



## SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

*Compassion, Courage & Respect*

Dear Families of Silchester,

As ever, your children have been fantastic this week. It has been wonderful to see them getting stuck into some high-quality learning and diving into their topics with gusto!

### Learning Behaviour Books

I am so incredibly excited to share that The Animals of Silchester Forest are now published books!



These stories help to teach the children about our learning behaviours of resilience, reflectiveness, independence, resourcefulness, collaboration and communication. The children have really taken to them as a way of approaching their learning and celebrating the skills and behaviours they can apply to both learning, and life in general! I just wanted to say a huge thanks to The PTA for funding this project and an enormous thanks to Holly Abbott who has managed the project to print.

### Start of the day

The gates open at the start of our school day at 8:40am and close at 8:50am. If you arrive after this time, the side gates may be closed, in which case, you will need to drop your child to school via the office. You may have noticed that I often love a chat on the gate!!! This means that I'm sometimes late shutting it, and the teachers are finding that they are interrupted starting their lessons by children arriving late – or by parents getting locked in the playground! If we could all work to getting the children in quicker, (me included!) then this would enable the children to start learning straight away. Many thanks.

### Sycamore Trip to Reading Museum

Wishing all of our Year 4s a really fantastic trip to Reading Museum on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. It promises to be an enriching learning experience and they are fast become experts on the history of Roman Silchester! Please can you remember to bring in a packed lunch this day?

## PGL Parents Meeting

It isn't long now until our Year 6s embark on their residential trip to PGL in Osmington Bay. We will be holding an information evening for all parents of children in year 6 straight after school on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Please do come along to find out more and to ask any questions you may have.



## Harvest Festival Celebrations

To celebrate Harvest we will be collecting donations of food on **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> October**. If you are able, please send your child in with some packaged food that we will collect and the donate to the Basingstoke Food Bank. **Hazel Class** (Year 2/3) will also be working with Revered Karen in the week to make some decorations that we will take over to St Mary's Church on Friday afternoon. Please may Hazel Class bring in suitable footwear (wellies if possible) and a waterproof coat for the walk?

Church and School are combing their donations for the food bank. 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.

## PTA AGM

Silchester PTA is an organisation that is run as a charity. All parents & guardians of children in Silchester school are automatically members of the PTA. There is an elected PTA committee who meet regularly. They lead on events that benefit the school community and allow fund raising activities to occur.

Advantages for the PTA operating as a charity include, being able to have tax benefits e.g. claim gift aid on donations received, or being able to attract donations from business and other organisations that we wouldn't be able to, if we weren't a charity.

As well as the benefits of being a charity, there are responsibilities that we have to meet. We are registered with the Charity Commission. We hold auditable financial accounts and on an annual basis we share our account information with the Charity Commission. The charity must have nominated Trustees (at the moment these are the members of the PTA committee holding named roles e.g. chairperson, vice chairperson, treasurer and secretary), these are listed with the Charity Commission.

We hold a charity constitution and one of the rules of this constitution, is that on an annual basis a PTA committee must be elected at the AGM.

There are rules of the AGM that include:

- Have a quorum of 15 members in attendance

- Chairperson will give an annual update and also the treasurer will present an update on the account for the financial year 01/09/23 – 31/08/24.
- Committee will be complete when the following offices are elected – Chairperson, Treasurer, secretary and at least 10 other committee members, one of whom should be teaching staff.
- Nominations of election to the committee, may be made by one member and seconded by another.

Our PTA AGM is scheduled for **Tuesday 15th October at 8pm**. It will be held over Zoom so it is accessible for as many as possible of the parents and guardians (who are all PTA members) to join. We require 15 attendees to deem our AGM meeting the quorum required. The meeting should take less than 1 hour of your time. Please see PTA Facebook page for further details.

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**WE ARE HIRING**  
**Playleaders & Playworkers**

to join our fantastic teams at our  
**Breakfast and Afterschool Clubs**  
 Working with children aged 4 – 11 years

**The Key Hours**  
 7.15am – 9am and 3pm to 6pm/3.30pm to 6.30pm

The role involves working closely within the team to provide a safe and fun environment for the children in our care

If you hold a childcare qualification or enjoy working with children, please do get in touch

For more information and to request an application form  
 email: [office@theoakschildcare.co.uk](mailto:office@theoakschildcare.co.uk)

The Oaks is a local, non-profit making childcare organisation. We provide excellent term time wraparound childcare for the children of Mortimer St John's Infant School, Mortimer St Mary's Junior School, Silchester Primary School, Aldermaston CofE Primary School, The Priory Primary School and Mini Oaks Preschool.

Please see our website for more information  
[theoakschildcare.co.uk](http://theoakschildcare.co.uk)

If you need to see a copy of our Job Applicant Privacy Notice this is available on request.

## Upcoming Key Dates

Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	PGL Year 6 Parents information meeting – 3:15pm
Tuesday 1 <sup>st</sup> October	Year 4 trip to Reading Museum (packed lunch needed)
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Harvest – receiving donations for Basingstoke Food Bank
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 2/3 visit to St Mary’s to decorate for Harvest
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	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 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
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	First day back at school for Spring Term

Monday 24th February 2025	INSET DAY
Monday 21st July 2025	INSET DAY
Tuesday 22nd July 2025	INSET DAY

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