



SILCHESTER CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Compassion, Courage & Respect

Dear Families of Silchester,

What a lovely week we've had at Silchester and a great way to send us into the half term holidays. I really hope that your children have come home happy and that you're excited for the week ahead. Apologies for the length of this newsletter! As well as some notices and information about upcoming events and dates, the purpose of this curriculum newsletter is to share some information about the learning your children have enjoyed this term. Gold star if you make it through to the end!

Mrs Dowling says:



Another FANTASTIC half term with Ladybird Class. We have been lucky enough to have some brilliant visitors in to tell us about their job. A particular highlight was getting to use a real fireman's hose and spray water! Children have been very busy learning how to write a sentence by themselves as well as learning how to make their own playdough! This term we have also been lucky to have some AWE volunteers and parents in to help brighten up our shed and playhouse! We love them and think they look fab! Can't believe we are entering our final term 😊 but I know Ladybirds are going to continue thriving!



Mrs Mitchell says...

Can you believe we only have 1 term left! We have had a great 6 weeks learning about space. In ART we have made our own space pictures in the style of Peter Thorpe.

In English this half term we have written our own alien adventure stories, we have been practicing making our writing more interesting by using varied sentence starters, adjectives and even expanded noun phrases! In Maths we have been busy applying lots of our maths knowledge to varied problems we have been getting better at giving reasons! Some of us have used the saws to make our own bracelets and necklaces during forest school.



We have planted our raised bed full of vegetables and we would appreciate it if you could not touch our plants! Next half term we are thinking all about our wonderful world!



Miss Dodson says...

It goes without saying that the highlight of this half term has been our “Influential People Week” when everyone took turns to dress up as an influential person from history and taught everyone else in the class the facts about their person. It was such a wonderful week full of excitement and learning – they absolutely loved being “teachers” and it was a joy to see them learning from each other. Thank you for all the effort that went into the costumes and fact-finding. It was great to see such a variety of historical people too 😊 Please see the attached photos... I think it will be a special week I will remember for a long time and I hope the children feel the same. 😊



Miss Ouazzani and Mrs Webb say:

Year 3 have been inspired by the 'failed pets' in *The Barnabus Project* by *The Fan Brothers* and have created their very own 'failed pets', which they have written non-chronological reports for. We have been truly amazed by their creativity and original ideas! These creatures have been brought to life in dance lessons, so next time you're in the forest, look out for any unusual looking creatures that may have escaped the secret pet lab!

If anyone is visiting Spain or another Spanish speaking country this year, I'm sure any of the children in Year 3 would happily help you practise your Spanish greetings and introductions! They are all keen to answer simple questions in Spanish, and are doing really well to remember the new vocabulary. Well done Year 3!



Ms Robson says:

Year 4 are extremely enthusiastic learners, so when I asked them what they had enjoyed this term, there was a very long list, including short methods of division (bus stop) and multiplication of 1 digit by 3 digits! The maths is getting tricky in Year 4, but they love a challenge, and many are able to add and subtract 4-digit numbers with multiple exchanges - brain-taxing stuff! In preparation for the MTC test, we have been doing lots of practice on TT Rockstars, with many children beating Miss Robson in times tables 'battles', with one super speedy child having an average answering time of less than a second! In English, the children have enjoyed honing their descriptive writing skills, based on the setting of *How to Train Your Dragon* - they have created some magnificent sentences with metaphors, personification and fronted adverbials. The children are currently enjoying creating a fact file about Gobber the Belch, from the same novel, about his less than desirable qualities! They also enjoyed writing their own 1st person narrative for a section of *Arthur and the Golden rope*. Of course, being such a sporty class, they have enjoyed playing tennis, including min- tournaments; preparing for

sports day; and even making up their own Viking dances. In art, we have created marble backgrounds with a Viking boat silhouette, which has been very messy but lots of fun and the finished products look amazing. It's been a great term and we can't wait until the next one, after a short rest.

Mrs Pulford says:

Wow we seem to have packed a lot into this half term! Well done Year 5 for working so hard.



