



## Newsletter 8 – January 2023

### *Our value this term is Creativity*

#### **Everyday**

Cygnets: bring reading books, reading records, spelling books, water bottles.

Swans: bring water bottles, a healthy snack.

#### **Monday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

Wear PE kit

Mr Bateman music lessons.

Life Education Visit in School.

Swans Sports Club.

#### **Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January**

Year 2 & 3 Swimming starts.

Swans: Chess club 3-4pm.

#### **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

Wear PE kit.

New Reception Open Morning.

Mr Meade Guitar Lessons.

Cygnets: Sports Club

#### **Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

Rec & Year 1 Forest School starts.

Mr Bateman music lessons.

2.30pm Parents' Maths Update Meeting.

#### **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

Swans to Young Voices.

Cygnets Kitchen Club in school – Wild Africa.

#### **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January**

Mr Bateman music lessons.

Wear PE kit

Swan: Sports Club

Year 3&4 Gymnastics at Deer Park 3.45-5.30pm.

#### **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

Year 2 & 3 Swimming.

Swans: Knex Challenge.

Swans: Chess Club.

#### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

Worship in Church 9.00am

Mr Meade Music Lessons

Cygnets: Sports Club

#### **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January**

Rec & Y1 Forest School starts back.

Year 2 & Y 6 Parents Assessment Meeting, 2.30pm.

#### **Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January**

#### **Important information:**

The Swans are looking for visitors to come in who have knowledge of Eastern Europe (see below).

**Coming Up:** 23<sup>rd</sup> January, Year 5 & 6 Quick Sticks at Deer Park 3.30pm.

#### ***Stars of the Day***

Week 1 – Hector, Téó & Ted.

#### ***Star of the Week***

Week 1 – Arthur for his good focus

#### ***Head Teachers' Lunch***

Well done to the children who have been role models of good behaviour during lunch and got to sit on the Friday table this week: Keira, Charlotte, Hector, Morgan, Laura and Mickey.



## Welcome Back and Thank You

It has been a lovely first week back in school with a whole school writing day on Wednesday and trip to the pantomime on Thursday. All the staff would like to thank you for the kind gifts you sent in at the end of term.

## Start of Day

We have been getting used to our new routine from start of day this week. From 8.30am children are sent in to school to register and do morning activities so that worship can start straightaway at 8.40am. This allows us an extra 10 minutes of learning time so that each child can have guided reading or phonics sessions as applicable. The register closes at 8.40am so those who arrive after this time will be marked as an unauthorised absence unless there are exceptional circumstances.

## Open Mornings

If you know anyone who has a child who will be starting in Reception in September 2023 please let them know about our open morning:

9.30 – 10.30 am

11th January

## Strep A and Scarlet Fever Infections

As you will be aware there is a high incidence of these infections at the moment.

### What are scarlet fever and Strep A?

Scarlet fever is caused by bacteria called Group A streptococci (Strep A). The bacteria usually cause a mild infection that can be easily treated with antibiotics.

In very rare occasions, the bacteria can get into the bloodstream and cause an illness called invasive Group A strep (iGAS).

### What are the symptoms of Strep A/scarlet fever?

Strep A infections can cause a range of symptoms that parents should be aware of, including:

Sore throat

Headache

Fever

A fine, pinkish or red body rash with a sandpapery feel

On darker skin the rash can be more difficult to detect visually but will have a sandpapery feel

If your child becomes unwell with these symptoms, please contact your GP practice or NHS 111 (which operates a 24/7 service) to seek advice.

If a child has scarlet fever, please keep them at home until at least 24 hours after the start of antibiotic treatment to avoid spreading the infection to others.

If your child seems seriously unwell call 999 or go to A&E if:

- a child is having difficulty breathing – you may notice grunting noises or their tummy sucking under their ribs
- there are pauses when a child breathes
- a child's skin, tongue or lips are blue
- a child is floppy and will not wake up or stay awake.

### **How to help prevent Strep A?**

UKHSA advises good hand and respiratory hygiene practices.

