



Newsletter 12– March 2022

Our value this term is Respect

Stars of the Day

Week 2 – Phoebe, Chloe, Harriet J, William J

Week 3 – Arthur L, Arthur M, Nancy

Star of the Week

Week 2 - Morgan for her contribution to class discussions

Week 3 – Dan for his writing

Star of the Week

Well done to the children who have been role models of good behaviour during lunch and got to sit on the Friday table:

Week 4 – Wilf, Rupert, Harriet M, Harriet J, Bea, Guy and Morgan



Diary Dates

Fri 25th Wear a Hat Day

Mon 28th March - Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz

Tues 29th March - Chess Club

Wed 30th March - Cygnet Show & Share 2.15pm

Swan Show & Share 2.30pm

Fri 1st April - 2nd payment due for Residential

Mon 4th April - Year 5&6 Swimming Gala (details of team tbc)

Tues 5th April - Y5&6 Dodgeball Kingshill school tbc.

Thurs 7th April - All Cygnets to Forest School am.

Fri 8th April - Easter Service

Fri 8th April 1.30pm end of Term 4

Covid-19 Guidelines March 2022:

Even though the domestic restrictions in England have been removed, there are still steps you can take to reduce the risk of catching and spreading COVID-19. Please continue to test if you if you have Covid-19 symptoms, and stay at home if positive. We are still asking that you do not send your children back to school until they have had two negative tests, spaced 24 hours apart, or until day 10 if they are unlucky enough to still be testing positive.

Please could you continue to talk to your children about the importance of washing their hands thoroughly and regularly?

Covid Measures:

- We will continue to:
 - ask pupils to wash their hands on arrival at school and after breaks and at hometime.
 - ventilate the classrooms, but not at expense of necessary warmth, open windows and doors to clear air when room not in use.
 - hold outdoor worship where possible
- Staff continue to wash hands first thing on arrival at school.
- The Co-Head teachers are required to monitor cases to identify any outbreaks and close contacts. If 5 staff or pupils test positive within a 10 day period or if a member of staff or pupil is admitted to hospital we will seek public health advice and implement additional infection control measures – e.g. additional cleaning, additional ventilation.

Full details can be seen in the Outbreak Management Plan on the website.

Covid-19 Symptoms

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are usually mild, but some people can become very unwell.

- High temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- New, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

If you have these symptoms you are able to seek testing.

You can ask for a test:

- for yourself, if you have coronavirus symptoms now (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- for someone you live with, if they have coronavirus symptoms

You need to get the test done in the first 5 days of having symptoms.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Adhering to Government Guidance

Please adhere to the latest government guidance on socialising and avoiding infection, which can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Covid-19 Arrangements

If you have any concerns or questions about the new arrangements in school please contact Mrs Simmons (admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk), Miss Davies or Mrs McLellan (head@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk)



Please can everyone come to school in a hat next Friday 25th March and bring a donation of £1 to Brain Tumour Research

This is a lovely way to honour Chloe's dad, Jonathan, who died of this condition last year. As you can see Chloe and her dad have always



been partial to a hat. <https://www.braintumourresearch.org/fundraise/wear-a-hat-day>

In the Swan Classroom

In English Year 5&6 have been doing some lovely writing, using Kensuke's Kingdom as inspiration and lots have been finding opportunities to include the semi colons and colons we have been learning about. Year 3&4 have been enjoying using 'The Blue House' by Phoebe Wahl and 'I'll Take You to Mrs Cole' by Nigel Gray and Michael Foreman to explore settings and emotions. They particularly got into the role play this week and are preparing to write their own stories next week.

In Maths, Y5 have been finding out that percentages are not as tricky as people make out! Y6 are converting between different units – ml/L, kg/g etc. Y3&4 have been working hard on mental and written methods for division, including where there is a remainder.

In RE we have been exploring why people experience both feelings of joy and sorrow during this time of Lent and Easter.

Music this term is pitch – one of our four musical elements. We are using our voices to explore different pitches and learning to listen to and trace the line of the melody. We are using 'Land of the silver birch' as a foundation for our learning and noticing the intervals between the notes.

Our art this term is inspired by the photographer Ansel Adams and his pictures of the Grand Canyon. We will take our own digital photographs of the landscape around school and use these to create a photographic collage.

In Science Y3&4 have been learning about the digestive system and found out some amazing facts – did you know that the capacity of an average stomach is equivalent to 15 cups of water, that the length of the small intestine is 6m and the large intestine 1.5m?! This week the children looked at the results of their egg shell experiment. The acid in the orange juice corroded the egg shell very badly. We were surprised that the sugars in milk had quite a bad effect on the egg shell too. But the egg shell that was in plain water was still perfect after a week. From this we concluded that, though milk is good for strengthening our teeth, water is the best drink to prevent decay.

Y5&6 were surprised about when some of the stages of development take place for young children – they found it amazing that most babies learn a new language and how to walk in just over one year. Some of the children were able to bring their record books from when they were babies, to share some of their milestones.

Everyone has been making great progress in tennis and gymnastics during PE. Last week we were very happy to have Ollie the cricket coach back, but it was a phenomenally wet lesson; well done everyone for keeping going. Should be much better weather today ☺

In the Cygnet Classroom

In Cygnets, we are finishing up our computing unit on Programmable Toys. The children can tell you what an algorithm is, direct and program the Bee-Bot using the arrow buttons and debug their sequence if needed. They have loved learning how to do this and also enjoyed writing out their own instructions in symbols and then following them by programming the Bee-Bot.

