



Sholing Infant School

Newsletter: March/April 2022

Welcome to the latest newsletter!

We are enjoying some lovely spring weather and the children are enjoying eating their packed lunches outdoors very early this year! We are looking forward to getting the garden areas of the school improved so that children can start growing in the class raised beds. We are planning to open the garden for a couple of afternoons after half term, for any interested parents to come and help with the gardening. If you are interested in helping out, please contact James Knight, Chair of governors and he will organise dates; please contact him should you be able to help at j.knight@sholinginfantschool.org.uk

FOSI

A huge thanks to FOSI for organising the spring bounce. The children had a great time bouncing and you all raised so much money for the school-**thank you!** It will make a huge difference to what we can buy for the children. Having bought all the Little Wandle books for use in school in reading lessons, we were not going to be able to buy the matching books for home practice, purchasing only the online books for home reading.

Thanks to the fund raiser, we are now able to buy home readers too, as well as pay for the in school visitors that really bring the learning alive for the children.

Thanks to FOSI too for giving up so much time to support the school. If anyone is interested in helping out at the discos or the summer fayre organised for the spring term, please contact James- all help will be gratefully received!

Staffing

We have a couple of staff changes after Easter. Miss Thomson kindly increased her working days this half term to ensure some consistency for Squirrels class. She will, however, have to revert back to her previous working days for the summer term, so we have made the decision to appoint a permanent full time teacher to teach Squirrels class for the final term. Annabel Guigliani will be joining us as a class teacher. She is an experienced teacher, who will bring a wealth of experience to Sholing. Annabel will be in school over the next couple of weeks to work in Squirrels class, and will be available for a parent 'meet and greet' straight after school on 31st March.

Mrs Willmott, who has been on supply covering in Year R, will be leaving us, and Miss Thomson will cover her days.

After working at Sholing Infant School in a number of different roles over the past two years we will also be saying goodbye to Miss Waters – we wish her all the best for her future career.

I am pleased to inform you that Miss Brewer is expecting her second baby, so will be taking her maternity leave from mid-September in the next school year. Congratulations to her- we are all delighted for her.

Curriculum

Teachers have been busy reviewing our curriculum coverage and updating planning documents over the past half term. These will be updated on our website once completed. One of the key changes we have made in the subject of PSHE, is the way in which we teach children about the area of keeping safe, in a range of contexts. To ensure that this key area of learning is taught effectively, we have ensured that the safety curriculum is taught throughout the year and frequently revisited.

The overview for our safety teaching is as follows:

Term	Unit
Autumn 1	Body safety-my body is my own School safety
Autumn 2	Stranger danger
Spring 1	Fire and electrical safety
Spring 2	Online safety
Summer 1	Road safety Rail safety
Summer 2	Sun safety Water and beach safety

The complete progression document will be published on the school website before the end of term should you wish to read about our safety curriculum in detail

We will be having our Healthy and Safe week w/c Monday 4th July. Our sports day will be held during this week (date TBC)

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.

E-safety

We are currently seeing an increase in the number of children who are wearing smart watches to school. Whilst there is not an issue with the majority of these we do not recommend that children wear them as they can be an unnecessary distraction in school. However, watches that can take photos or record voices are **not** allowed as these present a privacy risk for children and staff.

Attendance

We continue to have high rates of absence, some absence due to ongoing but decreased numbers of COVID but lots of other childhood illnesses. We are ensuring that the school is deep cleaned regularly and doing lots of hand washing. Hopefully as summer approaches, illness will decrease and attendance improve. Attendance of 96.5% is the school target, and we will continue to aim for this as we progress through into the summer term.

Attendance is currently:

Rabbits	94.2%
Owls	92.8%
Hedgehogs	94.8%
Robins	94.65%
Squirrels	93.77%
Otters	95.05%
Badgers	94.3%
Kestrels	95.15%
Foxes	93.4%

Assessment and reporting

The summer term is a busy term in terms of the statutory assessments that schools must administer. Please be assured that all statutory assessments are conducted in a very low key way with the children, as part of normal classroom practice.

Year 2 SATs are statutory again this year. Children will be doing their SATS in the weeks commencing May 9th and May 16th. Mrs Holland, Year 2 leader, will be having a meeting about SATS for Year 2 parents on Wednesday 6th April at 9:00am. You will be able to find out how the SATS are administered, and how to help support your child. We will also have some sample SATs papers for parents to look through to see what the children are asked to do in the reading and maths papers. The results from the SATs will be used by

teachers alongside pupils independent classroom work, to given an overall assessment outcome for your child, which will be shared with his/her ongoing junior school.

Children will be awarded the following standards:

GDS- working at greater depth (above age related expectations)

EXS (at age related expectations)

WTS (working towards the expected standard)

PKS (Pre Key Stage standard) this standard will apply to some children with SEND, who are working below key stage 1. Assessment for this group of pupils will be from school assessments and ongoing classroom work. SATS will not be taken

Your child's attainment in relation to his/her end of Key Stage 1 outcomes will be included in the end of year school report, which will be sent home for all year groups on Friday 15th July.

Year 2 Pupils who did not reach the standard in the phonics screen in the autumn term will do the phonic screen check again in the week beginning 6th June.

Year 1 pupils will complete the phonic screening check in the week beginning 6th June. The results of the check will be shared on the end of year report.

The Year 1 parent meeting in relation to the phonic screen will be on 4th May at 9am.

HAMWIC Non-uniform day

We will be holding a non-uniform day in support of the HAMWIC Foundation on **Monday 6th June**. The purpose of the Foundation is to raise funds to support disadvantaged pupils within Hamwic Education Trust, filling gaps that the Pupil Premium does not cover. Last year the Foundation provided Christmas presents for some of our pupils and they have agreed that the money raised will go again this year to another Christmas Box event as well as funding other initiatives for children in the Trust. Schools will be able to email the Foundation requesting support for disadvantaged pupils (support that is not covered by Pupil Premium). Some examples could be:-

- To provide an opportunity for those pupils that demonstrate a skill or interest in a particular area, for example, music, sport or art
- To advance the education of disadvantaged pupils within Hamwic Education Trust by providing support and assisting in the provision of activities not statutorily required to be provided by the Trust

We hope that you will support the non-uniform day. Please send in £1 donation with your child on the day.

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

We are looking forward to celebrating the Platinum Jubilee later this year and will be having a special 'Jubilee' day in school on Thursday May 26th. Children are invited to come in to school that day in any combination of red, white and blue. In the morning we will learn about the long reign of HRH Queen Elizabeth II and the changes that have occurred in daily life during this period. In the afternoon we will have a 'street party' in the KS1 playground with party food and games. We will also be planting a tree in honour of this special event, which will include a commemorative plaque!

Diary dates

Monday 2nd May –Bank Holiday

Tuesday 3rd May- additional school closure

Friday 27th May- INSET day

Friday 24th June 3-5pm –summer fayre

Have a great Easter break, when it arrives and we will see you back in school on Monday April 25th!

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