

SIS News

Sitwell Infant School



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Message from Mrs Peart

We have had a wonderful start to the summer term, and this week I was very proud to share our amazing school with two OFSTED inspectors. It has been a long time since our last inspection, but we have continued to work hard to ensure our school is the best that it can be. It was a pleasure to share the work we have been doing in school with the inspectors and they agree that all children are happy, safe and thriving whilst they are with us.

The inspectors were very impressed with all aspects of school provision, particularly children's personal development and the leadership and management of the school. We are now awaiting the draft final report, which we have to agree and the report will then be published for parents. It can take up to 30 days for this to happen, but we will share this with you as soon as we can. I want to say a huge, heartfelt thanks to any parents & carers who spoke with the inspectors or completed the parent survey – the inspector shared with us that we are the only school he has ever inspected where parents made no negative comments about school. We are very proud that all parents are happy with the provision we offer at Sitwell Infants.

I can't believe we are preparing for our final half term with the children for this academic year! Time really has flown by this year. We will be so sad to be losing our Y2 children in the summer. We are already planning a fantastic Leavers Breakfast event and we will share information about this as soon as we can. See dates below for our end of year assemblies/events that parents will be invited to.

Diary Dates

Friday 23rd May – school closes for half term holiday

Monday 2nd June – INSET day – school closed

w/c 9th June – Y1 Phonics Screening Check week

Tuesday 10th June – EYFS Classes visit to Cannon Hall farm

Tuesday 17th June – One Voice concert at Magna

Wednesday 18th June – KS1 Classes visit to Cleethorpes

Monday 23rd June – Y2 Family Learning event – myths and magic

Educational Visits/Visitors

Children in KS1 had a fantastic enrichment visit on Thursday last week where Zoolab came into school for the day. It was so exciting as they brought real life animals with them and the children even got to touch and hold some of them! I was so impressed with how sensible the children were and how much they learned about the animals!

We are very excited to be taking the children out of school on more educational visits next half term. Sunflower, Buttercup & Daisy Classes are going to be visiting Cannon Hall Farm on Tuesday 10th June to find out about a working farm. Rose, Tulip, Bluebell, Poppy & Snowdrop Classes will visit Cleethorpes on Wednesday 18th June.

We know these visits will be very memorable for the children. Please make sure you have made your final payment for the visits if you have not yet done so.

A letter with further information about each of the visits will be sent out to you shortly. If you would like to offer help on the day with your child's class, please email

pastoralteam@sitwellinfantschool.co.uk to put your name down.

Parents will be expected to support and care for a small group of children during the visit and we will be arriving back in Rotherham at 4.30pm when we visit Cleethorpes so only put your name forward if you can do this.

Attendance

As part of our continued work to support families with attendance and punctuality at school, we are looking closely at lateness, both at the beginning and end of the school day. Children should arrive at school and be picked up every day promptly. We log all lateness so that we are able to monitor this and share our concerns with parents if we see a pattern arising. **We have had to make the decision that if parents are regularly late to pick their child up from after school provision, they will not be able to attend in the future.** Please make sure you are here to collect your child on time every day.

Just a polite reminder that if you are making appointments for your child, please try and do this outside of school time or later in the afternoon as if they miss their mark in a morning, this classes as an absence.

This year, we are below our whole school target of 96% - our attendance is currently **95.1%**. Please support us to get closer to our target by the end of the year by sending your child every day!

Wraparound Care

Our wraparound care provision is up and running and the children who are attending are loving the activities on offer each day. If you need wraparound care, you can sign your child up for Breakfast Club in the morning and Tea Club in the afternoon via your Arbor app. Bookings must be made at least 24 hours in advance so that we can make sure we have adequate levels of supervision for the children. Breakfast Club runs from 7.45 – 8.45am each day and Tea Club runs from 3.15 – 5.45pm each day. Breakfast Club is £3 and Tea Club is £10.

We are offering one free taster session for children to attend over the next half term. This way you can sign them up for one or both of the clubs to see if they would like to attend. Please get in touch with reception to do this and we will waive the charge.

Class Photographs

We had our class photographs booked in for last Wednesday morning, but they had to be cancelled due to the OFSTED visit. We will let you know once we have secured a new date.

Arbor Parent App

We are now using the Arbor Parent App for all shop payments, club bookings and messages. If you have not yet signed up, please do so as soon as possible to ensure you are receiving messages from us.

Year 1 Phonics Screening Check

All children in Year 1 will take the Phonics Screening Check at some point during the week beginning 9th June. This is a national assessment, which all schools must undertake. Children will complete the check that week and then the results of this will be shared with you in their Record of Achievement in July. We will share whether your child has passed the check or not. We are practicing this regularly in school at the moment and a further assessment will be completed this week. We will share information with parents whose children may not be on track so you can support them at home over the next few weeks.

Transition

We are currently finalising our new classes for F2 (Reception) and we will be sending home transition packs for those children by the end of the week. We will send these with siblings in our school and the Juniors. Please make sure to complete the paperwork as soon as possible and bring back to school so we can begin to add them to our system. You will then be able to order uniform etc for them. If you have any questions about this, please get in touch.

Leavers Breakfast & Celebration Assemblies

Please see dates and times below for our end of year assemblies:

Foundation 2 – Tuesday 22nd July @ 2.15pm

Year 1 – Wednesday 23rd July @ 9am

Year 2 – Tuesday 22nd July @ 9am

Nursery Provision

We are very excited to be opening our own F1 (Nursery) class from September. We have already filled all the places we have for September. We are asking parents to sign their child up as soon as possible by completing an application form – even if your child is only a baby or toddler make sure to get them on the list! Please pop into reception to get an application form.

Vacancies in school

We are currently advertising for the following positions in school:

Receptionist & Admin Assistant – we are adding to our admin team in school and the successful candidate will work alongside Mrs Harrand in our school office. This post is to begin in September.

Teaching Assistant & Lunchtime Leader – we are adding to our support staff team and the successful candidate will support teaching and learning in Year 1/Year 2. This post is to begin in September.

Lunchtime Leader – we are adding to our lunchtime team. This post is to begin as soon as possible.

Caretaker – we are seeking a new caretaker following the retirement of Mr Coley. This post is to begin as soon as possible.

If you are interested in any of the above posts, or you know someone who is, please visit our website for full information [here](#).

RMBC is also advertising for the School Warden Crossing Patrol role, which is to replace the crossing patrol on Broom Lane. You can find further information about this post [here](#).

NHS Rotherham - fundraising

We have been asked by the NHS to help them to raise vital funds for our local Rotherham Hospital & Community Charity. We will be hosting a 'Wear It Blue Day' on 1st July, alongside the Junior School. More information will be shared nearer to the time.

Lockdown Procedures

As part of the work that all establishments have to do in light of Martin's Law, we are currently working on our lockdown procedures, and we are aiming to hold our first invacuation drill next half term. We will share the process of this with you nearer to the time and we will talk with the children about instances where we may need to stay in school to keep ourselves safe. We are planning this procedure carefully so that it is appropriate to our children and prepares them for doing this at the Junior School.

Google Classroom

Thank you to those who have already logged into Google Classroom and are accessing our Home Learning activities and finding out about the exciting learning activities taking place each week. It is lovely to see some of the things you are getting up to at home as well! **We still have a small amount of families who have not yet logged on.** If you need support with this, please come and speak to us. We don't want your child to be missing out on important learning and information from their class.