

22nd March 2024

Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

At Silsoe Lower School we are a community that values and celebrates each person for their uniqueness and personal qualities. We are all different and bring a variety of experiences, skills, knowledge, languages and interests to school. Each person is encouraged to be themselves and be proud of who they are. Today we have enjoyed finding out about the diversity within our school with a particular focus on languages and heritages. It has been a real privilege to welcome members of family into school to share with the children about their home countries, traditions and the languages they speak. We are very grateful to our visitors for giving up their time to provide an insight into other countries around our world. Our celebrations today finished with a wonderful display of Irish dancing in our worship assembly. We were all in awe of the tradition, energy and enthusiasm which was demonstrated through the dance. Thanks go to Ava and Emily for sharing their love of Irish dancing in front of the whole school!

We truly are global citizens and it has been marvellous to celebrate this together this week.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Boyle'.

Mrs S Boyle
Headteacher

Reception Classes – Acorn and Chestnut

Reception classes have enjoyed their last week with the ducks, they have invited the whole school into the classroom (one class at a time) to watch the ducks enjoy their first swim.

In Maths the children have worked hard on halving numbers and enjoyed practising this independently sharing food

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Update on the ducks

They moved to their new home on Thursday and have settled in well, we will continue to get updates over the coming weeks and share them with everyone.

Year 1 – Hawthorn and Willow

In English this week Year 1 have been thinking about taking about an incredible adventure. They have spent time thinking about using exciting words for their imaginary adventure.

In Science they were finding out which material would be best to use when making ear muffs. They conducted an experiment to see which material would keep water warm for the longest period of time. They found out that a towel was the best for keeping things warm and when wrapped in cling film the water cooled the quickest.

Year 2 – Maple and Sycamore

In Year 2 they have been enjoying listening to the story 'Bear and the piano' in readiness to write their own stories next week.

In Maths they have been carrying out practical work looking at weight and capacity.

The children have also been continuing with their growing experiment, checking each day to see if their seeds have grown and have watered them.

The children have also begun learning about the Great Fire of London which will be their next topic.

Year 3 –Palm and Pine

In Year 3, pupils have been learning about newspaper reports. They have been learning to identify and understand the features of newspaper reports, such as headlines, captions, and quotations. Through interactive activities they have explored the purpose and structure of news articles. Pupils have gathered information about the recent Iceland volcanic eruption through role-playing exercises as they took on the role of news reporters and interviewees. Next week, the children will write their very own newspaper report.

Year 4 – Elm and Oak

In year 4 this week, we have learnt about mixed numbers and improper fractions in Maths and all the children have shown great understanding. Well done Year 4!

In Science, the children enjoyed learning about tooth decay and how and where they need to brush their teeth better by using the disclosure tablets. In French, we have been learning to say who we have in our family and what their names are. The children have shown great memory skills and enthusiasm and have used their learning to challenge themselves to say what their pets are called. Freddie in Elm decided to practise and extend his learning by working at home and writing all about his family, all in French! Bravo Freddie!

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.

We have been trying really hard with our reading this week – reading EVERY DAY!

In our Hamish and Milo sessions, we have continued to think deeply about friendship and what 'friendship' means. **

It was 'Eruption Day' for our volcanoes today! We had great fun using coke and Mentos in our volcanoes...

We have enjoyed looking at the ducks this week – they are so soft and cute!



Attendance for this week

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Acorn	94.2%	Chestnut	96.4%
Hawthorn	95.8%	Willow	98.6%
Maple	93.8%	Sycamore	89.8%
Palm	98.3%	Pine	98.7%
Elm	80.3%	Oak	81.5%
Conifer	71.9%		

Please find the link to the NHS website regarding 'Is my child well enough to be in school'
<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

If your child has a temperature for more than 2 days please take them to the doctor to get them checked for an infection.

Being late for school can affect your child's attendance, anyone arriving after 8.55 and entering through the front doors will be marked as late and anyone arriving after 9.15 will be marked as an unauthorised absence which will affect their attendance (unless there is an acceptable explanation).

Star and Leaves awards

This week we have continued to celebrate the successes of the children and the celebrations today have focussed on our International Languages Day and the fabulous diversity we have seen in in our school. Well done to everyone who has participated and represented their/their family's country of origin through their outfits.

General Information

Betsy's sponsored swim



Betsy in Year 2 managed to swim 60 lengths (1 mile) in 2 hours for Comic Relief on Friday 15th March. She raised a total of £1305. Betsy this is incredible well done we are all so proud of you.



