



Newsletter

April 28th 2017

Southwood Infant School's biweekly publication for Parents, Teachers, Governors and Friends.

Dear Parents,

Welcome back!

I hope you all had a lovely Easter break. It seems incredible that we are embarking on the summer term already! The children have returned with their lovely smiles and they were very pleased to see their teachers and friends again. A lot has happened over the Easter break and I'm delighted that some major improvements have all been installed successfully.

The new IT upgrade is all running smoothly and both the children and teachers have commented how quick our internet access is now. The children think the new laptops are great and especially like the touch screens.

Please see the attached letter from Nina Lynch, Chair of Governors, about these improvements.



Green Class using the new laptops

New Trim Trail

The new all-weather surface is safe and great fun!



Playground Squad

Congratulations to Antonis Nicolaidis, Thomas Smith, Rachel Lynch, Jessica Williams, Charlie Astill, May Harris, Lachlan Rae and Anais Thompson who are this half term's playground squad and will help support our Golden Rules ensuring everyone plays sensibly and has fun.



New Appointments

I am delighted to announce that Miss Rachel Park has been appointed Assistant Headteacher and will take up her new role in September.

Term Time Absence

Further to our previous update on 5th September 2016, the Supreme Court has now delivered its judgement in relation to the Isle of Wight Council's appeal.

This clarifies the position regarding attendance which states that all Hampshire schools must now abide by the Hampshire County Councils Code of Conduct when issuing penalty notices.

The Code of Conduct states that schools will issue a Penalty Notice for any unauthorised absence where the pupil has been:

absent for 10 or more half-day sessions (five school days) of unauthorised absence during any 100 possible school sessions – these do not need to be consecutive.

Parents and carers will be warned of the likelihood of a Penalty Notice being issued for unauthorised absence via a letter or through the leave of absence request form. The Penalty Notice is a fine that is issued to each parent/carer who condoned (or was responsible for the child) during the period of unauthorised absence for which the fine has been issued. For each case of unauthorised absence the school will decide whether a Penalty Notice is issued to **one or more parents/carers** for each child.

NB: This could mean four Penalty Notices for a family with two siblings, both with unauthorised absence for holiday, i.e. one Penalty Notice for each child to each parent.

Each Penalty Notice carries a fine of £60 if paid within 21 days of the Penalty Notice being posted.

If the fine is not paid within 21 days the penalty is automatically increased to £120 if paid within 28

days. If the fine remains unpaid Hampshire County Council will consider prosecution for the non-attendance. Penalties are to be paid to Hampshire County Council and revenue resulting from payment of penalties is used by the County Council to help cover the costs of issuing Penalty Notices and/or the cost of prosecuting recipients who do not pay.

Rushmoor in Bloom Competition

Mrs Bennett, Mrs Andrews and our budding Gardening Club have entered the Rushmoor and Bloom Competition. Thank you to Jamie Greenwood, Ellie Grannell, Sophie Fisher and Rhys Matharoo for attending the opening ceremony on Wednesday afternoon. They all met the Mayor and even got to hold her Chain of Office.



We wish them lots of fun with their garden design and planting.

Year 2 SATs

During May our Year 2's will be working extremely hard towards their Standard Assessments Tests (SATs). Where possible we try to incorporate these tests in with their normal class routines and try to keep them as low key as possible. The tests cover two reading papers and two maths papers. Along with on-going teacher assessments, these will be used to judge their attainment at end of Key Stage 1. Past experience has proved that most children enjoy doing them and often ask to do more!

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

These will take place during the week beginning 12th June. The phonics screening check is a short and simple assessment of phonic decoding. It consists of a list of 40 words, half real words and half non-words, which Year 1 children read to their teacher. Administering the assessment usually takes a few minutes. The threshold for passing the test last year was 32 words out of 40 (80%) and is likely to be similar this year.

All children need to be able to identify sounds associated with different letters, and letter combinations, and then blend these sounds together to correctly say the word on the page. The same skill is needed whether the word is a real word or a non-word.

