

3rd November 2023

Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that you all enjoyed a wonderful half term holiday.

I feel tremendously privileged this week to have undertaken observations in each classroom. It has been an absolute joy to spend some quality time in each classroom observing the teaching and seeing the children excited about their learning and sharing their new learning and progress with me.

We look forward to welcoming you into school next week for the 'Watch Me Learn' lessons. I hope that you enjoy visiting your child's classroom, listening to the lesson and observing your child engaging in the learning. We hope that you leave with more understanding about how we teach phonics and reading at Silsoe.

Mrs S Boyle

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'S. Boyle'.

Headteacher

Class updates

Reception classes Acorn and Chestnut

This week reception classes have learnt about Diwali. The children enjoyed making Rangoli patterns with colourful rice and Diva lamps using paints.

Year 1 Willow and Hawthorn

This week Year 1 have been reading the sound collector by Roger McGough, which is the world going silent. The children have been using verbs and nouns to create their own sounds 'stole the stamping of the feet' and 'the bouncing of the ball'

In Maths they have been looking at numbers bonds up to 10 and in Geography they have been looking at the local area and simple maps.

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Year 2 Sycamore and Maple

This week we have learnt how to make felt, we have followed instructions and been able to create our own patterns in the felt.



How to make felt

- 1) Lay the bubble wrap bubble-side up on the table
- 2) Start with approx 10 g of wool roving to make the base for their felt map square.
- 3) Tease out thin pieces of wool fibre and lay them on the bubble wrap, placing the fibres in the same direction.
- 4) Make another layer on top, this time placing the wool fibres in the opposite direction
- 5) Repeat to make 3 or 4 layers.
- 6) Add colour and detail using colourful wool, keeping the design simple and the shapes quite big.
- 7) Try twisting fibres to make lines or smaller details.
- 8) Next lay a piece of net-curtain fabric over the top of the wool.
- 9) Add hot water to the centre of the wool.
- 10) Push down and out towards the edges of the wool, adding water until it feels wet all the way through.
- 11) Add a small amount of grated soap and work it into the wool
- 12) Remove the net curtain. Rearrange your design if necessary.
- 13) Roll up the felt tightly inside the bubble wrap.
- 14) Roll the tea-towel tightly around the bubble wrap and secure it with elastic bands
- 15) Now roll the felt inside the tea towel as if you were rolling out dough, pressing down firmly.
- 16) Unroll the tea towel then re-roll the felt in the opposite direction. Wrap the tea towel around it and repeat the process at least four times.
- 17) Once the felt has shrunk, it can be left to dry completely.



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Year 3 Pine and Palm

This week in Year 3 English lessons the children have been getting creative with their adjectives. They have been coming up with powerful adjectives to describe settings and turning these into expanded noun phrases. They have really enjoyed creating exciting ways to describe Neverland.

Year 4 Oak and Elm

Year 4 have started a new topic in science on sound and using data loggers to record sounds going around the school – loud and quiet noises.

In English they have started a new story called The journey – our journey has no pictures. They are writing descriptions using prepositions and fronted adverbials.

Conifer Class

The children have continued to access their personalised curriculum in English and Maths whilst building and strengthening relationships with their peers and adults. Some of the children continue to access some mainstream lessons in the afternoons.

In Geography lessons in the afternoons this week the children have been looking at maps and atlases.

This week the children have enjoyed making bonfire cupcakes.



General information

Contacting the school

We have had a few parents contact us to say that they have not had a response to an email that has been sent to the school. Please can all correspondence to the school be sent via admin@silsoelower.co.uk please do not reply to the SCOpay email address where most emails are sent via as we do not receive these emails.

Year 4 litter pick

Thank you to the children in Year 4 (and siblings) who during the half term break came together to litter pick around the school and the village. They did this to raise funds for their end of year leaving party. They were undeterred by the rain and collected lots of rubbish. Well done and thank you, we are super proud of you!



Coats

Please can all children be sent to school with named coats each day, we have had a number of children without coats over the past week and with the weather turning colder they will need these whilst playing outside.

Remembrance Service

Next Friday we will be walking to the Church for an act of worship to mark Remembrance day. If your child is part of the Beavers, Cubs, Rainbows or Brownies they are allowed to wear their uniform all day. If they are not wearing this uniform all children must be in School uniform and not PE kit or dress down.

Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

This year we will be taking part in the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal, this is to help children who would otherwise not receive a gift on Christmas morning. Please can we ask if you would like to donate any toys for this cause that the toys are brand new and unwrapped alternatively there is an Amazon wish list which has been created and these items can be sent directly to the Salvation Army. Please see link for the [Salvation Army wish list](#). If you do choose this option please can you let the school know, so we can pass on the details to the Salvation Army so they are aware to expect them.

If you would like to take part and donate a toy for Christmas please can these donations be made by the 1st December to the school office. Thank you.

Clubs for Autumn term 2

All leaflets are attached at the bottom of this newsletter and have been sent out separately today.

Monday mornings	Performing Arts Collective - KS1 (Years 1-2) Breakfast club 8-8.45am £3.50 per session – To sign up please click here_KS1 Breakfast Dance Club > https://app.classmanager.com/portal/performing-arts-collective-limited/enrolment/classes/silsoe-vc-lower-school-autumn-term-ks1-years-1-to-2-dance-club
Monday afternoons	
Tuesday Mornings	Premier education Gymnastics Y1 – 4 learning Gymnastics skills such as shapes, balances, jumps, rolls, traveling and using specialist Gymnastics Equipment throughout the sessions to book please click on School Activities Clubs for Kids - Premier Education Courses (premier-education.com)
Tuesday afternoons	Choir (currently full) – Music room Premier Education Archery Y1-4 using child friendly equipment and exploring the techniques of using a bow and arrow through fun and engaging games to book please click on School Activities Clubs for Kids - Premier Education Courses (premier-education.com)
Wednesday Mornings	
Wednesday afternoons	Jam coding club Y2 – 4 3.30-4.30pm 6 weeks of fun for just £45 please click on this link to sign up portal.jamcoding.franscape.io/class-overview/2110
Thursday Mornings	
Thursday afternoons	Performing Arts Collective – KS2 After school club 3.30-4.15pm £4 per session Please sign up by clicking here KS2 After School Dance Club > https://app.classmanager.com/portal/performing-arts-collective-limited/enrolment/classes/silsoe-vc-lower-school-autumn-term-ks2-years-3-to-4-dance-club
Friday Mornings	
Friday Afternoon	Tennis club – £39 for 6 lessons Sign up via SCOPay Years 3 and 4

Message from the PTA

Dear parents/carers,

We hope you all had a lovely half term.

We have a few event reminders for you, see details below:

Xmas4Schools - all children should have been sent home with a form from Xmas4Schools where they can create their own Xmas scene to be printed on to Xmas cards, calendars, mugs and tea towels. The deadline for this was Wednesday 1st Nov, however we have extended this until **9am on Friday 3rd Nov**.

Please make sure these forms are handed in to Reception or popped in the post box at the front of school. If any are handed after this date/time then they will not be included.

Disco - Thursday 9th November - there will be 2 sessions.

Session 1 - Reception and Year 1 running between 4pm - 5pm

Session 2 - Years 2, 3 and 4 running between 5.30pm - 6.30pm

Buy your tickets - [Purchase Disco Tickets Here](#)

Adult Xmas Quiz Night Saturday 9th December 7pm (Silsoe Village Hall)

Silsoe VC Lower School, Chestnut Avenue, Silsoe, Bedford MK45 4GP

www.silsoeschool.co.uk

01525 860 247

This is always a fun event where teams can get together to test their knowledge.

Booking is now open and you can sign up below

[Quiz Booking Here](#)

Santa Shop - Thursday 30th Nov and Friday 1st Dec

This is a lovely opportunity for the children to buy their families and loved ones a Xmas present which they choose all by themselves.

The shop will be running on Thursday 30th November and Friday 1st December during the school day, however we do need parent volunteers to help run this shop otherwise it cannot go ahead this year.

If you can spare any time during these 2 days then please sign up using the link below:

[Sign up here](#)

If you have any queries or questions then please get in touch by emailing silsoepta@gmail.com

Thanks

PTA Team

Vacancy

Midday Supervisory Assistant

Hours: Monday to Friday – 11.40am to 1.40pm, term time only plus 5 training days

Salary: £10.60 per hour

Start date: as soon as possible

Closing date: The vacancy will close when a suitable applicant is found, early applications are therefore advised

To apply please visit <https://www.mynewterm.com/jobs/109605/EDV-2023-SCVLS-55018>

Diary Dates

Please find below dates for the rest of this school year. Please note dates which have changed have been highlighted.