We particularly enjoyed a visit from local author 'Stephen Hodgson' and learnt more about children living in Sparta during Ancient Greece. In English, our writing this half term has been based on the book Holes and we have



enjoyed reading the story of Pax. First of all, we wrote a newspaper article to summarise the story of 'Holes' and then we had a lot of fun



using formal language to create brochures for our own versions of Camp Green Lake Country Park. In Maths, we have continued to build

on our knowledge of fractions and have used angle facts to calculate missing angles. We have also used our multiplication and division facts to solve problems and calculate area and perimeter. We also enjoyed a visit to Silchester Farm with our Year 1 buddies. In Geography we have learnt about all about the physical features of hot deserts and how animals have adapted to living there. In science, we have learnt about evolution and adaptation and found out about Charles Darwin.

Mrs Forrester says:

It has been a very busy half term in Year 6. Despite having to navigate our SATs we have managed to fit in lots of fun things as well. We have studied Shakespeare's Macbeth and written diary entries for Macbeth at various points throughout the story. We have researched pop art and created our own pieces in the style of Andy Warhol. We also created personalised name canvases. There has also been a great variety of physical activity this half term - dancing, badminton, parachute games and athletics.





Compassionate Researchers Project

Today, I had the pleasure of driving our team of Compassionate Researchers to their first summit meeting with lots of other local schools. The children took part in some important research to find out how we can make compassion impactful for our local community. Several other schools also took part in the event and we were very proud of our pupils for the respect and contribution with which they conducted themselves. Robin even got a round of applause for introducing our school with, "We are the children of Silchester and we care about compassion, courage and respect!" Nice work Robin!

One element of this project of Compassionate Communities is offering a Family Fun session. This poster outlines the details, and it promises to be a free fun family day out, so if you fancy it, please do pop along tomorrow to explore.

Sports Day

We are really pleased to invite you to Sports Day this year on the morning of **Friday 14th June, starting at 9:15am**. This year we are all going to be out on the field together and will finish the races by approximately 12:30pm. We will set the track up with gazebos on one side for the school and you're welcome to bring chairs or picnic blankets to watch the races from the other side. Please may we ask that you do not cross the ropes to approach your children or wait at the end of the finish line.

Following the races, we will take the children back into school to go to the toilet and collect their packed lunches (or picnic bags with a ham or cheese roll are available from the school kitchen if you would like to order through the normal process). Class teachers will then return to the field and set up to picnic as a class. We would for families to join us if possible.

In order to ensure that all children are accounted for and kept safe we will put the following arrangements in place:

- Please do feel free to come and join your child's class for their picnic.
- If you would like for your children to join you at any other area of the field for a picnic lunch, or take siblings together, you will need to sign them out with the class teacher before taking them.
- Parents and carers remain responsible for the safety and behaviour of their children when signed out.
- If you are not able to attend, your child will remain and picnic with school staff.
- If you are not able to attend and would like to nominate another parents/friend/adult to be responsible for your child throughout the picnic lunch, that is totally fine, but we will need you to register your consent with the school office beforehand.

After lunch, we will gather the children back under the gazebos and conduct the results presentation, ALL the children will return to the school to finish the school day, with the usual finishing time of 3:15.

To encourage team spirit, we ask that children wear a coloured top, depending on what House they are in: Winchester (blue), York (yellow), Salisbury (green) or Chichester (red). Please come and ask us if you are unsure of what house they are in. Suncream will need to be applied in the morning before school, or children can bring suncream in to apply themselves. Children will also need sunhats and a bottle of water, which can be refilled at school. No need for book bags that day.

We will share these Sports Day plans again nearer the time but are sharing early now to give you the chance to make your own arrangements as necessary – any questions, please feel free to ask me, Ms Robson or the school office.

School and Eco Council



Our school and eco councils enjoyed getting messy and making bird feeders with pine cones this week. They have already attracted lots of birds to the school playground, especially after snack time! We hung them around the school grounds and are looking forward to spotting the birds eating from them. Not only was this fun, but we have met a Global Goal to support 'Life on Land' too.