Grandparents Tea Party on Friday 12th May

We are looking forward to welcoming our grandparents into school which is always a popular event. Grandparents of children in **Blue/Green/Orange Classes** are invited to arrive at **10.30 am** for morning tea and cakes in the hall. At approximately 11am they will have the chance to visit the children in their classrooms to look and share their books. We will ask them to leave at 11.30 am so we can set up for lunch.

Grandparents of children in **Red/Purple/Yellow Classes** are invited to arrive at **1.45pm** for afternoon tea and cakes in the hall. At approximately 2.15pm they will visit the children in their classrooms and leave at 2.45pm so we complete our end of day procedures. Whilst tea is served in the hall the Grandparents will get the chance to listen to our recorder club play and the "Southwood Songbirds" sing.

If you have children in more than one class then of course the grandparents can choose which session to attend, or they can attend both. A reminder that if Grandparents are taking children home they will have to wait until 3pm.

We really need some helpers. If you can volunteer an hour or so to help with tea and cake please let Mrs Southgate know. Thank you.

General Election 8th June – Inset Day

We will be closed on this day as schools have a duty to allow their rooms, if requested, to be used as polling stations. This requirement is set-out in Rule 22 of the Parliamentary Election Rules.

Yours sincerely,

Wendy Southgate

May	
SATS period for year 2 runs throughout May	
Thursday 4th	INSET DAY local elections - school closed to children
Tuesday 9th	Year 1 trip to Hillier's Gardens
Friday 12th	Grandparents Tea Party Blue/Green/Orange classes AM 10.30am Purple/Red/Yellow classes PM 1.45pm
Saturday 13th	FSIS Family BBQ
Thursday 25th	Science and Technology Day
Friday 26th	Yellow class focus assembly 9.15am
Monday 29th – Friday 2nd June	HALF TERM
June	
Thursday 8th	INSET DAY General election - school closed to children
Friday 9th	Orange class focus assembly 9.15am
Monday 12th – 16th	Year 1 phonic screening
Monday 12th	Year 2 trip to Old Portsmouth
Tuesday 13th	New parents Presentation 7pm
Wednesday 21st	Year R trip to Basingstoke Canal Centre
Monday 26th - 30th	Multi-cultural themed week
July	
Monday 3rd	Sports morning 10.30am and Picnic Lunch
Tuesday 4th	Reserve sports morning 10.30am
Thursday 6th	Common Transfer Day
Friday 7th	End of Year school reports
Saturday 8th	FSIS Summer Fayre 10am – 2 pm
Wednesday 19th	Leavers assembly 9.15am
Friday 21st	End of term Finish at 1.15pm
Monday 24th	INSET DAY – school closed to children
Tuesday 25th	INSET DAY - school closed to children

Southwood Awards

28 April 2017

Headteacher's Award for Good Work

Charlie Dearlove for solving sharing problems

George Smith for super holiday news writing

Ksawery Wrona for using excellent adjectives to describe a fantasy story

Amy Guymer for brilliant writing using alliteration

Natalia Tyrkiel for outstanding problem solving in addition and subtraction

Felicity Jackson for Antarctica facts researched at home
and for a lovely poster design

Good Neighbour Award

Jack Bell for working hard, trying his best and listening to his teacher

Erin Holms for being super tidy and helpful

Finlay Clifford for joining in with class discussions and activities in class

Freya North for excellent behaviour and always persevering

Scarlett Clarke for incredible kindness to a Year R child at lunchtime

Tudor Morgan for being a good friend to all his friends, being mature and grown up by helping his friends get along and for listening and coming up with good suggestions during circle time

Lunchtime Mega Stars

for super manners, eating well and good behaviour in the playground at lunchtime

Rhys Matharoo

Ruby Wright

Oscar King

Faith Brown

Sahara Lili Elghor

Jemila Jabbi

Yazmin Snell