



Southville Primary School Newsletter



10th December 2021

 @Southville_Prim

Happy Friday!

Kicking off the Festivities... Last Saturday things got distinctly festive at the Merrywood site, with 90 children visiting the grotto and 63 trees and around 350 crackers being bought! Thank you to everyone who came along to support the event and a particular thank you to our smiling elves Helen, Charlotte and Heather for all of their work before, during and after to make it such a success.



End of term non-uniform day... Next Friday is the last day of term and, as is traditional, we will make it a non-uniform day – festive jumpers are welcome (but not essential!).

Supporting our children.... This is a magical and exciting time of the year but the heightened excitement and change of normal routines can, for many children, be unsettling. I wanted to reassure you that we will continue to support the children by sharing the plan for each day with them in advance and ensuring there are plenty of calm activities and moments to avoid this potion of emotion causing too much commotion (sorry, I couldn't resist!). If your child is finding this period challenging please do speak to their teacher so we work with you to guide them through it.

Festive Performances... This week we kicked off with EYFS and Year 3 and 4, and I have heard lots of really positive comments about how the children threw themselves into them. I know the staff have really enjoyed welcoming you back to enjoy these moments with us so thank you for coming and thank you for responding so positively to how we had to adapt our plans in the days leading up to them.

'Plan B' Implications... As you will be aware, on Wednesday the government announced a new set of covid measures. For primary schools there is no significant change and the measures we have in place remain sufficient. Even before this announcement, we had encouraged staff to wear face coverings in communal areas and you may have seen staff on the gate wearing face coverings. Staff are typically not wearing masks when they work with children, unless there are specific reasons for them to do so. Thank you for your support and understanding with this.

Christmas Dinner Thanks... Yesterday was Christmas Dinner day and what a success it was! Thank you to the PTA and team of volunteers who came in to help and a huge thank you to Mrs Stenner and her fabulous kitchen team for preparing and serving 520 meals in total!

Food Bank donations... Thank you for your generous contributions to our Food Bank Winter fund. Your kindness is greatly appreciated.

Have a lovely weekend, Andy Bowman

INSET DAY reminder... We have an Inset Day on the 4th January and look forward to welcoming the children back on Wednesday 5th.

Winter food donations

Mrs Mathias and her army of PTA helpers will be putting together the school Winter Hampers for our families to provide support through the holiday period.

If you have food items that you wish to donate or you are happy to make a financial donation through the link

<https://app.investmycommunity.com/southville-primary-school-2730>

Your support is greatly appreciated within our school community.

Receiving a Winter food hamper

Mrs Mathias and the army of PTA helpers are prepped and ready to start putting together our Winter Hampers for families within our school community. We would like to reach out to all our families who feel they may need support through this holiday period.

Please get in touch with Mrs Mathias early next week so we can ensure our school community can support your family through the holiday period.

Leave of Absence

Please can we remind all parents and carers that Leave of Absence forms must be filled out if a child needs time away from school for any reason other than a medical appointment.

Medical appointments

For a medical appointment the school must see an appointment letter / email / text before the child will be released to attend.

Returning Oxford Reading Tree Books!

Can you please search your cupboards, shelves and bookbags and bring back any Southville Oxford Tree reading books that you may have stored away that your child is no longer reading and has not returned! We are taking stock before making a new order. Thank you!

Merrywood Parking... If at all possible, please avoid using a car for the school run. If you have no alternative, please be mindful that parking around Merrywood site is extremely limited. Recently we have become aware of many cars being parked on double yellow lines, particularly at the top of Bealey Road. As well as being illegal, this can be really dangerous for pedestrians, many of whom are our children. Thank you for your help with this.

Year Group Updates



Nursery...

Well done to all of our seahorse class children. They elegantly fluttered on stage as most beautiful snowflakes!

A new and exciting experience for our fabulous class -we are very proud of you!

Thank you to parents for providing really lovely costumes -they looked wonderful!

Reception...

Dear Families,

Our focus for jobs this week is construction sites. We will again be using the 'What do grown-ups do all day?' to explore these particular jobs. We will also be taking part in a range of winter crafts and celebrating Christmas by watching a theatre performance and having a Christmas party at the end of the week. At the end of the week, we will be emptying drawers and sending PE bags home.