06/11/2023	9am	Y2 Watch Me Learn (approx. 45 mins) Parents invited to classrooms
07/11/2023	9am	Y1 Watch Me Learn (approx. 45 mins) Parents invited to classrooms
07/11/2023	4pm to 5pm	Open Evening for children starting school September 2024
07/11/2023	6pm to 7pm	Open Evening for children starting school September 2024
08/11/2023	9am	Y3 Watch Me Learn (approx. 45 mins) Parents invited to classrooms
09/11/2023	9am	Y4 Watch Me Learn (approx. 45 mins) Parents invited to classrooms

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09/11/2023	4pm to 5pm	PTA disco – R & Y1
09/11/2023	5.30pm to 6.30pm	PTA disco – Y2, Y3 & Y4
10/11/2023	10.45am	Remembrance service at the Church (Children only) Children can wear organisation uniforms e.g. rainbows & brownies, beavers & cubs uniforms
13/11/2023	All Week	Global Education Week
13/11/2023	9am	Reception class Watch Me Learn (approx. 45 mins) Parents invited to classrooms
21/11/2023	6pm	Year 1 phonics screening check information evening
22/11/2023	3.30pm to 4.30pm	Scholastic Book Fair YR, Y1 and Y2
23/11/2023	3.30pm to 4.30pm	Scholastic Y3 and Y4
24/11/2023	All day	Inset day
27/11/2023	All day	Y4 Trip to Hazard Alley
27/11/2023	TBC	Flu immunisation day YR, Y1, Y2, Y3
30/11/2023	During the day	PTA Santa Shop
01/12/2023	During the day	PTA Santa Shop
05/12/2023	11.30am	Choir singing at the Beehive
07/12/2023	2.00pm	Choir singing at Taymer Nursing Home
12/12/2023	9.30am to 10.30am	Christmas performance – Acorn, Hawthorn, Maple, Palm & Elm – details to follow
12/12/2023	2.15pm to 3.15pm	Christmas performance – Chestnut, Willow, Sycamore, Pine & Oak – details to follow
13/12/2023	9.30am to 10.30am	Christmas performance – Chestnut, Willow, Sycamore, Pine & Oak – details to follow
13/12/2023	2.15pm to 3.15pm	Christmas performance – Acorn, Hawthorn, Maple, Palm & Elm – details to follow
14/12/2023	Morning	1 st Century Palestine visit to the Church – Elm then Acorn (children only)
14/12/2023	Afternoon	1 st Century Palestine visit to the Church – Chestnut (children only)
15/12/2023	Morning	1 st Century Palestine visit to the Church – Oak then Willow (children only)
15/12/2023	Afternoon	1 st Century Palestine visit to the Church – Hawthorn (children only)
18/12/2023	Afternoon	Christmas parties – Children can wear party/Xmas clothes
19/12/2023	Lunchtime	Christmas dinner day – please order via School Grid
19/12/2023	9.30am	Christmas service at the Church – children to wear uniform or uniform with a Xmas top (children only)



OPEN EVENINGS

For children starting school in September 2024



Thursday 2nd November and Tuesday 7th November

3.45pm – Refreshments

4.00pm - Head Teacher's Welcome

4.10pm – Tour of School and Reception Classes

or

5.45pm - Refreshments

6.00pm – Head Teacher's Welcome

6.10pm - Tour of School and Reception Classes

To book your place please visit:

[Silsoe VC Lower School Open Evenings - Google Forms](#)

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Tel 01525 860247 Email admin@silsoelower.co.uk

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DISCO!



Thursday 9th November

4-5pm - Reception & Year 1

5.30-6.30pm - Year 2, Year 3 & Year 4

School Hall

Drop off at front, pick up at back!

£5 each

Includes unlimited drinks and a small treat to take home

[To help at the disco sign up here](#)

[Purchase tickets online here](#)



[To help at the disco sign up here](#)

[To purchase tickets click here](#)

<https://forms.gle/CJ5WMEzGQQ6EnVqo9>

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OUR CURRENT VALUE IS:

Peace

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

Matthew 5:9