# Slindon CofE Primary School Newsletter

20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

# Thankfulness!

Dear Parents/Carers,

The last couple of weeks have continued to be exceptionally busy with events in school, lots of learning and a few parent learning sessions to keep us on our toes.

We have continued to benefit with our relationship with St Mary's Church in Slindon, holding our Harvest Festival in the Church. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of our school family and know UKHarvest, will be delighted with our offering.

Last week, Acorn Class visited Fishbourne Roman Palace, where they were able to learn more about their Romans topic. The children were a credit to the school and showed off their knowledge while they were there.

The school has also hosted three parents workshops, with a focus on reading, phonics and mathematics in the school. Thank you to everyone who attended and learnt more about the methods we employ in school.

Our annual pumpkin competition was a great success, with so many wonderful and creative designs. Thank you to everyone that took part.

As always, thank you for your continued support. All the best, Laura Webb Headteacher

Our collective worship theme is Courage, linked with our Christian value of self-control. We will be encouraging the children to think about how sometimes courage is about being us. Galatians 5:22-24 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

# Dates

30/10	Rother Valley INSET day
31/10	Deadline for secondary school applications
3/11	Non-uniform day for Christmas tombola prizes
12/11	School grounds clearance morning
6- 10/11	Parliament Week
14 <sup>th</sup> and 15 <sup>th</sup> /11	Parents evenings
17/11	Children in Need Day
7/12	Save the Children Christmas Jumper Day
7/12	Chartwells Christmas Lunch
12/12	Christmas lunch and parties
13/12	Christmas Carol Service
14/12	KS1 Nativity



# What's happening in school?

# Harvest Festival

On the 4<sup>th</sup> October the whole school participated in our Harvest Festival. This is an important event for our school family, as it is the first time in the year we get to visit St Mary's Church and come together to give thanks for what we have.

Catkin Class gave us a beautiful rendition of 'The farmer plants his seeds,' while Hazel Class showed us some beautiful pumpkin art work, using leaves and flowers they collected from the school grounds. Two children from Acorn Class read some Harvest poems, while Chestnut Class amazed us with their thoughtful prayers.

As a school, we encourage our whole community to be courageous advocates and the generosity shown with the amount of food donated, was no exception.







# Maths fact - Equivalent Fractions

- Fractions which have the same value, even though they may look different.



# SPAG fact- Past perfect

The past perfect is used to talk about an event that was completed in the past before something else happened: I had just finished cooking the meal when my guests arrived. I didn't want to watch the film, as I had already seen it.

# Acorns visit Fishbourne

On the 10<sup>th</sup> October, Acorn Class visited Fishbourne Roman Palace, to consolidate their learning on the Romans.

While at the museum the children had the opportunity to take part in a Roman workshop, finding out about life in Roman times. They also explored the Palace, the beautiful mosaics and the grounds.

Mrs Souadi and Miss Whiting commented on how much the children recalled of their learning and how amazed the staff at the museum were by their knowledge.

# Reading and maths workshops.

It was lovely to see so many parents come in for our maths and reading workshops.

It is always lovely for the children to show off their learning and to be able to teach adults. These workshops are also a useful way to learn about some of the methods we use in school.





The children were heard to exclaim when they got back to school: *"The mosaics were huge!" "We had lots of fun looking at the kitchen" "Best trip ever!"* 



# **Staffing news**

I am very sorry to say that Mrs Parsons, our lovely TA in Hazel Class is leaving us this half term, to spend more time with her family. She has also not been around the last few weeks, as she has been off with Covid. As a school we wish her all the best and hope that she makes a full recovery soon. We also can't wait to say goodbye properly, when she pops in after half term.

I am delighted that Mrs Hembry has now joined our school family and will be working in Hazel class every morning and lunch.



# **Parent Questionnaire**

Thank you to all of the parents who completed our questionnaire.

We will continue to work on the areas below and welcome any feedback across the school year.

