



## SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Compassion, Courage & Respect*

Dear Families of Silchester,

We hope that you and your children have enjoyed this week. As ever, there has been lots going on so in this newsletter we will share some of the children's experiences and achievements as well as notices about upcoming events.

### **Playtime Equipment**

Thanks to our fabulous PTA, the children were treated to an upgrade of playtime equipment this week. As you can see from the photos this has gone down a treat and has encouraged happier play. We have been reminding the children that the more they look after it, the longer it will last and that 'Tambourine means Tidy-Up!'

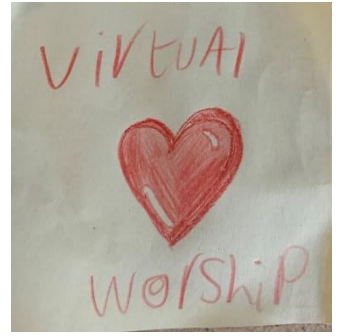


### **Triple Harvest!**

Silchester School has been celebrating Harvest in style this year with a triple Harvest!

## Virtual Harvest

On Tuesday, the Reverend Karen arranged for us to have a Virtual Harvest whereby the children received a Zoom call from Ann who works for a charity called The Ripple Effect. She was able to teach the children about what Harvest looks like in Africa and they learnt some pretty interesting facts about pineapples!



## School Harvest

Thank you all so much for your generous donations for our School Harvest today. Thanks also to our Year 6 captains who arranged it all so beautifully! The children learnt all about how the food we've collected will be distributed via the food bank to those in need. I'm also pleased to share that the traditional 'Cauliflower's Fluffy' was sung with joyous gusto!



## Church Harvest

There will also be a special service at St Mary's on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October at 10am. We would love for as many children as possible to join us. We will be unveiling an Eco Church Award that the church have won with a little help from the children of Silchester School and their work during our WOW Week to Nature.

## Sycamore Trip to Reading Museum

Our Year 4s had a fantastic trip to Reading Museum this week. The staff were delighted to receive lovely comments from children saying how fun it was and "I want this museum in my back garden."

They attended some great workshops learning about Roman architecture, dressing up as the Romans, admiring mosaics and completing a treasure hunt. They also enjoyed hunting looking at the Bayeux tapestry. Year 4 were complemented on their behaviour during the workshops and what a lovely class they were. Well done to Year 4 and to all of their team – very proud!



## PGL

We wish all our Year 6s a really enjoyable week away at PGL next week. We know that you will have an incredible adventure, and we can't wait to see your photos and hear all about it. (Less enthusiastic about the washing coming home!)

In order to staff the residential sufficiently, the following people will be accompanying them:

All week = Miss Dadral, Miss Ouazzani, Mrs Dougall

Monday - Wednesday = Mrs Moir

Thursday - Friday = Mrs Forrester



Mr Golding will be running the school in my absence and to cover Mrs Forrester, Year 4 will be taught by Mrs Sam Rolph on Thursday and Friday next week. Mrs Rolph is known to the children as she is in charge of Pupil Voice at Silchester and oversees our worship planning. She has taught at Bishopswood, Bramley and Whitewater for many years and is looking forward to being at Silchester for those two days.



### Mental Health Day

Next **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October** is World Mental Health Day. Our children who are Compassionate Researchers would like to mark this in some way as it reflects our values to promote positive wellbeing and support all in need. As such, we invite children to come to school on Thursday in their **COMFIEST CLOTHES!!** The children thought that this would be a good way to show we are able to demonstrate self-care to ourselves as we show care to others. If you're able and would like to, we will be collecting donations on the gate on Thursday morning. This money will be split between:

- Young Minds – a charity that works to
- Upgrading our Brain Boxes - self-regulation aids for all children to use in times of overwhelm.

### Website

We have been working hard behind the scenes to give our school website a much-needed makeover. It is not the finished article yet as there are still some alterations and additions needed. We are pleased that it now reflects the changes that have happened at Silchester and is a truer reflection of our values, ethos, learning and curriculum. Please do check it out! I owe **enormous** thanks to Eve and Paul Miles who have dedicated their time, expertise and creativity to help move the project forward.

It is lacking in testimonials! So, if any of you would be enthused to write one and send via email, we would really appreciate it.



## Upcoming Key Dates

Sunday 6 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest Festival at St Mary's Festival
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 11 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 PGL Residential
Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> October	Year R – 5 nasal flu immunisations
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	
Thursday 10 <sup>th</sup> October	5pm – 6pm Phonics Workshop for parents
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 4/5/6 Pilgrimage to St Mary's (wellies and waterproofs!)
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	Black History Month – webinar assembly
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October	8pm – PTA AGM via zoom
Tuesday 15 <sup>th</sup> October Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> October	9am – 10:30am Open Mornings for prospective Year R parents – 25/26 intake
Thursday 17 <sup>th</sup> October Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	9am – 9:30am Year R parents welcome to Ladybirds Phonics Teaching
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Tempest Individual Photos
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 6 trip to Burnham Copse – Free theatre workshop on creation (after photos!)
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> October Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> October	Parents Evenings
Friday 25 <sup>th</sup> October	INSET DAY
Monday 28 <sup>th</sup> October – Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> November	HALF TERM
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> November	Year 6 nasal flu immunisations
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	PTA Non-School Uniform Day – for collection of tombola items
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Service at War Memorial (Yr5/6)
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November	PTA Christmas Fair – SAVE THE DATE!
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> December	PTA Christmas Market
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Nativity
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> December	Year 5 residential to Ufton Court
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	6pm – 7pm Christmas Carol Concert
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day of Autumn Term and break up for Christmas Holidays

I hope that you and your families have a really great weekend, and I'll look forward to welcoming you on the gate next week.

*Rachel Moir*

Rachel Moir  
Head of School