Go Wild with Our Church!

To launch our WOW Week, St Mary's The Virgin Church, Silchester, are having a special service on Sunday 2nd June at 10am. They will be focusing on the wildness of nature, gratitude for our countryside and marvelling at God's creation.

The service will be family-friendly and some of which will be held outside. Please do come and join us in our blessing of the crops in word and song.

Go WILD

Sunday 2nd June – 10am
St Mary's the Virgin, Silchester

We are holding a special family-friendly service where we will be taking our worship outdoors! Please do come and join us as we focus on the wildness of nature and celebrate God's creation.

WOW Week for Nature

The first week back after half-term will be our WOW week to nature! During this week, children will take part in a Forest Schools session as well as numerous other outdoor (potentially messy) activities. Some year groups will also be involved in local offsite activities e.g. Compassion Deliveries to local houses, walks to the woods, litter-picking, and activities in the grounds of St Mary's Church. We therefore ask that all children come to school **dressed in their own clothes all week**. These clothes may get messy so nothing too special or sparkly please! On the days that the children have their Forest School session (outlined below) we require all children to have long sleeves (long sleeve t-shirt/jumper and long trousers) and wellies. The children are more than welcome to wear waterproofs if they wish.

Day	Forest School Session
Monday	Year R & Year 2
Tuesday	Year 3
Wednesday	Year 5
Thursday	Year 4
Friday	Year 6

During the week, we are intending to do lots of planting in different forms. For one of our projects, we require yogurt pots so if you have any, we would be very grateful if you could please bring them into school. In addition to this, we shall be updating our bug hotel. If you have any tiles, bricks or hollow sticks lying around, we will happily take them off your hands. Thank you.

Silchester's Got Talent

SILCHESTER'S GOT TALENT

Friday 14th June 2024
Doors 5.30pm, show starts 6pm in the School Hall

Can you sing, dance, act, tell jokes, juggle, perform magic tricks, play a musical instrument, recite a poem, do keepy uppies, do gymnastic tricks, or any other amazing talent?

Then you need to enter Silchester's Got Talent!

Only £2 per person to enter!

Limited spaces! Open to all year groups!

BBQ, bar and tuck shop will be open!

Entry forms will be available from the School Office.
Please return the form and £2 entry fee (per person) to the PTA via the School office in a sealed envelope by Thursday 6th June.

Strictly first come first served basis. We will not be able to accommodate any late entrants after 6th June.
(*Silchester's Got Talent' is only open to Silchester School pupils.)

Upcoming Key Dates

w/c Monday 3 rd June	WOW Week to Nature
Wednesday 12 th June	Restructuring Classes Information Evening – 6pm
Thursday 13 th June	Year 3 and 4 Sustainability Trip to Englefield Estate
Friday 14 th June	Sports Day
Friday 14 th June	PTA Silchester's Got Talent – doors open 5:30, show 6pm – 8pm
Friday 21 st June	Reserve Sports Day (in case of weather delay)
Thursday 20 th June	Year 6 Leavers Service at Winchester Cathedral
Saturday 22 nd June	Robin Scott Band Concert – tickets available via PTA website
Thursday 27 th June – Friday 28 th June	Year 5 Residential to Ufton Court
Tuesday 9 th July – Wednesday 10 th July	Year 5/6 Production Performances
Friday 5 th July	PTA Rainbow Run
Tuesday 9 th July	KS1 Pilgrimage to St Mary's Church
Thursday 18 th July	Travelling Theatre Company Production of Oliver Trist for the whole school sponsored by the PTA
Friday 19 th July	Last Day of School before the Summer Holidays
Monday 2 nd September	INSET DAY
Tuesday 3 rd September	First Day of Autumn Term

I really hope that you and your families have a wonderful half term holiday together and I look forward to welcoming you back to school next week.

Rachel Moir

Rachel Moir
Head of School