Last week, the children enjoyed reading and writing about Farmer Duck by Martin Waddell and recounted some of the animals' days then they wrote their own recount independently. Yesterday, we begun a new genre in English. We started by sorting books into categories, we then picked out adventure stories and discovered the wonderful

book Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown. We began reading it yesterday and acted out the beginning to show how Jeff Brown builds up excitement in the first two pages. The children are excited to read more!

In our topic lessons, we have been focusing on Superheroes around the World. We learnt how to sing the song, 'Seven Continents' (the song can be found on youtube). The children are confident with the names of the seven continents and can also put them in order of size from biggest to smallest. We have explored Europe, North Pole, South Pole and Africa so far and look forward to finding out more about our world.

In RE, we have been looking at the signs of Spring and new life which has led us on to the Easter story. The children are now very familiar with the events of Holy Week and they have been reading, drawing, acting, sequencing and crafting so that they internalise the events of Holy Week. We are also learning about the importance of Easter to Christians and how this story teaches us to be more and follow in Jesus' footsteps.

In PE, Miss Belcher has been teaching the children Gymnastics. They have been learning how to roll safely and effectively. The children have enjoyed forwards rolls, teddy bear rolls, pencil rolls and sideways rolls. It is wonderful to watch the children as they grow in confidence and do the perfect roll.

Don't forget to continue reading daily! We have a huge selection of Accelerated Reader books and have purchased some more books from the Madhatter's Bookshop for reading for pleasure. We hope the children enjoy visiting the library daily and choosing books to share with you all at home.

.... and the Nest

Reception have been focusing on food and instructions for this fortnight. We had great fun reading the wonderful Giant Jam Sandwich with its clever rhyme and amusing illustrations. We admired the villagers cunning plan to trap the wasps and followed them step-by-step. We enjoyed making paper sandwiches of ridiculous concoctions but then a giant jam sandwich of our own which we shared with the Cygnets for breaktime snack. We discussed recipes, understanding they are instructions for cooking, and recognise the merit of simple, clear, ordered explanations. And we can spread a pat of butter and spoon and smear a jar of jam in a trice.

This week, the Gingerbread Man has given us lots of opportunities to run in the playground in the March sunshine. We have enjoyed the traditional tale but have also explored how we might make traps for him. We have written instructions to make it clear, so be careful how you tread in our Reception Garden - look out for sticks and leaves that might conceal a hole... We have a ginger root to plant and place in a sunny window and ingredients and cutters to follow a recipe and take home some Gingerbread Men of our own for weekend tea.

We have started Set 3 sounds in Phonics and are talking about chatty friends as well as special friends. Chatty friends need someone between them - a and e are chatty friends in a-e, make a cake. They need the k to separate them. We have a few of these to come.

In Maths we are looking at the composition of 7 and calculating within 7. We have been spreading numicon, pairing playing cards, grouping counters and building towers. We have also been sequencing and thinking about time and what we do when in the day - the order of events.

Day for Ukraine

Thank you for your generosity last Friday, the 'Day for Ukraine'. Thanks also to the parents who volunteered to take the donations to Carterton Leisure Centre for us. We raised £60 for the appeal.

The children had a great day and have brightened up our week with their lovely artwork.



Here is everyone out in the playground forming a Ukrainian flag – a great idea suggested by Logan and Eva. Mr Middleton was able to capture the shot with his drone, which the children really enjoyed!



Trip to the Madhatter Bookshop

Kim Harvey from Madhatter Bookshop, Burford, kindly gave us a voucher to buy some extra books for the library. 10 pupils were lucky enough to accompany Mrs Tipple and had a wonderful morning exploring the bookshop, choosing and then enjoying reading the new books on the minibus journey back to school.



Great teamwork at playtime...

... constructing this amazing obstacle course!



Show & Share Wednesday 30th March

We plan to return to our usual Show and Share in the classroom on 30th March. This will be at 2.15pm for Cygnets and 2.30pm for Swans. We will let you know if circumstances change.

Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz

On Monday 28th March Southrop are hosting the first round of the Gloucestershire Wildlife Quiz. We wish the team good luck against Bibury. The team representing Southrop are: Harry, Dan, Logan, Reuben, Morgan and Summer.

PTA Easter Raffle

Join our raffle to be in with a chance of winning our Easter Egg-stravaganza Hampers and fantastic prizes!

Instead of tickets, you can purchase virtual Easter Eggs which are numbered and personalised with your child's name. Eggs cost just £1 each.

We'll hide the eggs on our Easter poster and announce the results of the draw on the last day of term.

To purchase your eggs, Please email: pta@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk and tell us:

1. Your name
2. Phone number
3. How many Easter Eggs you'd like
4. The name of your child/ren.

Ways to pay: Cash or cheque (made payable to Southrop School PTA) or by BACS:Account Name: Southrop School PTA

Sort Code: 30-92-06

Account No: 01232310

Thank you for supporting Southrop School PTA!

Julia McLellan

Megan Davies

**Mrs J McLellan
Co-Head Teachers**

Miss M Davies