



Issue 1 08/09/2017

Sundon Park Junior School Weekly Newsletter

Message from the Headteacher

I'd like to offer you a very warm welcome to the first of our weekly news letters for this year.

The children have spent the week focusing on expectations for work and behaviour around the school. They've had tasters of key aspects of the curriculum such as handwriting, spellings, English, maths and PSHE, to make sure they are ready to live up to our high expectations when the formal timetable begins next week.

At lunchtime the children have been having fun taking part in a wide variety of activities to help them to settle back into school and to make new friends in a safe way. Each year group has a zone in which they can play games with other children, using a variety of equipment. This helps the younger children to feel safe on the playground whilst ensuring our expectations for behaviour for all the pupils are understood and followed. These arrangements will be reviewed in a couple of weeks to see how they are working with the School Council being included in this review.

The library is open for any children to read quietly from 1.00 until 1.30 every day and is manned by the Family Worker or another member of the pastoral team should the children wish to speak to them. The Courtyard has quiet activities such as games and colouring for those children who prefer a more peaceful space and Mrs Reed is already working hard with the children to make sure the flower beds are ready for winter. The fenced-off area of the playground is once again being used by the Playground Buddies to run activities for any children who want to make new friends with a little support from these year 6 pupils. The ICT clubs will begin next week with Mr Hume helping the children to develop their knowledge and skills.

We do not have zones on the playground at morning break so the children are free to play together. The older children have been asked to give the Year 3 children some time to settle in at the beginning of term.

Music and PE lessons have already started, with the specialist music teachers from Luton Music Service coming in to work with all the classes and our own Mr Osborne, a PE specialist, working with all the classes at least once a week.

We offer a wide range of clubs and activities before and after school. The letters for these went out earlier in the week and there has been a massive response for places. Where these are run by a member of our school staff there is no charge, but we have no choice but to charge for those offered by outside coaches as they have to be paid for their time. If you have a child who would like to take part and is on free school meals, please come in and speak to Mrs Outlaw as we are often able to fund places in clubs in these circumstances.

It has been lovely to see so many of you at the gate in the morning. You will find Mr Bradbury (our Family Worker), Mrs Reed (our Behaviour Support Administrator), Mrs Mackenzie-Skea (Deputy Headteacher) outside with me most days. Please do take the opportunity to say hello and to ask any questions you may have - we are always pleased to help if we possibly can. Should you require a longer opportunity to talk to one of us, please ask for an appointment and we will be more than happy to arrange that. If you are concerned about an in-class issue - either academic or pastoral - please speak to the class teacher in the first instance. If you do not feel that the issue has been resolved, then please speak to Mrs Mackenzie-Skea, who is responsible for years 3 and 4, or Mrs Healy (Assistant Headteacher) who is responsible for Years 5 and 6.

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The Year 3 class teachers are there in the morning and at the end of the day if you'd like to have a quick chat. For other teachers, please let us know that you would like to speak to them and we will arrange for them to catch you at the end of the day, to give you a call, or arrange an appointment for you to come in to meet with them.

This year is going to be as busy and enjoyable for the children as last year was. I look forward to your support with your children's education and hope also to see you at the Autumn Fair on 30th September, which has been organised by The Friends of SPJS.

Mrs Wightman

Charities

Throughout the year we hold various charity events that not only support the school's fundraising efforts, but also national events such as Children in Need. We also choose a charity to support each year. In previous years we have raised over £1000 for Brain Tumour UK, McMaillan Cancer Support, CLIC Sergent, Action for M.E. and most recently Cystic Fibrosis Trust.

We would like your help in nominating our chosen charity for this year. In return, all we ask is your assistance in organising approximately one fundraising event per term. Please email your requests to school@sundonpark.luton.sch.uk.

School Clubs

Thank you to all parents/carers for your patience and co-operation during this first week when we are busy trying to arrange extra-curriculum activities for the children. There has been a phenomenal response and the only clubs that have spaces remaining are street dance and music theatre. We are aware that you have been inundated with information and appreciate the additional expense that can arise at this time of year.