For more information visit the UKHSA website.

## **Winter Weather**

As the weather gets colder could you please make sure your children are sent to school with proper padded winter coats, hats, scarves and gloves? We don't let the weather stop our activities and the children are outside each day for long periods, for worship, break times, sport and after school club.

## **Appointment of new SEND Coordinator**

We are delighted to have appointed Mrs Katy Dawson to take over from Mrs Williams at Easter as the SEND Coordinator. Mrs Dawson and Mrs Williams have already started working together on the handover and will continue over the coming months. Mrs Dawson is also undertaking additional training to gain a National Award for Special Educational Needs Coordination post graduate certificate.

## **Key Stage Assessment Meetings for Year 2 and Year 6 parents**

The Department of Education requires us to assess and report the progress of Year 2 pupils to them at end of the year. Year 6 pupils are also required to sit the KS2 Statutory Assessment Tests (SATs) in May. We will be holding meetings for parents on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> January at 3.15 to explain how the assessments are carried out and what support you can give your children. Please let your child's class teacher know if you are not able to attend and they will arrange to meet with you separately.

## In the Cygnet Classroom

Annnndddd suddenly Christmas is over! Happy New Year to all of you, we hope you had a wonderful couple of weeks and your house was not too plagued with illness. Welcome to Téo who has joined the Cygnet Class in Year 1.

We have had a wonderful first week back. We began our week with our new value of Creativity where we acted out as a whole school the Creation Story. Then the whole school separated into their new reading groups and spent some time reviewing previous learned sounds and getting to know their reading teacher. We will be sending a variety of books home from Friday, 13<sup>th</sup> January for your child to read with you at home. More details to follow.



Wednesday morning we had a whole school focus on writing for pleasure. The children loved listening to the famous Joseph Coelho talking to them about a project run by the British Library, Step inside your story! The children planned their stories all about themselves carefully and made concertina books with a colourful front and back page. They wrote about themselves, wrote stories, illustrated them and decorated their books ready for you to look at on our Celebration board in the cloakroom. The afternoon was slow and steady where we explored some different RE topics. Year one and two are learning about Islam and Reception are learning about being unique and special. The children also visited the library for some books to take home for bedtime stories.



We had a wonderful day at the Chipping Norton Theatre watching Dick Whittington. It was superb and I thoroughly enjoyed watching the children's faces as the pantomime unfold! It was magical and they loved their tub of ice cream and chocolates! We finished the day dressing each other with dress up clothes and exploring algorithms as part of our computing topic.

This term, the children will enjoy 'Wild Africa' as their topic, dive into three different African folk tales in Writing lessons and make some music with African instruments to retell some African poetry. We look forward to a term less plagued with illness and filled with

hopefulness as we watch the light slowly return. Happy New Year to you all!

## ... and the Nest

We have had the best return to school after Christmas. Our first morning was christened with our fabulous new reading scheme. The classroom was a buzz of Fred talk and flashes of green word cards with small groups of matched readers in all corners. The sessions are short and sharp and the children are focused and learning. For the remainder of the morning, we participated in the whole school writing: Step into your story. We planned our little books with notes and sketches of what we looked like, what we liked most - and least - and what lovely things our friends said about us. When we wrote the hard copies of our concertina books, we made them our own and wrote and drew whatever we wanted to say about ourselves, however we wanted to present it. Each one is very much our own story and a real treasure - all entirely different and unique.

The pantomime at iconic Chipping Norton theatre, Dick Whittington, was fabulous - a bonanza of colour and song, dance and wit, all woven into a traditional tale. It provided every pantomime antic from a swarthy dame to a cunning baddie, audience singing, squirted water, sweets flung to all and ice creams in the interval. In Reception, we



have considered different performances over the last few weeks and will compare our own Nativity play to our study of the ballet, The Nutcracker, and now a classic pantomime.