1. My child is happy at school (0 point)





2. My child feels safe at this school (0 point)

More Details ፡冹: Insights		
Strongly agree	20	
e Agree	5	
Neutral	1	
Disagree	0	
Strongly disagree	0	

3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved (0 point)





4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively (0 point)



5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year (0 point)



6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly (0 point)



7. Does your child have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND)? (yes or no) (0 point)



8. The school has high expectations for my child (0 point)



9. My child does well at this school (0 point)

Mor	e Details 🔅 Insights	
	Strongly agree	16
•	Agree	7
	Neutral	3
	Disagree	0
	Strongly disagree	0



# 10. The school lets me know how my child is doing (0 point)

Mo	re Details :껂: Insights	
	Strongly agree	8
•	Agree	14
•	Neutral	4
•	Disagree	0
	Strongly disagree	0



11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school (0 point)



12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school (0 point)





# 13. The school supports my child's wider personal development (0 point)





14. I would recommend this school to another parent (yes or no) (0 point)



15. I am happy with the type of homework my child gets? (0 point)



- 1. Fantastic School, both Dylan and Edward love being there. The school has been so accommodating and helpful towards Dylan and helping us see what extra helps he needs. Have to say since Ms Webb has come in the school has got even better. Fabulous headteacher and equally fabulous staff!
- 2. Would be great if the Children were to do Swimming. Reading books aren't given out quick enough in New academic year, still waiting. Fantastic that the playground has been repainted.
- 3. Communication regarding my child's education and progression has got a lot better in the last 12 months, I'm hoping this will continue to improve
- 4. My child's experience is generally positive and they enjoy being at school. My concern is that the expectations for them are too low. I would like more advice from school on how to stretch and support my hild in theri learning.
- 5. My children are really happy at this school, such a nicer, quieter environment compared to their previous school. Everyone is really helpful and kind at this school.
- 6. Miss Webb, you have made this school even more amazing since being here and we are so happy you have stayed on you and all the staff are exceptional and a real credit! Thank you!

- 7. Amazing x thank you x
- 8. A very happy friendly school
- 9. It would be nice for the year 3/4 teacher to be avaliable in the mornings on the playground sometimes to catch up with.
- 10. Slindon Primary in my opinion is the most beautifully run school by really superb teachers who really are passionate about their job. I have had 3 children attend the school, 2 of which are still there. I feel so privileged to be a part of such a wonderful school community. My children love attending school and are so happy there. It's all I could wish for.
- 11. A really lovely school with brilliant teaching staff who care for and nuture the children to the highest of standards. The school encourage and support the children to be the best version of themselves and really help the children to thrive. The school community is very much like a family and, as parents, we have peace of mind that the children are getting the very best care in a safe and friendly environment.
- 12. Our child is only 5 weeks in to her first term of school, therefore we found it difficult to answer a number of questions due to a lack of experience.
- 13. Super satisfied with what this school has to offer at this stage of my children's educational journey.

#### Standard School Year 2023/2024

#### Recommended school term and holiday dates for the academic year 2023/2024 for West Sussex

#### The School Year

2024



Friday	1	8	15	32	29	
Saturday	2	9	16	23	30	
Sunday	3	10	17	24		
			amu	ary		
Monday			15	ary 22	29	
Monday Tuesday	1				29 30	







February

1 6 15 22 29

June

3 10 17 24

4 11 19 25

5 12 19 26

6 13 20 27

7 14 21 20

1 8 15 22 29

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6

7

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	5	12	19	26
	6	13	20	27
	7	14	21	20
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2	9	16	23	30

3 10 17 24 31

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	4	11	10	25
	5	12	19	26
	6	13	20	27
	7	14	21	20
1		15	22	28

2 9 16 23 30 3 10 17 24 31







#### Bank and Public Holidays 2023/2024

Christmas Holiday
Boxing Day
New Year Day Holiday
Good Friday
Easter Monday

25th December 2023 26th December 2023 Int January 2024 29th March 2024 Ist April 2024

May Day Spring Bank Holiday 27th May 2024 Summer Bank Holiday 26th August 2024

6th May 2024

#### Useful Information

#### Term Lengths (days)

School holidays		September to October half term	36 days
	_	October to December	35 days
Bank holidays and national holidays		January to February half term	29 days
		February to April	29 days
Start of Term		April to May half term	29 days
	_	June to July	37 days
End of Term		Total	195 days

Please note that the first day of the autumn term in September 2024 will not be determined until the 2024/25 timetable has been consulted upon and approved.