It is encouraging that so many parents have taken advantage of the Supporting Primary School Pupil Fund as well as payment plans; we are always looking for additional ways of assisting parents with funding. There is still time for you to register for the £50 worth of funding, just contact the school office for more information. We always strive to ensure we receive the best value for money whilst still providing excellent coaches to support the children. The results of this can be seen in our fantastic end-of-term events where we get to see our talented children

School Dinners

As I am sure you are all now aware, our school meal providers have changed their cashless system to Tucassi.

Any debt or credit that was on the Allpay system will be transferred to the new system within the next two weeks. In the meantime, if you are not happy with paying on the Tucassi system you can take the barcode into any paypoint (Nisa Sundon Park included).

If you are experiencing problems registering on the new system please do not hesitate to contact us and we can arrange for you to come and make use of School IT equipment.

On Thursday the system experienced a software bug which massively inflated the balances of some users. This has now been corrected.



Food sharing

We do have some children in school who have allergies. To enable these children to participate in a full curriculum, can we please advise that nuts must not be brought into the school under any circumstances.

We would also request that you discuss food sharing with your child. Our school will be adopting a non-food sharing policy which requires children to eat only their own food. We are happy for parents to send goodies into school for children's birthdays; however, these will remain with the Teacher until the end of the day for children to give them straight to the adult collecting them, who can then make the decision as to whether they can eat them.



Weekly Awards

Class Leaders (08/09/2017)

This title is awarded to pupils who act as an example to the rest of their class.

Year 3

Sonni
Kaiza
Teegyn

Year 4

Kyrah
Millie
Chloe

Year 5

Lily
Sophie
Tanya

Year 6

Shianne
Nevaeh
Pricilla



PE Awards

Assiah

Jordan

Amy

Samuel

Lunch Menu



Monday

Cheese and Tomato Quiche
Peri Peri Chicken Wrap
Summer Vegetable Lasagne
✓
Melting Moments
Biscuits

Tuesday

Chicken Tikka Fish Burger
Aubergine & Lentil Tikka ✓
Strawberry Cheesecake
Chocolate Cookie

Wednesday

Pork Loin
Filled Yorkshire Pudding ✓
Apple Crumble & Custard
Lemon Drizzle Cake

Thursday

Lamb Moussaka
Chicken Caesar Pretzel
Macaroni Cheese ✓
Carrot Cake
Chocolate Brownie

Friday

Cheese and Tomato Pizza
and Chips ✓
Fish and Chips
Victoria Muffin
Toffee Yoghurt Ice cream

Please note that changes to the menu may take place due to unforeseen circumstances such as late deliveries.

Below is a brief overview of some of the curriculum topics being studied in class this term.

Year 3

Year 3's topic this term is 'Where are we?'. We are using geographical skills to study our local environment and community. In science we are learning about plants. We are able to use the school garden, pond and courtyard to support our learning. We will be learning new skills to sketch and paint in art this term. We will be using our scientific knowledge to add detail to our plant drawings.



Year 4

Our topic in Year 4 is entitled 'Mad Hatters'. We are incorporating the local history of hat making in Luton whilst we study the Victorians this term. In Design and Technology we will look at Victorian inventions and will link this to our science topic 'Electricity'. In art we will learn about the Victorian designer William Morris and will produce prints based on his designs.



Year 5



A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away..... This term in a school not so far away, the Year 5's are learning about the earth and space. They are incorporating their geographical skills, scientific skills and art skills to learn all about this exciting topic.



Year 6

Year 6 are using their archaeological skills to discover facts about the Ancient Egyptians in their topic 'Pyramids, Papyrus and Power'. They are using this as inspiration for their design and technology lessons and will be building cams and pulleys as they design models that would be able to move the great stones of the pyramids. They will be gaining a deeper knowledge about light in their science lessons. A bright future for year 6!

