



THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Summer Newsletter 2021 Issue 2

This week the Heads of School and I have had the pleasure of meeting with each of our class teachers to discuss 'Pupil Progress'. We have been so impressed with the feedback that we have received with respect to how well pupils have settled back into school life. We will now use the points raised during discussion to shape the learning provision for the rest of the Summer term and beyond.

Mrs L Wilby Executive Headteacher

Calling All New Entrants!

If you have a child who is due to start in Year R or Year 3 watch out for an important letter coming home today. This letter contains an invite to our open afternoon in June. Don't forget to also keep an eye on the 'new entrants' tab on each of the school websites. There will be new information added as the term progresses.

Roadmap Restrictions!

As the national roadmap unlocks, we plan to review and refresh our school risk assessments. This will begin next week, in preparation for Monday May 17th. We will keep you fully informed via the newsletter and the school website as we make these changes. If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to email these into school, via the 'contact us' link on the school website.

All year groups have now begun adding some wonderful 'Parent and Carer Workshops' to their class Teams pages. These recordings provide support for parents and carers as an integral part of learning provision. They are created in direct response to identified need each week and should be used in conjunction with the completion of the home learning task. Please do not forget to check Teams with your child regularly. Otherwise they will be missing out on key learning opportunities. The impact on progress for those pupils who consistently complete home learning and read regularly at home is very clear!

Mental Health Matters!

Mental Health Awareness week takes place during the week beginning Monday 10th May. The focus this year is around the positive benefits of being in nature and how that can help with mental health. There will be various activities happening around school linked to mental health awareness. This will include special assemblies and all classes in the junior school facing the challenge of spending 30 minutes a day enjoying nature! Pupils and adults alike will be taking the time to 'notice', journaling feelings and sharing ideas of things that they enjoy doing 'Just for Fun'.





SOLENT INFANT SCHOOL

Early Years!



We have started our topic 'Get Up and Grow' where we will be learning all about different lifecycles! We have been looking at the lifecycle of a frog. We have role played the different stages of the lifecycle and it was lots of fun pretending to be tadpoles and frogs! We have been using time connectives to help us write about the different stages. We were also very lucky to have some tadpoles come and visit us from our school pond!

We have now had the first School Council Meeting of the Summer Term. Miss Morris was very impressed with everyone's enthusiasm and their great ideas. The School Councillors wrote a letter to all of the classes asking them to take more care of the outdoor environment at playtimes and not to "trash the plants and flowers". The School Councillors have been listening to my Assembly message, this month, about trying to show greater Responsibility in the classroom and outside in the playground.

E Curthoys
Head of School
Solent Infant School

Year 1

We have now started our new learning theme, Potty about Plants. In Science we discussed why plants are important to us and the different types of plants that we can grow. In Art, last week, we looked at the famous artist Guiseppe Arcimboldo and made portraits from fruits and vegetables inspired by his work. It was great fun making faces from food that we normally eat!



Year 2

Year 2 have loved being scientists, over the last couple of weeks. We have found out about seed dispersal. It is really important for plants to have seeds that can travel rather than just being dropped on the ground as then they don't have to 'compete' for soil, water and light. We all made spinners to demonstrate how a seed falls to the ground." Great fun! Year 2 have continued with their learning theme of Inventors and Inventions and we had seen lots of entries for the Invention Competition being handed in this week. Our panel of judges will be looking at them over the next couple of weeks!



SOLENT JUNIOR SCHOOL

Through assemblies, each class has been considering what they could do to make our school "greener"! The Eco Warriors and Student Councilors spoke to each of their classes and collated their ideas. Part of their discussions were also focused on what could be planted in their class' veggie beds. Across the school there is great excitement over the veggie beds as there will be competitions for the biggest, longest, funniest looking produce!

Watch this space for updates!

Mrs L Peterkin-Aldred
Head of School
Solent Junior School



Year 3

Year 3 have been shining the light on Science, with our new topic, exploring how light works. The children have been investigating different light sources, and the effect it has on the objects around them. We have been using mirrors and torches to explore how light travels, and are building up towards our own exciting investigation. Finally, we will be investigating how their shadow grows over the day.

Year 4

This week, we have begun our very exciting Design and Technology topic of sundials, which also links to our science learning all about light. We have started to research all about sundials, their purpose and their design features. Shortly, we will be planning, designing, constructing and evaluating our very own sundial. The children are very much looking forward to creating their sundials out of wood, later this



Welcome Back 4P!

Over the last couple weeks, one of our incredible Year 4 classes worked remotely! Upon their return, a couple of 4P pupils were interviewed. This is what they had to say: Skyla was asked: How did you find remote learning? "I did my writing every day, although I sometimes struggled because of my internet." Isabella was asked: Are you happy to be back? "YES! I love school!"



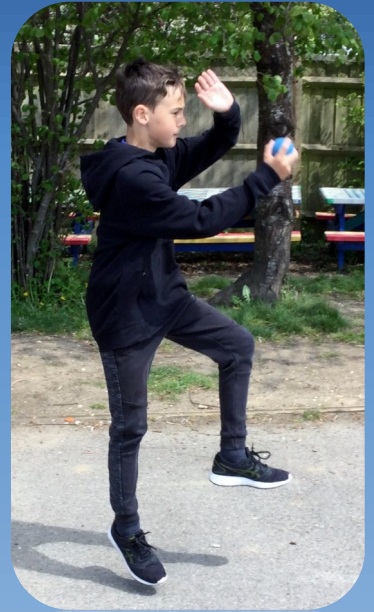


THE SOLENT SCHOOLS

Year 5

Year 5 have started work on their Art topic - 'Cityscapes'. The work is inspired by the wonderful pieces created by Charles Fazzino and involve creating a cityscape background shape and colours, then building up the city using 3-D. This is done by layering up the images. Once we have looked at his style and associated skills, we will begin working on final pieces that will be collaboration pieces showing significant landmarks and features of Portsmouth.

This term, Year 5 have embraced the beginning of Summer by honing their cricket skills. We begin by taking it back to basics: practising throwing and catching to get used to hand-eye co-ordination. We then move onto learning how to bowl, and break this down into a fun 3-step process. Later, we learn how to hold the bat correctly and bring all of our learned techniques seamlessly together! With any luck we may even get to play a few games too!



Year 6

Year 6 have been getting all 'charged' up with our new science topic on electricity this week. The children have been 'buzzing' with 'light bulb' moments going on here, there and everywhere. The classes began by experimenting with circuits. The children worked in small groups to test out different ideas to see what impact they would have on the circuits they were building. Great fun was had – well done Year 6, we know you 'conduit'!

Summer Term

31st May—4th June

Half Term Holiday

Friday 18th June

INSET

Friday 18th June

New Year R & 3 Open Afternoon
(starting September 2021)

Monday 21st June

INSET

Monday 5th July

Drop in & Work Share

Thursday 8th July

Pop In & Meet the New Teacher

Friday 9th July

End of Year Reports Home