

Newsletter 29 12/06/2020

Dear Parents,

It is hard to believe it is only five weeks until the end of this academic year! It has been an eventful year but as a school community, we have all worked together to overcome the challenges we have faced.

This week we were joined by the Year 1 children who returned to school on Monday, and next week we are looking forward to Year 6 coming back. We know that the children in Years 2, 3, 4 and 5 are very disappointed not to be returning and we understand, and share, the frustration they and their parents are feeling. At the present time, using the current government guidance for schools on social distancing and the size of class groups, we will unfortunately not be able to accommodate any other year groups. As each class needs to be split in half, with a dedicated teacher to create a 'bubble', we are using 12 of our 14 available classrooms for the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6. The groups for the children of key workers use the remaining 2 classrooms. All available staff are deployed, with either the year groups that have returned or the key worker group. Without *substantial* changes to the government guidance, sadly we will not be able to welcome back any other groups at this time although we would love to be in a position to do so. We will continue to monitor the situation carefully and if there are any changes we will be in contact.

For the children not currently in school we are committed to providing the best remote learning that we can and ensuring the children stay as connected as possible. Moving forwards we are hoping to be able to organise some form of induction for the children from Reception to Year 5 so that they can meet their new teachers for next academic year before the end of term. We are still considering options and how we could make it work safely and once we have the details for this we will be in touch.

As you know, we have teachers who are expecting a baby or have recently become a parent, and we therefore have some new staff joining us in September. We were very lucky to have attracted a very high calibre field and I am delighted that we have appointed three fantastic teachers who are all very experienced. I know they will make great additions to the Southfield Park Team and I am sure you will all join me in extending a very warm welcome. The new teachers are Mr Nick Wellman and Miss Hannah Cook, who have both come from other schools in Surrey, and Miss Scarlett Fosbueary who joins us from a school in Sussex. I will be writing to parents to confirm the teachers and teaching assistants for each class for 2020-2021, in the coming weeks.



Please remember that whether your child is in school or working remotely from home we continue to be focused on the very best for ALL the children. Staff are always available, either working in school or remotely, and happy to answer any questions you may have about their learning via Google Classrooms or email and to give any other advice they can at this tricky time. We know that children's emotional wellbeing is vital and Mrs Miniuks, our Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA), is also available to offer advice and strategies to help you. Rest assured we will do whatever we can to ensure everyone remains safe and happy, and keeps learning even though school is very different at the moment.

Have a relaxing weekend,

Kind regards, Kate Gee



The Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge is a fun event which encourages children aged 4 to 11 to enjoy the benefits of reading for pleasure over the summer. The Challenge will run from 5 June to mid-September. This year, the Summer Reading Challenge's Silly Squad will celebrate funny books, happiness and laughter. Children taking part in the Challenge will join the Silly Squad, an adventurous team of animals who love to have a laugh and get stuck into all sorts of funny books!

With the disruption caused by Covid-19 and the impact of social distancing on schools and public libraries, the 2020 Challenge will launch in a new digital format designed to keep children engaged and interested in reading.

The Summer Reading Challenge website https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/is free to access and features games, quizzes and downloadable activities.

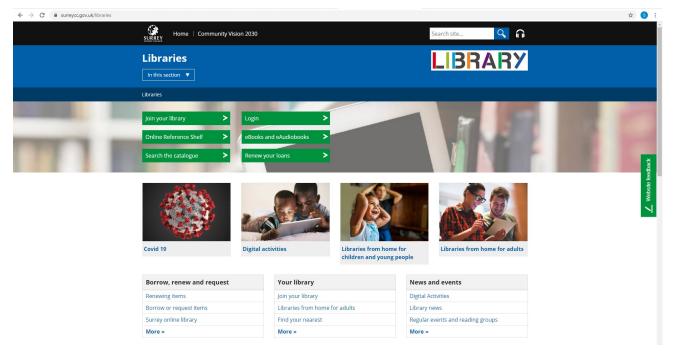
Just visit your local library website to find out how you can access eBooks, audiobooks, comics and magazines for free that you can use to complete the Challenge at home.

