



Sholing Infant School

Newsletter: **June 2019**

Welcome back to the final half term of the school year! I hope you had a fantastic half term break! Our Year 2 children have completed their SATS and we are so proud of how sensibly and enthusiastically they approached them. Year 1 children are working hard on their phonics preparation as the screen will take place next week. Thank you for supporting them at home with all the practice words that have been sent home. It really does help. Year leaders will be sending home newsletters detailing what the children will be learning this half-term; topics are Year R - Under the Sea, Year 1 - Forests and Year 2 'It's Showtime!', building up to the leavers production that the children will perform at the end of the year for parents.

Staffing

As you are aware, Miss Brewer and Miss Smith will be starting maternity leave early in September. We are pleased to have appointed two excellent teachers to cover in their absence; Miss Thomson and Miss Waters. We are delighted to inform you that Miss Jelley will be returning in September as Mrs Rice. Congratulations to her on her wedding in the summer! Our staffing structure will be as follows:-

Year Group	Class	Teacher	TA	Pupil Premium Support
Year R	Rabbits	Mr Arthur	Miss Evans	Mrs Booker
Year R	Owls	Miss Brockman	Miss Vincent	
Year R	Hedgehogs	Mrs Rice (SENCO)	Mrs Hobson and Mrs Knight	

Year Group	Class	Teacher	TA	Pupil Premium Support
Year 1	Robins	Miss Hyde	Mrs Clark	Mrs Gheisari
Year 1	Squirrels	Mrs Finch and Miss Thomson	Mrs Jeffery	
Year 1	Otters	Mr Browning	Mrs Newman	

Year Group	Class	Teacher	TA	Pupil Premium Support
Year 2	Badgers	Miss Waters	Mrs Miller and Miss Stickland	Mrs Greenwood
Year 2	Kestrels	Miss Russell	Mrs Greenwood and Mrs Fairclough	
Year 2	Foxes	Miss Ball	Mrs Hartnell-Parker	

Teachers are currently busy organising next year's classes. Children will spend the morning of 3 July in their new classes and will come out of school that day with a slip informing you of their new class and teacher. You are invited to drop in to meet your child's new teacher and see his/her classroom between 3:00 and 3:30pm

on 3 July. Remember that we have transition meetings coming up which will be useful in giving you key information and an idea of expectations for your child in his/her new year group. We hope to see as many parents as possible, but if you are unable to attend, the information slides will be sent out via ParentMail.

.Wednesday 3 July	2:15pm Year 1 – Year 2 transition meeting for current Year 1 pupils
Wednesday 10 July	2:15pm Year R – Year 1 transition meeting for current Year R parents

Reading

Please keep up the good work with home reading, it really makes a difference to children's reading proficiency and fluency and the children enjoy receiving reading rewards in Key Stage 1 (treasure box/disco). Teachers and TAs listen to children read at least twice a week and if this is supported by reading practice at home, most children should progress through the reading bands on a half-termly basis, moving on to the next colour band. Year 1 pupils should aim to be reading on at least purple band by the end of the year if they are keeping up with age related expectations. By the end of Year 2 they need to be reading on at least white band to be able to comfortably access the reading expectations at junior school. Please talk to your child's teacher if you need any help with supporting your child with reading at home, even if it is just to put in place a motivational reward system for a reluctant reader!

FOSI

Thank you to everyone for supporting events organised by FOSI this year. FOSI will be contributing £5,000 towards the cost of the ship that has been installed in the Key Stage 1 playground and is the start of our fitness trail. The ship is almost completed and will be open once the children have been inducted in how to use it safely and a risk assessment has been completed. There is also a little more work to be done on the safety surface surrounding the ship but it will be ready for use within the next week! The children using the ship will be supervised at all times by a member of staff. It will be closed before and after school to ensure everyone's safety. Future FOSI events in the summer term will be the summer disco on Friday 19 July 2019 from 4.30 - 6.00pm and the summer fayre on Friday 12 July from 3.00 - 5.00pm. FOSI are asking children to bring in contributions for the chocolate tombola for the fayre on Friday 5 July. This will be a non-uniform day. As always any help in supporting FOSI events will be really appreciated.

