

Year 3

Welcome back to another exciting term.

Although it's been a short week with have completed so much! The children have settled back into learning well with Elm class quickly adapting to their new teacher and environment.

On Wednesday we found a crime scene in the Den, it appears that we had a visitor! The children found clues (footprints, scales, scratch marks, upturned chairs and tables) and soon found an eyewitness to the events. Mrs Gordon explained what she had seen and heard. This exciting start is helping with our writing this term based on our new book 'How to Train a dragon'. Our first task was to use the eyewitness account to develop our use of speech punctuation.

In maths we have started of new unit in fractions looking at unit, non-unit and comparing fractions with the same denominator.

Year 6

Welcome back and a Happy New Year to all our families! It has been great to see Year 6 return for the spring term with great enthusiasm and being ready to learn. This week, we have begun tackling our unit of work on adding and subtracting fractions in maths. The children have applied their knowledge of times tables well to find the lowest common denominator when converting fractions and have begun to convert their answers into mixed numbers. In art, we have begun studying modern art with a particular focus on David Hockney's work. We were incredibly impressed with the children's ability to compare and analyse his work. Some of our work even made it onto the WOW board in the reception area of school. In English, we have begun studying our new book 'The Viewer by Shaun Tan and Gary Crew.' We look forward to exploring this text in more depth next week.

Year 4

Welcome back year 4! We hope you had a wonderful break.

This week, we were all stuck in a storm and a shipwreck in our writing lessons. We have also been recapping expanded noun phrases with prepositions. In maths, we have been looking at the 11 times tables and challenging ourselves ready for the next multiplication test in week 2.

In art, we have been looking at Wassily Kandinsky and expressionism paintings. We have also started our fitness unit in PE this term! How many press ups can you do in 30 seconds?

Year 5

Welcome back and Happy New Year! To start this term off, year 5 have explored our topic of Space through the art style of 'foreshortening'. We drew round our hands and feet before sketching a figure of ourselves. On black paper, we then used oil pastels to create a space scene which we placed our figures on top of. This has created fantastic pictures that look as if we are floating in space.

From this, we have started reading our key text, 'The Kid Who Came From Space' and discussed our predictions about what would happen next to the main characters. We are enjoying this adventure story and have started to explore settings of different planets in space using a clip of Pandora from the film Avatar as a stimulus.

PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 2024

If your child is due to start a primary or junior school in 2024, make sure to submit their school application form, listing your top three preferred schools before the 15th January 2024. Remember to place for first choice at the top.

You need to apply for a transfer to a junior school even if your child currently attends an infant school. Your child doesn't automatically qualify for a school place if they attend the related infant school.

Please find out more information by clicking on the link below.

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20071/school places and admissions/427/primary school places and admissions

ATTENDANCE

Reminder that school starts at 8.25am daily and this is the time we would expect children to be coming through the school gates. It has been noted that some of the children are playing football on the basketball courts until just before the gates close and then coming in late. When you see the school gates open, please come straight into school and do not continue playing football as this was becoming a problem towards the end of last term causing late gate closures.

Please can we also remind parents that if your child is off school unwell, it is the parent responsibility to phone the school office (01793 822405) and leave a message on the absence line by 8:25am with your child's name and reason for their absence e.g. headache, high temperature.

PE DAYS

PE days for next week (week commencing Monday 8th January) will remain on the same days as last Term.

There may be a change to your child's PE day for the remainder of the term. If this is the case for your child, this will be communicated to you in due course.

ARBOR PARENT PORTAL

We are very excited to announce that we have moved our school MIS system from Pupil Asset to Arbor.

Why Arbor? Adopting Arbor will allow us to communicate with you more efficiently and bring all core school data and workflows into one system.

When will this happen? We will be going LIVE with Arbor from Monday 8th January 2024. From 8th January 2024, all school communications (SMS and emails) will come from Arbor and no longer from Pupil Asset. Please ensure you delete Pupil Asset and whitelist Arbor so you do not miss any communications from your School.

What do I need to do? We are really looking forward to getting started with Arbor and invite all our parents to familiarise themselves with Arbor.

Will there be a Parent Ap as before? We will be launching the new Arbor Parent Ap 8th Jan 2024. Please look out for your 'Welcome email' from Arbor on how to log on. Please read attached information leaflet.



We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Arbor App





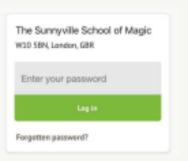
We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

How to get started

- 1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready you won't be able to log in before
- 2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
- 3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
- 4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
- 5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
- 6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday



Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

- Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor.
 Ask us to check the email address linked to your account.
- 2. Reset your password from the login page, or ask us to do this.
- If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the password link will have expired. Ask us to send it again.
- Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
- 5. Enter the birthday of one of your children to log in.
- Only relatives who are Primary Guardians of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.