Each week our children will be accessing resources from our continuous provision. Here are our specific foci for the next week:

<u>Area of Learning</u>	<u>Week beginning 13.12.21</u>
Personal, Social and Emotional Development (PSED)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Circle time - The stick man is sad because...•Zones of Regulation
Communication and Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•'Bucket Time' (Attention Circle Times)
Physical Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Yoga - Christmas special
Literacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Focus text - 'What do grown-ups do all day?' - construction site•Phonics - recap of all sounds learned so far, plus blending and segmenting practice•Writing task - continuing Christmas cards•1:1 reading
Mathematics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Shapes with 4 sides•Night and day - exploring time
Understanding the World	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Career talks from parent volunteers•Experimental cookery - groups from each class on rotation every few weeks. Starfish class this week.•Showtime - what jobs do people do at a theatre/ concert hall?
Expressive Arts and Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Winter craft - Christmas cards, salt dough decorations, penguins, igloo mosaics, polar bear art•Singing Christmas songs
<u>Characteristic of Effective Learning</u> <u>focus</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Creating and Thinking Critically - having their own ideas (linked to art)

Additional Information

Christmas Productions... We would like to thank all families for providing costumes for our wonderful school production this week. The children had a lovely time and they performed brilliantly. Thank you for coming to watch the show and showing your support. It was a fantastic event.

Christmas parties... We will be having our class Christmas parties on Friday afternoon after the theatre performance. We will be having a disco, playing party games and having party food. The children may bring in some additional party snacks to eat in the afternoon. Please do not send in anything that may contain traces of nuts, if you are unsure, please speak to your class teacher.

Starfish Class Treat... Starfish class have filled their marble jar for the second time. Next week, they have chosen to have a film with popcorn. Well done Starfish!

Year 1...

We have just found out that the Gaol Bridge – a key section of our route to the Old Vic – will be closed from Monday. We have worked out an alternative route which won't drastically affect the journey time. We will ensure the children arrive in plenty of time.

The children will be having an early lunch before they leave.

Year 2...

We have had fun this week designing and starting to build our fire engines! We have also been exploring different materials and their properties in science.

London is burning on our playground. Is there a fire engine we can use?



Theatre Trip - Tuesday

On Tuesday **all** children will be provided with a packed lunch as part of the Universal Free School meal offering. If you would like to provide your own packed lunch please can you let the teacher know on Monday. All children will need to bring a snack and a water bottle. They will need to carry this to the theatre.

We have just found out that the Gaol Bridge – a key section of our route to the Old Vic – will be closed from Monday. The alternative route has been planned but we will need to leave promptly at 8.45 so please ensure your child is here on time.

Forest School

No forest school next week. Falcon will have their final forest school session on the first week back after the holiday (Wednesday 5th January 2022)

Carol Concert

The children have been practising and are looking forward to their Carol Concert on Thursday!

PE

PE days next week are:

- Fox: Monday and Thursday
- Falcon: Thursday
- Flamingo: Thursday

Hook Day

To celebrate the start of our new topic 'The Power of Pictures' we would like the children to dress up as their favourite Roald Dahl character for their hook day on Thursday the 6th of January. The teachers have started planning their outfits already!

Year 3...

Many thanks to all that attended the year 3 & 4 Winter performance...what an incredible audience...what a beautiful sound! Merry Christmas to you all...from Mr Smith and the incredible LKS2 team.

Tuesday 14th Dec - please can your children come to school wearing school uniform with a COAT/GLOVES etc ready to walk to Bristol Old Vic. We will be leaving school at **9am** to ensure we arrive at the theatre in time for the performance. Please arrive on time otherwise your child will be left at school.

We have just found out that the Gaol Bridge – a key section of our route to the Old Vic – will be closed from Monday. An alternative route has been planned but we will need to leave promptly at 8.45 so please ensure your child is here on time.

All children will need to bring a snack and a water bottle. They will need to carry this to the theatre.