Attendance

Attendance has this term dropped to 96.82%. This is a big drop from the end of Easter, partly as a result of the number of term-time holidays taken which have increased significantly over the past few weeks. Please remember that every school day missed really does mean lost learning. Holidays in term-time cannot legally be authorised by headteachers and schools within the Mayflower Partnership issue penalty notices for unauthorised leave of absence. In September, we will be publishing our new attendance policy which revises the rewards we give in recognition of good attendance. We will be starting our 'Rainbow wristbands.' Every term, children will be able to collect a wristband if attendance is above 96.5% building from red to violet. This system means that even if a child has a term of poor attendance e.g. due to illness, he/she can still earn wristbands in subsequent terms and be rewarded. We will launch the rainbow wristbands with the children in September 2019 with the first red wristbands being awarded at the end of the autumn term. Our policy will be published on the website for your information.

Sports Day

Sports day will be on 4 July 2019 for all year groups. Year R sports day will start at 9:15 in the Key Stage 1 playground and will last for approximately an hour. Year 1 sports day will be held at Itchen College sports field and will start at 10:30am and last for approximately one hour. Year 2 sports day will be held at Itchen College sports field and will start at 1.15pm and finishing at 2:15/30. Parents will need to enter the field via the Middle Road gate where Mr Southwell will direct you. As on school premises, dogs and smoking etc are not permitted on college grounds.

Questionnaire

Thank you to parents who completed the annual questionnaire. Your feedback is always appreciated. Mrs Butler, our Chair of Governors, has analysed the results as presented below. We received many positive comments:-

Fantastic school and staff
Complete trust and faith in the school
No negative feedback
Support exceptional

Children do not want to leave

Lots of thanks

Teachers are positive and clearly have children's best interest at heart

Really happy with the progress and teaching skills

Mrs Houghton is fantastic and so are all her staff

Many parents appreciated Mrs Houghton and teachers meeting and greeting children and parents every morning. It created a caring and positive atmosphere

Your constructive feedback is also appreciated, from the questionnaires this year the following points were made:-

Bullying

28 parents did not know if the school dealt effectively with bullying. They explained that this was because their child had not been bullied.

Better communication on progress and school activities

Some parents commented on texts and newsletters. They felt that occasionally there was little notice given.

Several parents requested greater information on what the children are working on in class, especially in Maths and English.

Two parents felt that the school reports did not provide enough information

The school will be looking into these points and addressing them in the new school year and has already reworked the school report template to provide more information for parents. Positive comments on the spring report template have been received from parents and feedback on the longer end of year reports will be welcome. The governors and staff of Sholing Infants always use the feedback from these questionnaires to make positive improvements to the school so your support is gratefully appreciated. Thank you on behalf of the Governing Body of Sholing Infant School.

Online safety

Please remember the importance of supervising your child whilst online. As reported by a parent yesterday, issues can arise irrespective of the parental controls set. Teaching children to stay safe online is a key part of the computing curriculum. At Sholing Infant School we regularly teach the children about ways to stay safe online and what they should do if they see anything online that upsets them. The 'Smart Crew' material that we currently use is accessible from our [website](#) so that you can discuss this with your child(ren) at home. Advice for parents on how to keep children safe online can be found on the [Childnet International website](#).

The key messages that we would reiterate as a school is:-

- That no filter or software is 100% effective at preventing inappropriate material being accessed or viewed by children. Particularly with infant children, close supervision of what they are viewing or accessing is vital.
- That children know what to do and who to talk to should they be upset or concerned about anything they have viewed online.
- To test apps and games beforehand to ensure that they are age appropriate and secure

Safeguarding

The welfare and safety of children is everyone's responsibility. If you have concerns about a child, please speak to our DSL, Mrs Houghton or in her absence either of the Deputy DSLs, Mr Steward and Mr Arthur.

INSET days for 2019-20

2 September 2019

3 September 2019

6 January 2020

25 October 2020

13 March 2020

20 July 2020