



# NEWSLETTER

**Happy Friday!**

## **Camp**

As I write, the year 6 children who went on camp will be taking part in their final, and biggest challenge of the week: packing! I have been receiving regular updates and it is fair to say they have had a brilliant time and have been a credit to their school and families.

To Year 6 parents and carers awaiting their return, we will use the newsfeed to keep you posted regarding their estimated time of arrival back at school.

I wanted to give a special thank you to our amazing team of staff who went with the children this week: Ms Poole, Mrs Moody, Mrs Mathias, Mr Skull, Mr Moreno, Mr Rogers, Miss Moore and of course Mr Ellershaw who organised the trip and ensured all went smoothly. I wanted to give an additional mention to our old friend Mr Millard who volunteered his services to join us for one more week. We were all really pleased to see him and very grateful to him 'slotting back in' before he starts a new job in a secondary school next week. The adults have all given their time, energy and care to help the children have a week that they will remember forever - what a great bunch they are.

Finally, well done to the year 6 children who remained with us in school. They have been a really mature and positive presence in the school, showing excellent independence and being a great support to the younger children too.

## **Weduc/ socials**

Last Friday we launched our new social media channels and I asked for your patience with any teething issues.

I have a feeling that at the first part of the week we may have put that patience to the test because the teething issues were many and persistent. I am sorry for any excessive 'pinging', on Monday in particular, as we worked through issues with syncing the accounts but these have now been resolved and hopefully you have found the rest of the week much smoother.

The way the channels will be working going forward is as follows.

The Weduc newsfeed will include posts related solely to your child's year group, plus any whole school news we feel will be of interest to you. This will all be duplicated across our Twitter/X, Facebook and Instagram accounts.

When we moved away from the old newsletter, some parents said they missed the insight into what other year groups are doing and we are intending for the social media channels to provide this insight. So, if you want to keep it pertinent to your child(ren), stick with Weduc. If you want to keep

updated with everything (for example Year 6 Camp this week), please follow us on one of the following:

Twitter/X: @southville\_prim

Facebook: Southville Primary Newsfeed -  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61552104543042>

(please note, the Southville Primary School facebook profile page is necessary for us to have but won't be used for posting)

Instagram: southville\_prim

### **Green Plants**

Miss Ash has been dotting green plants all around the school recently and we love them! There is lots of research about the impact of having living plants in our living, working and learning spaces and so we are looking to increase the number we have in the school to further enhance our environment.

At the start of next term, if you would like to donate a potted plant to your child's classroom we would love it! Maybe you have a potted plant in need of a new home, or you are able to take cuttings from one of your plants to create a new one. Either way, please bear us in mind. We will find a home for any size or shape.

Thank you in advance!

### **Blooming Bedminster**

We're winners!

We were delighted to learn that we had won a prize in the Blooming Bedminster competition due to the pots by the front door at Merrywood.



Thank you to Mrs French and Miss Ash, for all of their hard work to keep this area along with the Merrywood garden area looking so blooming lovely!

### **Rugby**

Our year 6 girls were back in action last week and this time it was a chance to showcase their tag rugby skills, which coincides with the Men's Rugby World Cup currently taking place in France. The girls did a fantastic job of representing the school and managing to bag themselves a respectable 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> place finish out of 14 other primary school teams. Both teams won the majority of their games and were unlucky losers in their final deciding matches. This didn't stop the girls from walking away with a smile on their faces, having showcased fantastic weaving, dodging, passing and tagging skills throughout the day!



Next up for Southville will be basketball in term 2! Further information on this will follow in the coming weeks.

### **Cross Country**

A huge well done to our cross-country runners who braved the drizzle yesterday evening. It was fantastic to see so many children representing Southville Primary School.

The Year 3/4 girls team and the Year 3/4 boys team came 2nd, and the Year 5 girls team and Year 5 boys team came 1st! There were lots of children in the top 3 individually as well.

Many thanks to all the parents and carers who took the children to the competition and to our SHINE after-school sports events partners for facilitating the event.

## OPAL Update

This week has been a superb week for Play on both sites.

The week started with a fantastic group of parents coming in over the weekend to start phase 3 of our Orchard project. Thank you to all those who came and gave up their Saturday to work in the space.

We:

- Strimmed
- Cut
- Built
- Raked
- Chopped
- Planted
- Re-planted

No area of the orchard was left un-disturbed!

We are now spreading 'Yellow Rattle' throughout the space to compete with the grass and in the future transform our grassed spaces into meadows full of wild flowers. We have also been offered Hazel from one of our parent community so we'll be arranging with him shortly how we can take a group of children to help get this cut. We'll then use this to make living hedgerows.

On Monday we talked to all the children at Myrtle in an Assembly on the MUGA space. The PTA continue to support our play adventure and have just signed off new equipment for both sites that should be arriving very soon!!!!

On Tuesday Merrywood took delivery (Mr Potter found it on the street with a label saying take me!) of a huge playground favourite this week.



We've had races, crashes, tears and giggles. It has been great to see children sharing and taking turns.



On Wednesday we had a donation of a rope swing come in to my inbox. The children are desperate for 'swings' at the Myrtle site. We will now look to hang this from a tree within the space using carpet to protect the branch.

### **OPAL Donations**

We've had parents and carers bringing in donations over the past two weeks. We've loved getting lego, duplo, farm sets, dressing up outfits, soft toys. A parent has even offered a large circular outdoor seat. We welcome all quality donations to either site that would enhance the play opportunities for all children.

If you have anything that you would like to donate then please contact Mr Potter.

We always need

- Natural products (wooden planks, logs)
- Quality pallets to make dens
- Tarpaulin

### **Family play opportunities**

Mr Potter is looking in to ways to provide family play opportunities. Current thinking is to open up the play space on a Friday after school for different year groups to be able to stay and play on site for a length of time.

If you have any other ideas Mr Potter would love to hear them.

Have a fantastic weekend, Andy Bowman