

SIS News

Sitwell Infant School



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Message from Mrs Peart

Well we are coming to the end of another busy but fabulous half term in school; I can't quite believe how quickly this year has gone by!! As we are getting ready for our final half term together, there is lots of planning going on in the background to prepare school for our new academic year in September. We are excited once again about some of the amazing things we have planned for our school next year!

As communicated earlier this month, we are beginning to plan the new classes for September and have asked each child for their friendship choices for their new class. The Senior Leadership Team will be working closely over the next few weeks to carefully create new classes. As we have a mixed Year 1/Year 2 class, the children have to be moved each year into brand new classes and although this is a huge piece of work, we feel that it helps them to develop a range of friendships throughout their three years with us.

We are also working closely with the Junior School staff to ensure our children moving into Year 3 are well supported and prepared. The letter with key dates for transition to the Junior School was sent home last week – please make sure to save the dates and attend the sessions if you can.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you into school for our Platinum Jubilee Garden Party celebration on Friday 27th May – we do hope lots of you will be able to join us for the afternoon! Further information about the day is below.

Diary Dates

Wednesday 25th May @ 9am – Coffee Morning

Friday 27th May @ 1.30pm – Jubilee Garden Party (picnic on the school field)

Friday 27th May – school closes for the half term holiday

Monday 6th June – School closed for INSET day

Tuesday 7th June – School reopens

w/c 7th June – Year 1 children take Phonics Screening Check

Friday 10th June – Classes 1-5 visit Yorkshire Wildlife Park

Tuesday 14th June – Classes 6, 7 & 8 visit Butterfly House

Reading books going home

We are in the process of moving to a new approach to the reading books that children choose to take home each week and as part of these changes, the books that we use in school are being updated.

Many of the books that we have on our corridor are no longer appropriate for the children to read alongside the Read, Write Inc books that we also send home. Over the next few weeks, we will be updating the books that children can choose to take home from the corridor, and these books will be known as our 'Reading for Pleasure' books which the children may not be able to read independently, but rather enjoy with a grown up at home at bedtime. These books will have a special 'Reading for Pleasure' sticker on them and will be used alongside the Read, Write Inc books that will be sent home for children to practice reading independently. **As we are making these changes, your child will be able to choose a book from their classroom or can read a selection of books you may have at home.** Please continue marking their reading in their diary each week!

In the afternoon of the Garden Party on Friday 27th May, we will put out the reading books that we will not be using in school anymore for parents to take to read at home with their children. **These are available free of charge so please feel free to bring a carrier bag and take plenty!**

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations

On Friday 27th May, we will be holding a special celebration day in school to mark the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth. This is an amazing achievement and something that we feel is important for the children to learn more about. Children are welcome to come to school dressed in red, white and blue for the day and they will be taking part in fun activities throughout the morning, finding out about Queen Elizabeth's 70 wonderful years of service to her country. The children will be creating a special personalised tea towel to mark the occasion that will be available to purchase as a special memento of this year. Further information about this will be shared next week.

In the afternoon, we are inviting all parents to come into school to join us for a special jubilee picnic on the school field. The children will make some sandwiches and treats that we will share in the afternoon, but you are more than welcome to bring a picnic of your own to enjoy in school with your child.

The afternoon will begin at 1.30pm and the picnic will be opened by the children singing a special song for parents that they have been learning. Following this, we will all sit on the school field together and hopefully enjoy a lovely afternoon in the sun! It would be helpful if you could bring along a blanket or two to sit on.

For safeguarding reasons, **parents can arrive from 1.15pm but must arrive by 1.30pm** as the gates will be closed and there will be no one in the school office to open them after this time. Please note that the special event is subject to fair weather so fingers crossed it doesn't rain! We really hope as many of you as possible will be able to come and join us for this special afternoon.

Transition Plans

Please see below the outline of key information and dates that we have planned to support you and your children through transition into their next year group:

Friday 8th July

Record of Achievement

Each child will come home with their Record of Achievement, which will detail their end of year assessments, attendance record and a class 'Pen Portrait' will also be included so you and your child are aware of their new class staff team.

Wednesday 13th July - Friday 15th July

Transition visits

All children in school will move up to their new class for three full days. You will bring and collect your children as normal and we will organise them into their new classes once we have taken the register in their existing classroom. Children will then return to their class at the end of the day ready for collection at the normal place at home time.

Wednesday 13th July - 3-4.30pm

Parent Walkabout

Parents are invited into school to speak with their child's class teacher if they have any questions about their Record of Achievement, as well as spend time visiting their child's new classroom.

Year 2 parents have all been sent a letter from the Junior School with key dates for transition. Please get in touch if you have not received this.

Coffee Morning - 25th May

Thank you to those parents and carers who were able to join us for our Coffee Morning in April. Our next Coffee Morning will be held on Wednesday 25th May at 9am in the Sunshine Room. Come and join us for a cuppa and chat. Mrs Peart, Mrs Richmond and Mrs Khan will be available to answer any questions you may have. We look forward to seeing you there.

Eid celebrations

We had a wonderful time in school on Friday 6th May, celebrating Eid with all our children and families. It was lovely to be able to invite you in to join us in the afternoon. We hope you enjoyed it as much as we did! We are very grateful for all of the amazing donations of food that we received throughout the day – the children (and staff!) loved it! It was a really magical day which I hope was really meaningful and special for all of our children who celebrate Eid.

Lateness

We are concerned about the amount of children that are arriving late to school on a regular basis. There is also a small group of children who are often collected late, which is also a worry. The start and end of the school day are very clear – **8.45am and 3pm** – and parents should ensure they are in the playground for this time. Where we continue to have concerns about this, we will organise meetings with parents to plan for this to improve.

After School Provision

Live & Learn are again offering after school clubs next half term on Tuesday's and Thursday's 3.15pm-4.15pm. The club on a Tuesday will be Cricket and this will run from Tuesday 7th June until Tuesday 12th July (6 weeks). The club on a Thursday will be short Tennis and this will run from Thursday 9th June until Thursday 14th July 2022 (6 weeks). Children can attend both clubs if this is required.

If you would like your child to take part in one or both of these clubs, please contact the school office. They will begin the first week back and the cost is £18.00 for each club. Payment will need to be made before Monday 6th June to secure your child's place. As usual, we expect these clubs to be very popular and places will be offered on a first come first served basis.