The story of Dick Whittington was a great start to our term of traditional tales. We will look at The Three Billy Goats Gruff and then The Three Little Pigs and Goldilocks and the Three Bears. We will use Talk for Writing to understand the story formats. We will imitate and innovate so that we make our own excerpts and amendments to the traditional tales. I know this group of Reception children have great imaginations and I am looking forward to all their ideas and renditions.

As the term progresses, will continue with Mastering Number. We will start with developing our understanding of composition within 5. We will look at part-part-whole models using what we know and see (our bodies and lego toys) before spotting it and plotting it on paper. We will also look at pattern and enjoy using colour, shape, sound, words and our extensive selection of loose parts to continue and create repeats.

## In the Swan classroom

Our topic this term is **Exploring Eastern Europe**. We will be honing our geography skills using the atlases this week to locate different European countries. Later this term we will also be looking at the geographical features of different Eastern European countries. I know we have families with links to many different Eastern European countries and we would welcome any visitors who would like to share their experiences of different cultures with us.

In Maths the Year 3s will be starting to find different strategies to subtract 3 digit numbers. They will be thinking about subtraction as finding the difference and using strategies such as taking off ten and adding one instead of just subtracting nine. Year 4 will be building the 11 and 12 times tables and getting to know the relevant division and multiplication facts. Year 5 will be starting to multiply two digit numbers by two digit numbers and Year 6 will be adding proper fractions and mixed numbers.

The pantomime was a great introduction for the new English topic for Year 3 & 4 who are studying a range of traditional stories and their modern retellings. Year 5&6 are studying reports and recounts using a beautiful book called Migration: Incredible Animal Journeys by Mike Unwin and Jenni Desmond and Floella Benjamin's Coming to England, about her arrival in London from Trinidad as part of the Windrush generation.

This term we will be teaching Computing in separate sessions with Year 3&4 taking a Journey Inside the Computer to understand the different components and the functions they carry out, while Year 5&6 will be creating stop motion animation.

In RE we are studying **What it means to be a Muslim in Britain today** and are hoping to finalise a trip to the mosque in Oxford.

In PSHE the topic is valuing difference. We will be thinking about ways in which we are similar and different and how we show respect to others regardless of difference. We will also explore how intolerance of difference can sometimes lead to bullying and consider what we can do if we are a bystander to bullying.

In PE we are focussing on gymnastics and tennis this term.

For Art we are looking at the work of textile artists Alice Kettle and Hannah Rae and creating mixed media artwork.

This week we have been busy learning our songs and moves in preparation for next week's Young Voices concert. The Southrop School banner has been made and the excitement about the concert is ramping up!

## Year 3 & 4 Gymnastics Festival Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January

Year 3 & 4 have the opportunity to take part in a Gymnastics Festival at Deer Park on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January. Please register for this event on the Portal by Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January so we can see if we have enough children to take part. Parents will be responsible for transport but Mrs McLellan will be on site at the festival.

## PTA Update

Thank you to everyone that helped with the Christmas fundraising and activities for the children. As a reminder we have raised £1,723.50 since September. The PTA will be meeting later in January to put together a programme of events for rest of the school year. So, keep your eyes open for what's coming up and as always if you are able to help then let us know. Don't forget you can drop in for coffee at the village hall shop on Wednesday mornings after drop off for a coffee and catch up.

Happy New Year from Southrop School PTA

## After School Club

<b>Monday</b>	Swans Sports Club	15:00 – 16:15
	ASC – Crafts	15:00 – 17:00
<b>Tuesday</b>	Chess Club	15:00-16:00
	ASC - Art and junk modelling	15:00-17:00
<b>Wednesday</b>	Cygnets Sports Club	15:00-16:15
	ASC - Crafts	15:00-17:00
<b>Thursday</b>	Cooking club and Play	15:00 – 17:00
<b>Friday</b>	Quiet night ... chilled night and free choice at the end of the week	15:00-17:00

If your child is staying on Tuesday for art & junk modelling it would be useful if they could bring some junk/boxes into school.

## Together we can fly!

The next Newsletter will be on 20<sup>th</sup> January, if you have photos please sent them through by first thing on Friday 20<sup>th</sup>.