning, growth and attitudes this week. I have seen examples of resilience in writing, collaboration in problem solving, resourcefulness in maths, communication in discussion, independence in play and reflectiveness in editing. Next week, we will be expanding our classroom work from HeartSmart and working together to share our ideas on 'ways to stay safe' (e.g. at home, online, on the roads, in the playground etc.) If your weekend has opportunity for discussions around this, then they will already have a head start!

Hazel Class Explorers Day

This week, Hazel Class got to 'travel around the world' to enthuse their topic of rainforests. The children made their own tickets and achieved stamps on their passports by completing activities linked to each continent. It was a joy to see the children engaging in their learning in this way, and as you can see from the photos – they had a blast! Thanks to Mrs Hunter and Mrs Robinson for enhancing their curriculum in this way.



Big Emotions!

At Silchester, we always try our best to listen and offer opportunities to support our whole community. As such, we have asked the Primary Behaviour Service to run a workshop for parents. This will be an opportunity to learn from the experts about how to support your children with their emotions. No parent knows everything! And our children may flummox us from time to time, so this event will aim to share information about the emotions our children share and offer tips and tricks for our parent toolkit.

We will repeat the workshop on two different occasions to enable both day time and evening options to try and suit everyone. Should you know parents from other schools who would also be interested in joining, please feel free to invite them – all are welcome.



Primary Behaviour Service

Workshop for Parents

BIG EMOTIONS

Does your child have big emotions?!
Whatever emotions your child may struggle with, anxiety, excitement, anger or overwhelm, it is always useful to have some tools in your parent toolkit! The Primary Behaviour Service are offering a free workshop for parents to share theory, practical strategies and suggestions for supporting your child with their emotions. Please do join us for one of the sessions below. No need to book, just turn up. All are welcome.

Thursday 23rd January - 6:15pm – 7:45pm

or

Friday 7th February - 9:15am – 10:45am

At Silchester Church of England Primary School



Ladybirds Superhero Day

Ladybirds will be having their Superhero Day on Thursday 23rd January. For this, all Ladybirds are welcome to wear superhero costumes.

No need to buy anything additional – bin bag capes are perfectly fine!



PTA Bake Sale
Friday 31st January
3:15pm in the school hall

Please join us in the hall after school on 31st Jan to share a sweet treat and raise funds for the PTA!
Cash only please.
Home baked or store bought, big or small, all donations welcome!

Please bring donations to the year 4 classroom (corner of the playground opposite the climbing frame) in the morning of 31st Jan.

Please make sure all donations are in original packaging (if purchased) or include an ingredients list. Please advise of any allergens and make sure all entries are NUT FREE. If the item is in a container you would like returned, please ensure you have your child's name and class on them (these will be sent home with your child the following day).

PTA Bake Sale

Who doesn't love a cake?! On Friday 31st January, our wonderful PTA are going to be holding a Bake Sale in the school hall after school. If you are able to contribute any cakes or bakes, all donations of will be gratefully accepted and appreciated. The PTA will be collecting 'the goods' from Maple Class in the morning of the sale and then all are welcome to come into the hall after school to start your weekend off with a treat! All proceeds go to our PTA who fund experiences and enhance opportunities for our children's education in school. Many thanks to all involved – can't wait!



World Book Day

It is a while off until World Book Day – Thursday 6th March. On this day, we will be doing lots of fun activities to promote all things books and reading. We will also invite children to come into school dressed as a book character. In the interest of make this as easy as possible, we will be holding a 'Costume Sale' after school on Friday 28th February. We're giving advanced warning of this in the hope that you might be able to look out any outgrown/unwanted costumes to donate. We'll collect for the costume sale after half term – many thanks.

THE GOLDEN TICKET TEA

Inspired by Roald Dahl's Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, this interactive children's afternoon tea is perfect for little ones wanting to adventure into the magical, mouthwatering land of Willy Wonka.

Entry is of course only permitted for those with a Golden Ticket, which will be handed to the children on arrival.

Scrumptious treats include bubblegum mousse and Wokefield's signature "Wonka" bar, plus the children can create their own blueberry fizzy wonder drink!

For more information, or to book, please scan the QR code below:

Use code "CHOCOLATE20" to receive an exclusive 20% off The Golden Ticket Tea for any bookings in January & February 2025.

De Vere Wokefield Estate, Goodboys Lane, Mortimer, RG7 3AE

Smart Watches

Just a polite reminder that children are not permitted to wear Smart Watches that make noises, take photos, have games or can connect to other devices or the internet. The principle and most important reason that they cannot be allowed in school is safeguarding. In addition to this, they are not conducive to learning and can also be distracting for others. Many thanks for your understanding and support with this.

