



## Newsletter 5 – 1<sup>st</sup> October 2026

| DAY                                      | WHAT'S ON ..... Before School Club every day from 8.00am.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
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| <b>MONDAY<br/>5<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear PE Kit</li> <li>• Mr Bateman Music Lessons and Whole Cygnet Class violin lessons</li> <li>• Swans Nature Club 12.30pm</li> <li>• Sports Club 3.15-4.30pm</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                         |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>6<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 3 &amp; 4 Swimming – Please bring a packed lunch</li> <li>• Year 5&amp;6 Deadline for ordering a packed lunch for Thursday.</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• Year 1-6 Young Engineering Club 3.15-4.30pm</li> </ul>                                               |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>7<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Meade Music Lessons</li> <li>• Forest School Rec, Year 1 &amp; Y5</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• Homework Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                                             |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>8<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear PE Kit</li> <li>• Year 5&amp;6 River Trip to Ernest Cook Trust - Packed Lunches</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• NO COOKERY CLUB THIS WEEK</li> </ul>                                                                                                             |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>9<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musical Mania</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• Clownz Circus Club 3.15-4.30pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>12<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear PE Kit</li> <li>• Mr Bateman Music Lessons</li> <li>• Cygnet Class Visit to Cheltenham Lit Festival – Please provide packed lunch.</li> <li>• Swans Nature Club 12.30pm</li> <li>• Sports Club 3.15-4.30pm</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                       |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>13<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Year 5&amp;6 deadline for ordering a packed lunch for Lit Fest.</li> <li>• Year 3 &amp; 4 Swimming – Please bring a packed lunch</li> <li>• Year 4&amp;5 Tag Rugby at Farmor's</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• Year 1-6 Young Engineering Club 3.15-4.30pm</li> </ul> |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>14<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Meade Music Lessons</li> <li>• Year 3&amp;4 deadline for ordering a packed lunch for Lit Fest</li> <li>• Forest School Rec, Year 1 &amp; Y6</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• Homework Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> </ul>                                                   |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>15<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear PE Kit</li> <li>• Open Morning 9:15-10:15</li> <li>• Year 5 &amp; 6 visit to Cheltenham Lit Festival – Packed Lunches</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                         |



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|                                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• Cookery Club 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                            |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>16<sup>TH</sup> OCT</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Musical Mania</li> <li>• Year 3 &amp; 4 Visit to Cheltenham Lit Festival – Packed Lunches</li> <li>• ASC 3.15-4.15pm &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>• Clownz Circus Club 3.15-4.30pm</li> </ul> |

**Coming Up .....** 21<sup>st</sup> October Worship in Church, 21<sup>st</sup> October Whole Cygnet Class to Forest School, 22<sup>nd</sup> October Cygnet Visit to Bibury Trout Farm and end of Term 1.

## Message from Miss Davies

### Our School Development Plan 2026–2029

This week we are sharing a parent-friendly summary of our School Development Plan. It sets out the areas we will continue to develop over the next three years, building on the progress already made and responding to our most recent Ofsted and SIAMS priorities. Our focus remains firmly on ensuring that every child is safe, included, well taught and supported to achieve their very best, while also developing their confidence, wellbeing and wider experiences. The plan covers everything from curriculum, reading, writing and maths to attendance, SEND, safeguarding, Early Years, our Church school development and improvements to our school environment.

This year, our school improvement work is focused on five key areas:

**Strong foundations for learning** – improving handwriting, spelling, reading fluency, number facts and reasoning, while giving extra support quickly where children have gaps.

**High-quality teaching and assessment** – helping teachers check what children already know, revisit important learning and make sure pupils remember and apply what they have been taught.

**Safeguarding and attendance** – continuing strong safeguarding practice, improving attendance and providing personalised support where children face barriers to coming to school regularly.

**Inclusion, wellbeing and Early Years** - making sure children with additional needs receive the right support, strengthening staff expertise and continuing to develop our Early Years provision.

**Leadership and our wider school development** strengthening governor monitoring, developing our Church school priorities, increasing opportunities for pupil leadership and continuing work to improve our school site and long-term sustainability.

By the end of this year we want to see children producing increasingly fluent and accurate work, making strong progress from their starting points, feeling safe and well supported, attending school regularly and being able to talk confidently about what they have learned and remembered.

### Book Club

Our Book Clubs have now been running for the past two years and have become a lovely part of reading life at Southrop. The idea is that you and your child share the same book and then, where



possible, come along to the Book Club meeting together. You might read it as a bedtime story, take turns reading aloud, read it separately and chat about it afterwards, or download it onto a Kindle. The important thing is that, as a family, you are sharing the book and enjoying reading together.

This year we are also introducing a new Year 2 Book Club, giving our younger readers the opportunity to begin enjoying this same shared reading experience with their families.

Book Club meetings will take place once a month from 3.00pm–3.30pm. Parents are very welcome to come along and join the children for the discussion — and there will, of course, be hot chocolate and a biscuit to enjoy while we talk about the book. I completely understand that some parents will be working and will not be able to attend every meeting, so please don't let that stop your child taking part. You could email your thoughts or send a note in with your child.

The next Club meetings will take place on:

**Year 2 Book Club – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 3.00pm–3.20pm**

*Voices in the Park* by Anthony Browne

**Year 3 & 4 Book Club – Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 3.00pm–3.20pm**

*Frankenstiltskin: Fairy Tales Gone Bad* by Joseph Coelho

**Year 5 & 6 Book Club – Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November, 3.00pm–3.30pm**

*Tyger* by SF Said

If your child would like to take part in Book Club, please email me at [mdavies@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mdavies@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk).