The children will have a later lunch in school that day. **All children will need to bring in a packed lunch from home. If your child is eligible for a Free School Meal, a packed lunch option will be provided for you from the school kitchen.**

Term 3 - Roman WOW Day info for Wednesday 5th January. We will start our term with lots of interesting Roman activities, including a Roman 'cat walk' show. Please come in dressed as a Roman (with warm clothes underneath!). We would also like to sample some Roman food together and would be grateful if your child could bring in a paper plate with their name on with a selection of food for them to eat from: grapes, olives, figs, cheeses, honey, plain crackers, oranges, apples (or any other Roman food you may have researched).

If you would like to donate any of the above in addition to your child's plate then we would be very grateful (for others to sample).

Year 4...

Many thanks to all that attended the year 3 & 4 Christmas performance...what an incredible audience...what a beautiful sound! Merry Christmas to you all...from Mr Smith and the incredible LKS2 team.

Thursday 16th Dec - please can your children come to school wearing school uniform with a COAT/GLOVES etc ready to walk to the Tobacco Factory. We will be leaving school at **11.15am** to ensure we arrive at the theatre in time for the performance.

The children will have a later lunch in school that day. **All children will need to bring in a packed lunch from home. If your child is eligible for a Free School Meal a packed lunch option will be provided from the school kitchen.**

Year 5...

Wednesday 15th Dec - please can your children come to school wearing school uniform with a COAT/GLOVES etc ready to walk to the Tobacco Factory. We will be leaving school at **12.15am** to ensure we arrive at the theatre in time for the performance.

The children will have an earlier lunch in school that day. **All children will need to bring in a packed lunch from home. If your child is eligible for a Free School Meal, please can you tell the class teacher on Monday and a packed lunch option will be provided from the school kitchen**

Term 3 visit... This week Y5 parents/ carers were sent a letter, letting you know about the theatre company who will be visiting school in Term 3, to perform a Greek play and run a drama workshop. If you did not receive the email, please check your junk items and, if not, check your email address with our office. Thanks.

Year 6...

Just a reminder that year 6 will be starting to make their bags on Monday. Many of the children have already brought in their material. If your child hasn't yet done so, please can you make sure they bring in their material on Monday.

Many thanks the year 6 team.

Wednesday 15th Dec - please can your children come to school wearing school uniform with a COAT/GLOVES etc ready to walk to the Tobacco Factory. We will be leaving school at **12.15am** to ensure we arrive at the theatre in time for the performance.

The children will have an earlier lunch in school that day. **All children will need to bring in a packed lunch from home. If your child is eligible for a Free School Meal a packed lunch option will be provided from the school kitchen**



A super busy few weeks for the PTA, so I wanted to say as MASSIVE thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their time to help with the Christmas tree sale, mulled wine, eco-crackers and dressed as elves for Santa's grotto! We sold over 60 Christmas trees, 350 crackers and saw nearly all 94 grotto visitors on Saturday! A second, massive, thank you to Santa who spent the day with us too. Please email me at

southvilleprimarypta@gmail.com if you haven't received your crackers.

We hope all the children enjoyed the Christmas lunches with the tables decorated and each child receiving a cracker from the PTA – thanks to your donations it enables us to provide these 'extras' to make the lunch even more special. Again, this couldn't be done without more volunteers helping at these events. It was lovely to see the children's excitement, especially when pulling the crackers!

The virtual balloon race is well underway, with only a few days to go before we know who has won one of the amazing hampers! You can check the progress of your balloons at:
<https://www.balloonrace.com/southvillewinter21> The name of your balloon can be found in your order confirmation. Once the race has been completed, you will receive an email from the PTA with confirmation of your hamper and details of who to collect your hamper from.



The first meeting of the schools OPAL project happened this week and it looks very promising for really enriching and engaging the children in their outdoor play. This is a very exciting project, watch this space for PTA fundraisers and requests for help!

Our last PTA event for December is the walking bus for all classes; escorting the children to their theatre shows and then walking them back after the performances. There are still a few volunteering slots available for Y6 classes, please get in touch if you need any further information. Everyone who has volunteered should have received an email with details of timings for the different year groups. Any questions, please email: southvilleprimarypta@gmail.com

**Next PTA meeting –
Wednesday 12th January 2022
Location: Myrtle Site
Time: 7:30pm**