Golden Ticket – the above flyer offers a discount to anyone who might like to book a Golden Ticket Tea from De Vere at The Wokefield Estate who often support our PTA's requests for raffle prizes.

Online Safety

Before half term we will be marking Internet Safety Day in school. With that in mind, I thought I'd share some top tips from the NSPCC for how to support online safety at home:

Online safety: top tips

Going online is a huge part of most young people's lives so it's important to talk to them about online safety. Here's our tips to get you started.



Chat to them about what they like to do online

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to talk to them and have regular conversations so that online safety is part of everyday discussion. Ask them open-ended questions like 'What's your favourite game or app to play on?'.

- Listen to what they have to say and show an interest. They could give you a demo of their favourite app or show you their favourite YouTube or TikTok account.
- They will probably be able to teach you things you don't know! This will also give you an opportunity to chat about any safety settings they might already have in place.
- Regular conversations with your child will encourage them to come to you if they ever need support or advice.

Talk about who they are in contact with online

There are lots of different ways that children can talk to people online – messaging apps, on social media, and less obvious ways such as chat on online games. Talk to your child about who they are talking to and what they are sharing with them.

- Use settings to help limit who can contact your child.
- Remind your child that they shouldn't share personal information with people they don't know online.
- Let your child know they can come to you or another trusted adult if any conversation makes them feel uncomfortable.

Help manage what they see and do online

Parental controls and privacy settings can help you manage how your child spends time online and help to keep them safe.

- Device settings – manage things like location sharing, screen time and in-app purchases. Most tech and gaming companies have dedicated pages to support with setting these up.
- App or game settings – in-app tools that can help to keep your child's account private and manage who they're talking to. You can normally find information on these in account settings or directly on the platforms website.
- Mobile or network provider settings – help to manage browsing access and stop your child from visiting inappropriate sites or downloading apps that aren't suitable. Contact your mobile or broadband provider for more information about setting this up.

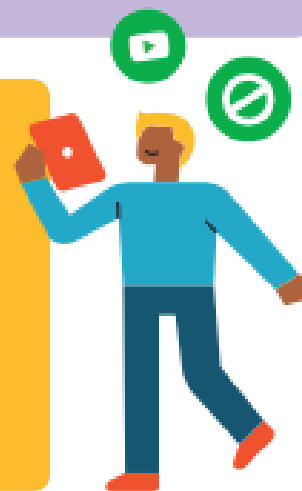
Make sure to talk to your child first before implementing any new settings and explain to them how they help to keep them safe.

Remember it's ok to ask for help!

Remember you don't have to be an online safety expert – that's our job! We're here to help, with resources and advice to help support you and your child.

If your child asks you a question you don't know the answer to, or speaks to you about a negative experience they had online, here are some of things you could do:

- Visit the NSPCC online safety hub: nspcc.org.uk/online-safety
- Call the NSPCC helpline **0808 800 5000** to speak to an advisor
- Ask another parent
- Speak to your child's teacher
- If your child needs more support, they can contact Childline: childline.org.uk



NSPCC

EVERY CHILDHOOD IS WORTH FIGHTING FOR

Upcoming Key Dates

Thursday 23 rd January	Workshop for parents – Big Emotions led by PBS (Primary Behaviour Service)
Thursday 23 rd January	Ladybirds Superhero Day
Monday 27 th January	Year R Height/Weight measurements with School Nurse
Friday 31 st January	PTA Bake Sale in the hall after school
Monday 3 rd February	Bags2School Collection
Monday 3 rd February	Chestnut Class (1/2) Trip to Science Museum
Tuesday 4 th February	Beech Class (5) Trip to Science Museum
Wednesday 5 th February	Hazel Class Trip to The Living Rainforest
Friday 7 th February	9:15am - Workshop for parents – Big Emotions led by PBS (Primary Behaviour Service)
Monday 10 th February and Wednesday 12 th February	Parents Evenings
Tuesday 11 th February	Internet Safety Day
Monday 17 th – Friday 21 st February	Half Term
Monday 24 th February	INSET DAY
Tuesday 25 th – Friday 28 th February	WOW Week
Friday 28 th February	World Book Day Costume Sale
Thursday 6 th March	World Book Day
Friday 28 th March	School Disco run by the PTA

I hope that you and your families have a truly excellent weekend, and I'll look forward to welcoming you back to school on Monday.

Rachel Moir

Rachel Moir
Head of School