



# Sholing Infant School

## Newsletter: **February 2022**

Welcome to the February newsletter. This half term is flying by and the children are working hard on their new topics. The Year 1 children are very excited to be going to Marwell Zoo tomorrow and we have been amazed by all the geographical facts that the children are sharing with us from their polar topic. Year R children have been meeting real life superheroes. Year 2 pupils have enjoyed learning about the music of St Lucia today with 'Jim the Music Man'; the children particularly enjoyed playing the drums!

I hope you are finding the Year 1 and Year 2 knowledge organisers useful in supporting your child's key learning in their new topics. We will send these out for every topic, but it is worth looking back over old ones too, as the year progresses, to remind the children of key learning, ensuring that they can remember their learning once their focus is on a different set of knowledge.

### **PARENTS EVENING**

We are looking forward to seeing you at our upcoming Parents Evenings-remember to book an appointment for either the 15<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup> February. After a high number of children testing positive with COVID since the start of the spring term, particularly in the last two weeks, the rate seems to have slowed down this week and we are really hoping that this situation remains so that we can hold our Parents Evenings face to face. Please remember to do a LFT before coming into school, and unless exempt, we ask you to wear a mask for the time being.

### **READING**

As Year 2 parents will be aware, our Year 2 children took the statutory phonics screen last term. Where children did not meet the required reading standard in this screen, they will be required to re-sit the screen in June. We will be holding a phonics workshop for parents of children who will re-sit the screen, on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March at 2:30pm**. Mrs Holland, our English lead will provide you with resources you can use at home to support your child with his/her phonic reading.

Lots of children are reading regularly at home, so please keep up the good work! As a rough guide, most children should be aiming to read at turquoise/ purple band by the end of Year 1 and white/lime by the end of Year 2.

Remember to talk to your child's teacher if your child is a reluctant reader at home or if you need any more support with reading. Our Little Wandle phonics teaching is progressing well in Year R and Year 1-remember you can access lots of information about how phonics is taught through this programme on the Little Wandle website <https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

### **TEA-TIME TALES**

We are very excited that this week is National Storytelling Week! To mark this event, Mrs Holland will be recording three stories and uploading them to Seesaw so that you and your child can enjoy them together. Once you have listened to the stories, you could ask your child questions like, 'Who were the characters?' or 'What happened at the beginning, in the middle and at the end?' You could also encourage them to write a story review or draw a picture of their favourite part.

Remember, reading to your child and listening to them read every day is vital in ensuring that they are able to become lifelong learners.

### **CIVIC AWARD**

We are running the Civic Award this year for our Year 2 children. The Award is a "Citizenship" programme and is designed to encourage Year 2 children to be both responsible and active over a period of a term. During this time children will be expected to participate in the following areas:

1. Follow a physical hobby
2. Follow a non-physical hobby (At least one of these hobbies should be new the children)
3. Public Service to the School
4. Public Service to the Community

The children have an opportunity to plan and hold a charity event that they have organised across the whole school, raising money for a charity of their own choice.

They will then be invited to a special presentation ceremony in the summer term  
The meeting for parents and children interested in participating in our Civic Award is coming up. If your child would like to take part in this home/school citizenship programme, please come to the meeting with Miss Cooper on **17<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 2:30pm**

### **SPONSORED BOUNCE**

FOSI will be organising a sponsored bounce on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> March. James Knight, our Chair of Governors and FOSI member will be sending information and sponsor forms out shortly. Funds raised will all be used to purchase reading books and library books as well as to pay for visitors coming into school to support children's learning.

### **SAFEGUARDING**

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety or well-being of our children, please contact the school to speak Mrs Houghton (Designated Safeguarding Lead) or Mr Steward (Deputy Safeguarding Lead). The safety of our children is the responsibility of us all. Our Child Protection Policy has been updated in line with the September 2021 guidance and is published on our website for your information.

Should you find that you need some support with supporting your child, e.g. with behaviour or attendance, or you need support with housing or managing finances, remember that Southampton have an Early Help Hub, which schools can refer families to. Please speak to Mrs Harris, our ELSA, if you would like to access this support. Families can also self-refer to Early Help. For more information about our Early Help Hub or to discuss a referral please contact us. We are available Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm (closed on Bank Holidays).

Telephone: 023 8083 3311 Email: [EarlyHelpHub@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:EarlyHelpHub@southampton.gov.uk)

### **E-SAFETY**

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> February is *Safer Internet Day*. We will be learning about this with children in school but if you would like to talk to your children about this at home then you can find resources here: <https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2022>

### **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY – SEND**

Mrs Rice is our SENDCo. If you are ever concerned about your child's academic, social or emotional learning and progress, please make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Rice. Please be aware that Mrs Rice works at the infant school on Monday and Tuesday and the junior school on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. You can contact her on [senco@sholinginfantschool.org.uk](mailto:senco@sholinginfantschool.org.uk) Our local offer for SEND is published on our website for your information.

### **PUPIL PREMIUM**

If you are entitled to certain benefits such as Income Support or Job Seekers Allowance your child may be eligible for Pupil Premium. This is extra funding that the school gets from the government to raise overall achievement and meet the needs of the children. If you think you may be eligible or your circumstances have changed recently, please speak to Mrs Stewart in the office.

### **STAFFING**

Miss Hyde is returning to school after her maternity leave on 14<sup>th</sup> February. After half term, she will teach Foxes class on Mondays and Tuesdays with Miss Brewer teaching on Wednesday-Friday.

For the next half term, Miss Thomson will continue to teach in Squirrels with Mr Steward covering the class on Mondays.

We will also be welcoming Mr Davis to our school as our new site manager at the end of the month.

### **INSET DAYS**

We have INSET days on:

- Friday March 18<sup>th</sup> 2022
- Friday May 27<sup>th</sup> 2022

We will also be closed on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022 (schools have been given an additional Bank Holiday due to the Queen's Platinum Jubilee falling in half term)