



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL

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Newsletter 2: 2nd February 2018



Dear Parents and Carers,

Internet Safety Session - thank you to those of you who attended the Internet Safety workshop led by Claire Graham (ICT Adviser)

Children in school have regular lessons relating to e- safety and the safe use of all technology and on **February 6th it is Safer Internet Day**. The Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP) Centre are offering advice to parents regarding internet safety. To find out more, information is available at: www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents. Other useful websites are <http://www.kidsmart.org.uk/parents/> which has a range of activities for younger children to get involved in with their parents. <http://www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/a-parents-guide> provides advice and guidance to parents on using devices, such as smart phones and gaming devices safely and responsibly. The NSPCC website has information on the 'Share Aware' campaign which gives information on social networks and tips on how to speak with young people. The campaign targets parents and carers of children aged 8-12 and aims to encourage them to understand online safety and to have conversations with their children about keeping safe online. A copy of our E-Safety policy can be found on our school website.

Gymnastics - Gail, a specialist coach, has been working with Reception on a Thursday afternoon this half-term to develop their gymnastic skills. After half-term she will work with Year 2 and next term some of our children will represent the school in the Key Steps Gymnastics Tournament.

Zoo Lab - Children in Year 1 and 4 enjoyed a workshop with Zoo Lab. They brought in some 'amazing animals' for Year 1 to see and those which you would find in the rainforest for our Year 4 children - all linked to their topics. Our children listened and looked very carefully and enjoyed the 'hands -on' aspect of handling some of the creatures e.g. giant stick insects. African snails, tortoises, snakes, cockroaches and tarantulas!



British Values, 'the Rule of Law' - On Monday we were delighted to welcome P.C. Stuart Johnson to school. He met the children and talked to them about the difference between our school rules and laws and the importance of being a good citizen in our school community. He loved our school song which reinforces our core values and explained to the children that they were very similar to the values he follows in the police force.



Nursery Places for September 2018 - Letters have been issued allocating Nursery places for September 2018 either by post or in school bags of siblings. Reply slips must be returned by half-term.

Arts Festival Week - On Tuesday 20th February each class will be holding an Art Exhibition after school. You are welcome to visit the classrooms from 3.30pm - 5.00pm, and purchase your own child's framed artwork -on sale for £5.

World Book Day takes place on Thursday 1st March 2018 - We would like to invite your child to come to school on World Book Day, dressed as a character from a book they particularly enjoy. It would be lovely if they could bring a copy of the book with them so they can share it with their class. Every child receives a £1 World Book Day Book Token



'A Thank You' from Tracy our school cook. Our numbers of children having a school lunch on census day increased slightly which enables her to maintain her staffing levels for the coming year.

Can you help? If you have any fancy dress costumes / items which would fit our older children we would be very grateful - our Year 3 and 4's are keen to join in but can't quite squeeze in to any of the costumes in our playground Imagination Box at lunchtime!

Reminders:

Book Look – 6th and 7th February. Invitations have been sent out inviting you to visit school so your child can show you their books. Please return reply slips by Monday so that we have an indication of numbers. **Please don't worry if you are unable to pop in on the day as you will have the opportunity to see your child's books at Parent's Evening after half-term.**



KS1 SATs presentation for parents - On Tuesday 13th March Mrs Myers and Miss McIntyre will deliver a presentation to parents on the new SATs tests which Year 2 children will sit in May. They will be offering a 9am session and repeating it at 5pm.

Friends of Southridge – G - Force Disco - 22nd March. The P.T.A. are organising a disco that will be held in the school hall at 5 - 6pm for Year 1 and 2 and 6.15 -7.15pm for Year 3 and 4. Entry is £3.00 on the door.

SPRING TERM DIARY DATES

FEBRUARY	
6 th	'Book Look' - KS1 9am and 3pm. Come along to the school hall, and have a look at your child's work. Safer Internet Day
7 th	'Book Look' - KS2 9am and 3pm. Come along to the school hall, and have a look at your child's work
8 th	Skipping Festival - for a group of Yr 2's 9.30 -12
9 th	Break up for half-term
	HALF -TERM
	16th - Chinese New Year - Year of the Dog
19 th	Arts Festival Week begins
20 th	Tuesday 20th February Exhibition for parents - to purchase child's framed painting. 3.30 - 5.00 Visit the classroom and view your child's artwork.
26 th - 28 th	HIGH BORRANS - YR 4 Mrs McIntosh / Mrs Young
28 th - 2 nd	HIGH BORRANS - YR 4 Mr Harrington
MARCH	
1 st	World Book Day - children are invited to come in to school dressed as a character from their favourite book. Please bring your book to share with others.
5 th	Pupil Progress Meetings / Parents Evening 3.45pm - 5.45pm Reception - Year 4 Morning Nursery - 9.30 to 11.15 am and 3.45pm to 5.45pm Afternoon Nursery - 1.00 to 3.15pm and 3.45pm to 5.45pm
6 th	Pupil Progress Meetings - same times as 5 th March ** SPORT RELIEF EVENT: Come to school in Sports Kit and make a £2 donation** (Note -change of date)
7 th	Mother's Day Gift Shop (afternoon)
8 th	Mother's Day Gift Shop (morning) Reception - St Mary's Church (am) Year 4 Dance rehearsal - (aft) / Year 4 Dance Festival - Evening Performance - Whitley Bay Playhouse
12 th	BRITISH SCIENCE WEEK - Theme of 'exploration and discovery' Reception - St Mary's Church (am) SPORT RELIEF - Please note that our school event will now take place on Tuesday 6th March

