




Sholing Infant School

Newsletter: September 2023

Welcome to the September newsletter! It has been lovely to welcome the children back, all looking smart in their uniforms, and eager to meet their new teachers/TAs and classmates. We have had a very successful start to the new school year, with the children settled and enjoying their new learning. We have also welcomed our new YR children this week; they are coming into school so confidently and happily!

Over the first two weeks of this half term, we are really focusing on developing positive relationships as children settle into their new classes, as well as teaching the children our 'Golden Rules' for behaviour and our expectations for handwriting, presentation and learning behaviours. This will ensure that the children make a successful start to their new year groups.

Our behaviour policy is available on our website for your information.




Sholing Infant School

GOLDEN RULES


I am gentle

- I keep my hands and feet to myself.
- I use kind hands with others.
- I ask for consent from my friends before giving them a cuddle or holding their hand.




I listen

- I sit, look and listen like Sam.
- I move quietly around the school.
- I follow instructions from all adults in school.
- I line up when told to.
- I don't interrupt.
- I pay attention to others.




I am honest

- I tell the truth even when I've done something wrong.
- If I find something that is not mine, I will hand it to a grown up.




I am kind & helpful

- I offer to help others.
- I remember to use my manners.
- I use 'please' and 'thank you'.
- I am a good friend to everybody.




I work hard

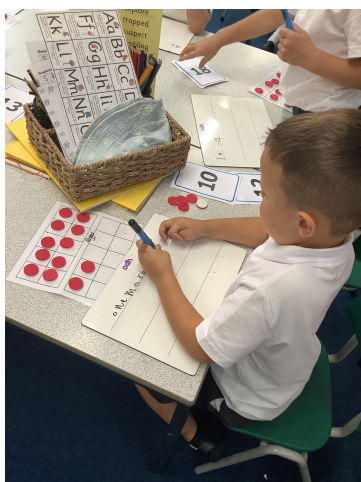
- I don't disturb anyone else's learning.
- If I need help, I put my hand up and stay in my seat.
- I always do my best.



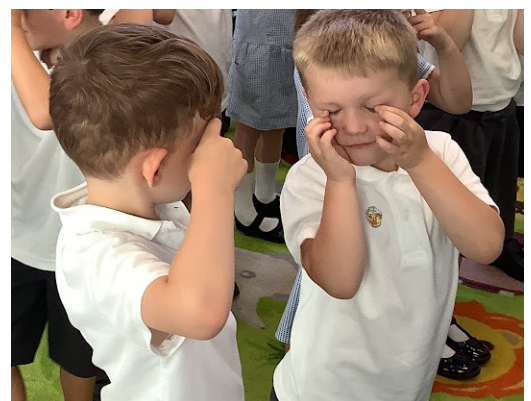
I look after property

- I take a pride in my school.
- I tidy things away in my class and around school.
- I use equipment properly.
- I put things back from where I have got them.
- I use the bathrooms quietly and sensibly.





Our Y1 children have started learning all about the human body in Science lessons and have been amazing at learning the different parts - we have enjoyed doing lots of activities such as heads, shoulders, knees and toes and Simon says to help us learn these body parts. We have also been working so hard in our writing and Maths lessons, including some lovely prediction work about the story of Rapunzel and some great work on numbers up to 20.



Year 2 children have started finding out about how Victorian life was different to life today, in terms of schools and transport.....

Year leaders have sent out the half-term overviews of what your child is learning in school. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming year group welcome meetings, where teachers will provide more information on what happens throughout the year in your child's current year group.

Please speak to your child's class teacher if you have any concerns about your child settling in. They will be able to help. Alternatively, email your class teacher if you need any further information. Please be aware that class emails are not checked daily, but will be checked each week.

We will be sending out our Home/school agreement shortly; this outlines what you can expect from us as staff and governors, and what we expect from pupils and what we ask from parents. Please sign your home/school agreement, any questions regarding this, please speak to Mrs Houghton.

Please ensure that where there are concerns, you speak to a member of staff, rather than post concerns on social media- if we don't know about a worry, we can't resolve it.

Staffing:

We are pleased to welcome a number of new teachers to the school

Miss Guigliami is back from maternity leave and is Rabbit's teacher.

Miss Cooper is back from maternity leave and is Hedgehog's teacher.

Miss Goddard is our new Otters teacher, and Miss Brewer is also back from maternity leave and is in Foxes class!

Mrs Rice continues to be our SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) and should you have any concerns or questions regarding your child, please email her at senco@sholinginfantschool.org.uk or telephone the school.

Congratulations to Miss Hyde, who had baby Wilfy earlier in the summer! We look forward to seeing them both soon!

FOSI

We are looking forward to lots of fun events organised by FOSI (Friends of School) this year, and will be using funds raised to provide visitors into school to support curriculum subjects e.g. Creative History will provide workshops for Y1 History unit-The Great Fire of London, and Y2 History-The Titanic. We will also use some of the funds to provide whole school experiences e.g. live music from the Bournemouth Symphony orchestra. The funds raised are so appreciated as we would not be able to afford such enhancements to our children's experiences without them. If you are interested in getting involved, the FOSI contact is James Knight, our Chair of governors.

The school day

The gate is closed at 8:55 each morning, as this is the time at which school starts and registers are taken. Any child who arrives after the gate has closed, must be signed in at reception. Classroom doors open at 8:45, when children go in and complete their morning jobs. Please try to ensure that your child arrives at 8:45 am as lessons start promptly at 9:00 and late children miss out on the start of a lesson.

Our school day currently finishes at 3pm.