It is a great way to keep up your child's reading skills, interest and confidence. We hope that lots of our children from Southfield Park will take part.

Have fun reading!



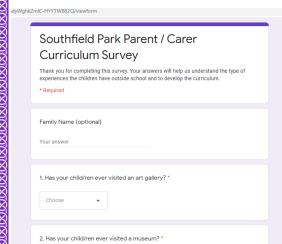




Parent and Carer Curriculum Survey

Over the last two years we have been revising the curriculum that we offer at Southfield Park so that it not only meets the requirements set out in the National Curriculum, but also well matches the needs of our current pupils. You may have noticed that many new skills and experiences have crept into your child's learning recently: from African Batik in Year 6 to the study of Pointillism in Year 1.

We aim for a curriculum that is engaging and memorable. Children and parents often tell us that these 'extras' are what make Southfield Park the place it is and ex-pupils always remind us how important and memorable these experiences are. We are currently rethinking many of the trips, extra events and opportunities that we offer so that they will best support the children in their learning and enrich the curriculum we offer.



We would really appreciate your input by completing the short questionnaire by clicking on the link below. The questionnaire aims to give us an understanding of the kinds of experiences the children already have outside school. This valuable information will support us to make decisions about the extra experiences we would like to offer as the children progress through the school, so that they have the best possible opportunities here.

<u>Click here</u> to open the survey or copy and paste this link:

 $\frac{https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfbo7VZ0LLprv6JqSc4Rvv51Rb6_8dyWghk2mlC-HYYTW882Q/viewform?usp=sf_link}{}$

The more questionnaires we receive back the more informed the curriculum revisions will be, so as an incentive we will be giving a class treat to the class with the most parents returning their questionnaires. Your responses can be named or they can be anonymous, and either way we look forward to receiving your completed questionnaire.

Your support with this would be greatly appreciated.

Regards

Sally Smith

Assistant Head Teacher



Times Tables Rock Stars



Last week's challenge......

Who can earn the most coins?

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It has been lovely to see so many children playing TTRS and seeing the progress they are making. The leader in this week's challenge has been changing throughout the week. The children were unable to see anyone else's scores so had no idea how they were doing compared to others - this is so they don't give up if they think the highest score is out of their reach. However, Mrs Page was able to see how the children were doing, and could see children she had not previously seen using TTRS making their way up the leaderboard. So if your child hasn't been on TTRS for a while, it's not too late to get involved!

There were so many high scores with over 40 children earning more than 1000 coins. Congratulations to the top 3 coin earners!

1st Rami in Shakespeare – 21483 coins 2nd Jesse in Faraday – 12,055 coins 3rd Joshua in Shakespeare – 11,929 coins

Next week's challenge....

Yeargroup Battles!!

The children really enjoyed their class battles, and for these they are able to see how many points their classmates and opponents are winning. So this week Year 5 will battle Year 4, and Year 3 will battle Year 2. As Year 6 are back in school next week there is no battle for them, but they can of course still play and earn coins for themselves.

In Battles all games count EXCEPT Soundcheck, and each correct answers score 1 point for your team. Battles commence today at 3pm and end at 7pm on Thursday 18^{th} June.



Congratulations to the following children, who have all answered over 500 questions correctly on NumBots this week:

Eva in Britten, Aoife, Ga-Ul and Freddy from Elgar, Edward in Lowry, Harrison in Newton, Amelia and Merryn in Shakespeare, Robert in Victoria and Charlotte in Attenborough.

All children in the school can play on NumBots by going to play.numbots.com. Children in years 2 to 6 should use their TTRS login. Parents of children in Reception and Year 1 can email Mrs Page to request their child's login. (jo.page@southfield-park.surrey.sch.uk).