# West Sussex SENDIAS Service

Is your child starting primary school or transferring to junior or secondary school in September 2024?

Do you think, for whatever reason, you may struggle with the Admissions process?

# Secondary School

Online applications open: Monday 04 September 2023. Deadline for applying for a secondary school place for your child is: Tuesday 31 October 2023.

<u>Primary School</u> (inc. infant/junior) Online applications open: Monday 02 October 2023. Deadline for applying for a school place for your child is:

Monday 15 January 2024.

For more information on the admissions process: www.westsussex.gov.uk/admissions

12

If so, the West Sussex SENDIAS Service can:

- explain the admissions process to you
- help you to make an informed decision about your child's schools of preference
- help you to fill in the online application form.

Please contact the SENDIAS Service:

Helpline: 0330 222 8555 Email: send.ias@westsussex.gov.uk www. westsussexsendias.org



## What is safeguarding?

Visitors coming on to school premises, including the playground, have a duty of care towards the welfare and safety of the children and adults in the school. This is called safeguarding.

# Safeguarding means that:

- children are protected from maltreatment
- a child's health or development is protected
- children grow up with safe and effective care
- action is taken to ensure the best outcomes for all children

Safeguarding is the action we take to promote the welfare of children in our care to protect them from harm. We take this responsibility very seriously and we work in close partnership with parents and professionals to protect all of our children. The school will take any reasonable action to ensure the welfare and safety of its pupils is maintained.

Our staff and governors have been trained on safeguarding in line with the KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IN EDUCATION document and have taken part in 'PREVENT'.

If you worried about a child's safety you can contact IFD (Integrated Front Door) directly on 01403 229900

## Who to contact in our school

If in doubt, talk to someone... Designated Safeguarding Lead

Miss Laura Webb, Headteacher

## **Designated Safeguarding Deputies**

Mrs Hazel Flower, School Business Manager

Mrs Karen Cooper, School Secretary

## Safeguarding Governor

Mrs Katy Horner

Or you can email: dsl@slindonprimary.co.uk

## REMEMBER, KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TOO!



# Petworth Festival Literary Week brings family events to this year's West Sussex Literary Festival line-up



## Joseph Coelho - Poetry Prompt

11:00am, Saturday 28 October at Leconfield Hall, Petworth We are thrilled to welcome the Waterstones Children's Laureate for 2022-2024 Joseph Coehlo to the festival, his Sunday morning interactive session being fully family-orientated and for children of 6 and upwards. A 100% must for anyone who has taken part in the festival's in-school poetry sessions of recent years. <u>Click for tickets</u> - Adults £8 / 18 & under £5



## Andrew Pettie - The What on Earth! Family Quiz 2:00pm, Saturday 28 October at Leconfield Hall, Petworth

How many planets in our solar system would fit between Earth and the Moon?\* How many cups of snot does your body make in a day? And how many people are flying up in the sky at this very moment? All of these questions and more will be answered during this fun and

fascinating family quiz. Your host is Andrew Pettie, editor of What on Earth! Magazine, the UK's fastest-growing children's magazine. <u>Click for tickets</u> - Adults £8 / 18 & under £5



## Lucy Reynolds - We are Family (Children's event)

10:30am, Thursday 2 November at Leconfield Hall, Petworth There are billions of creatures on this earth, but there is only one YOU! Join children's author, Lucy Reynolds, for a fun, interactive workshop celebrating the many ways young grow up on this wild, wonderful planet. Perfect for ages 4+ but all very welcome. Click for tickets - Adults £6 / 18 & under £5

Petworth Festival Literary Week - 25 October to 5 November 2023 Full line up here

> www.petworthfestival.org.uk Tel: 01798 344576