As per the guidance from DFE, we are planning to increase the length of our school day from **January 2024. All schools should, under their guidance, aim for a 32.5 hour week, which we are currently below.**

As an infant school, we are currently liaising with Sholing junior school, working together on this to ensure that times align and work for parents. Our current intention is to add time to the end of the school day rather than make an earlier start, but we will keep you posted and inform you as soon as possible as to the new school day hours.

Children may bring bikes and scooters to school -please store your child's bike/scooter on one of the racks provided. Please ensure that your child dismounts once through the school gates to avoid accidents.

School entrance/exits

May we ask all parents to please enter the school through the Heath Rd gates. Exit may be back through Heath Rd or via the Middle road gates. The pavement is very narrow on Middle Rd and parents queueing/waiting to enter will create congestion. Oasis Sholing kindly stopped their students and parents entering on Heath Rd to help the infant school avoid congestion. Our exit gate was very much to support Oasis Sholing using the Middle road exit to their school. The Highways agency also allowed use of the gate only as an exit gate for us. Thank you for your cooperation.

Attendance

Please ensure that your child attends school each day unless ill- if children miss school, they miss out, not just in terms of their education, but also in terms of their friendships, their emotional wellbeing and the relationships they make, also, in terms of their enjoyment of all school has to offer!

We know that children inevitably experience childhood illnesses, especially in the winter, so are, of course, understanding of this, but please be aware that we can, with your consent, give medication if children are just a little under the weather with a cough or cold. Please let the staff in reception know if your child needs medicine, completing the relevant permission form.

We are aiming for every child to achieve attendance of at least 96.5% as we know that children with high levels of attendance, achieve well and engage well

You can see your child's attendance on MCAS – it is a live record of your child's attendance. Children will be awarded certificates every term, for attendance of 96.5% or above.

Class attendance is announced each week in celebration assembly with a cup and prizes for the winner.

Please ensure that you contact the school before 9am if your child is ill and will be absent from school. Should school not hear from you, we will contact you as a safeguarding procedure to find out why your child is absent. Should we not be able to make contact with you, Mrs Harris, our Family Support link will do a home visit.

Should you require any support with your child attending school, Mrs Harris is also your first port of call, just email her – j.harris@sholinginfantschgoool.org.uk

Please remember that we are not able to authorise holidays during term time and a Penalty Notice will be issued.

All schools are required to have an attendance action plan to ensure that high levels of attendance are maintained. Our plan is published , alongside our policy on our website , for your information.

Safeguarding

If you ever have any concerns regarding the safety or well-being of our children, please contact the school to speak to 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 2023 guidance and is published on our website for your information.

Our PSHE curriculum includes half termly topics on 'safety' ensuring that we teach children how to stay safe in a range of contexts. This half term we are teaching the children all about 'body safety'. We will be using the NSPCC PANTS video and related resources. These are on the NSPCC website if you want to take a look. Miss Gardner is our PSHE lead. Please contact her if you want further information, or take a look at our website to find out more about our safety curriculum.

Esafety

Keeping children safe online is another important part of our safeguarding work at Sholing Infant School. It can be very difficult to ensure the safety of our children online, but, by setting parental controls on devices or

networks, this risk can be reduced. For more information on how you can do this please visit the NSPCC guide page here: <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>

Influenza vaccinations

Solent NHS Trust is again offering nasal influenza immunisation to pupils in all year groups in school. This will take place on 29 September 2023. Information and consent forms will be sent home in due course. The vaccination is painless and the vast majority of parents took up the free vaccination last year. However, the decision is made by parents and **NO child will be vaccinated unless the NHS Trust has written consent from parents.**

School place applications:

The Southampton admissions website is now open for parents to make applications for September 2024 YR and Y3 places. You must apply before January 15th 2024. Should you need any help, please contact the school office.

Family Support

Mrs Harris is our school Family Support lead and works with families, e.g. for managing children's behaviour at home, or for accessing support with housing or debt. She may also support finances through vouchers and referrals, so please let her know if you would like to meet with her to discuss any concerns. Her email is j.harris@sholinginfantschool.org.uk

Events this term... so far! We will inform you of new dates as they occur.

Thursday 21 September	Year R welcome meeting at 2:15pm
Thursday 28 September	Year R parent workshop 1 (communication) 9-10am
Friday 29 September	Flu vaccinations in school – more information to follow
Thursday 5 October	Year R parent workshop 2 (phonics and reading) 9-10am
Thursday 12 October	Year R parent workshop 3 (writing) 9-10am
Monday 16 October	Parents evening-3:15-5pm (sign up online-more info to follow)
Thursday 19 October	Parents evening-3:15-7pm (sign up online-more info to follow)
Friday 20 October	INSET day-school closed
Thursday 2 October	Parents drop –in –Teaching maths at KS1 for Y1 /2 parent 9:00-10:00 am
Monday 6 November	YR Parent drop in –phonics 9:00-9:30 am
Tuesday 7 November	YR Parent drop in –phonics 9:00-9:30 am
Wednesday 8 November	Y1 Parent drop in –phonics 9:00-9:30 am
Thursday 9 November	Y1 Parent drop in –phonics 9:00-9:30 am
Friday 17 November	Pantomime in school-pm
Monday 4 December	YR Nativity dress rehearsal-9:15am (for younger siblings to attend as we ask for them to not attend the actual performance)
Tuesday 5 December	YR Nativity - 9:15am and at 2:15pm
Thursday 7 December	Y1 Nativity dress rehearsal- 2:15pm
Friday 8 December	Y1 Nativity – 9:15am and 2:15pm
Monday 11 December	Y2 Nativity dress rehearsal - 9:15am
Tuesday 12 December	Y2 Nativity – 9:15 am and 2:15pm
Thursday 14 December	Christmas party -pm

INSET days

School will be closed to pupils on the following days, for staff training:

Friday 20 October 2023

Tuesday 2 January 2024

Friday 5 July 2024