## Homework

A reminder that we ask all children to read for 20 minutes each evening and for this reading to be recorded on PageTicker. This can be their Literacy Leaf book or their Accelerated Reader book—both are equally valuable. For our younger readers it could be something you have read together. Regular reading at home is so important in helping children to build their fluency, confidence, vocabulary and understanding. Reading little and often really does make a difference, particularly when children have the opportunity to read aloud, talk about unfamiliar words and discuss what they have read. Please help us by making these 20 minutes part of your child's daily routine and recording their reading on PageTicker so that we can celebrate and support their progress in school.

A reminder that all Swans have maths homework on Times Tables Rock Stars (TTRS) each week. This week, 19 children logged in and completed some practice – thank you to those families supporting this at home.

Regular practice on TTRS helps children to build speed, accuracy and confidence with their multiplication and division facts, which supports so many other areas of maths. Short, frequent practice is much more effective than leaving it all until the end of the week.



Please help us by encouraging your child to log in regularly and make TTRS part of their weekly homework routine. We would love to see even more Swans taking part next week!

## **Dogs on the School Site & After School Pick Up**

A gentle reminder that, in line with Gloucestershire County Council guidance, dogs should not be brought onto the school site, with the exception of assistance dogs. This includes during morning drop-off and afternoon collection. We appreciate that many dogs are friendly and an important part of family life; however, not all children are comfortable around dogs and we need to consider allergies, unpredictable behaviour and the safety of everyone using our site. We therefore ask families to leave dogs safely outside the school grounds and thank you for helping us to keep Southrop a safe and welcoming environment for all.

Once children have been safely handed back to their parents or carers, responsibility for their care and supervision returns to the parent/carer. Please note that the main gate is left open, so we kindly ask parents to keep a close eye on their children and ensure that there is no climbing on the walls or gates.

We also ask that parents and children leave the playground promptly after collection, as our after-school children need to move safely between areas of the site. For this reason, the climbing frames and wildlife garden are not available for use after school.

Thank you for your understanding and for helping us to keep everyone safe and ensure the site runs smoothly for all our children.

## **Forest School Next Week**

A reminder that Year 5 will be joining Reception & Y1 at Forest School on Wednesday.

## **Visit to the Ernest Cook Trust 8<sup>th</sup> October**

Year 5&6 are going to Fairford to study rivers on Thursday. The children should dress as if they were attending forest school with long trousers and long sleeves. Please bring wellington boots and a waterproof coat.

There is no cost for this trip but please register your child and order a school packed lunch under the Activity tab on the Portal. If you need to book a school packed lunch please do this by Tuesday morning.

Thank you to Mrs Morris who has volunteered to drive the minibus.

## **No Cookery Club 8<sup>th</sup> October**

Due to staff training we are unable to run Cookery Club on 8<sup>th</sup> October. Your booking will be credited to the Portal. If you need to book After School Club this will be running as usual.

## **Next Term's Clubs**



To help with planning next term's clubs please can you let us know if your child would like to continue with the Young Engineers Club and with Clownz Circus Club. The Young Engineers will be offering a 20% discount if we continue next term.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WAS AN ERROR ON THE PORTAL FOR ENGINEERING CLUB. THIS CLUB FINISHES AT 4.30PM.

## Trips & Activities Coming Up.....

We have three groups attending the Cheltenham Literature Festival:



**Cygnets - Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October** to see Tracey Corderoy & Steve Lenton and Story Telling with Richard O'Neill.

They will be leaving school at 8.30am and return in time for pick up at 3.15pm. Please arrive in time for the children to leave at 8.30am.

Please bring a packed lunch as we can't order school packed lunches for a Monday.



**Year 5&6 – Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October** to see Katherine Rundell and Story Telling with Richard O'Neill

They will be leaving school at 9.00am and returning in time for pick up at 3.15pm.

Please bring a packed lunch or order a school one by Tuesday morning.



**Year 3&4 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October** to see MC Grammar & Michael Rosen and Story Telling with Isabella Mead.

They will be leaving as school at 8.30 and returning in time for pick up at 3.15pm. Please arrive in time for the children to leave at 8.30am.

Please bring a packed lunch or order one by Wednesday morning.



There will be a contribution of £12.50 per pupil to cover the cost of the ticket. Please register and pay for this trip under the Trips tab on the Portal from Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October. Please speak to Miss Davies or Mrs Simmons in confidence if you have concerns over making the contribution.

Thank you to Mrs McLellan, Mr Scrivener and Mr Sheppard who have volunteered to drive the minibus for these trips.

## **Year 4&5 Tag Rugby 13<sup>th</sup> October**

Year 4&5 will be attending a Tag Rugby Festival at Farmor's school during the afternoon of Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October. The children should come to school in their PE kit.

## **Cygnet Visit to Bibury Trout Farm 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

Cygnet's class are very excited to be visiting Bibury Trout farm on 22nd October as part of our learning about creatures that live in water and the different habitats they call home. Bibury Trout Farm is one of the oldest trout farms in Britain and is set in the beautiful surroundings of the River Coln. During our visit, the children will have the opportunity to see trout up close and explore the watery environment where they live, helping to bring our classroom learning to life. There will be a contribution of £8 per child, which will be payable on the Portal. Please ensure your child comes dressed in warm, comfortable clothing and wellies, as we will be outdoors and exploring the site. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting day of learning and discovery!