St Patricks Day celebrations

Congratulations to Ava in Year 1 who took part in her first St Patricks day celebrations dancing at the Mall in Luton for her Irish Dancing school. You were amazing and we are so proud of you!

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Home languages day

Today, we celebrated throughout the school all the languages and cultures in our community.

The children shared with their classes all about the languages and festivals of their families.

Reception were visited by Mr Jorgensen to learn all about Norway and tasted home-made waffles. Year 1 was visited by Mrs Hill to learn about France and learnt a short rhyme in French. Year 2 were visited by Mrs Herd and the children learnt all about South Africa and learnt the 'Gum Boot' dance. Year 3 also learnt all about South Africa and from Mr and Mrs Renecke and they were given home-made milk tarts to try. Year 4 were visited by Mrs Batten who discussed with all the children all about France and in particular all about the differences between France and England with regard to food.

Finally, we ended our day with a spectacular performance of Irish dancing in worship by Emily Baker and Ava which was enjoyed by all.

We would like to thank all our visitors for their time they gave today and for all the effort they put into their sessions with the children, it is very much appreciated.







Norge (Norway)

Norwegian Alphabet

A B C D E F G H I
J K L M N O P Q
R S T U V W X Y Z
Æ Ø Å

Tall (Numbers)
1 en 2 to 3 tre 4 fire 5 fem
6 seks 7 sju 8 åtte 9 ni 10 tee

c, q, w, x and z are not used in the spelling of Norwegian words






Friluftsliv – 'Outdoor life'






Vaffler (heart shaped Waffles)
Vaffler are Part of 'kos' (having a good time) Togetherness and culture.

lilla (purple)
rød (red)
rosa (pink)
blå (blue)
svart (black)
grønn (green)
gul (yellow)

Farger (Colours)

Kan du fargelegge flagget - Can you colour in the flag?

	rød = red
Blå = blue	Kvit = white





Irish facts

- Halloween was invented in Ireland
- There are around 30,000 different castles in Ireland
- Ireland nickname is the Emerald Isle
- Ireland has more than 7000 pubs
- Ireland has the most gingerbread out of all of the countries in the world
- Ireland is the only country in the world to have a musical instrument as its national symbol
- Saint Patrick wasn't Irish
- Dublin was founded by the Vikings
- Dracula's writer was Irish
- The average Irish man drinks 100 litres of Beer a year
- In the late 12th century England took Ireland's language
- There are 32 counties in Ireland
- The longest river in Ireland is 370 KM
- The Titanic was built in Ireland in Belfast



Speaking South African?

- South Africa has 11 official languages, including English, Afrikaans, Zulu, Xhosa, siSwati, Sesotho, Xitsonga, Sepedi, isiNdebele, Setswana and Tshivenda.
- The language we are going to be speaking a bit of today is called Afrikaans, but we will get to that in a moment....

Numbers

- One – Een
- Two – Twee
- Three – Drie
- Four – Vier
- Five – Vyf
- Six – Ses
- Seven – Sewe
- Eight – Agt
- Nine – Nege
- Ten - Tien



Afrikaans

- The Afrikaans Language developed (started off) in South Africa
- Some simple Phrases are :-
- How is it going? – Hoe gaan dit?
- I am good – Ek is Goed
- And with you? – En met jou?
- I love you – Ek is leif vir jou
- Very good – Baie Lekker
- Sorry - Jammer



1) Italian Words

Nonna – translates to Grandma
Nonno – translates to Grandad

2) Traditional Italian Naming Convention

First son is named after their Dad's Dad (Grandad)
Second son is named after their Mum's Dad (Grandad)
First daughter is named after their Dad's Mum (Grandma)
Second daughter is named after their Mum's Mum (Grandma)

Chilli Children

Yesterday, we had a special worship led by Rachel Wilson from the charity 'Chilli Children'. Rachel told the children all about life in Uganda for children the same age as them. She also showed them photos and a video made by her daughter especially for Silsoe lower school. We are making great plans to make links with a primary school in Rukungiri, in South West Uganda. We hope to share letters and pictures with the school and raise money for the children for their projects.

Year 4 Preparing for transition to Middle School

We will be contacting all Year 4 parents toward the end of May regarding children walking to school without a parent. More information will be shared nearer the time, all children will still need to be accompanied to and from school after Easter.

Lost property

We have a large amount on un-named lost property. If your child has lost anything please come to the school office to check if we have it.

Anything uncollected by 4pm Thursday 28th March will be re-cycled or disposed of.

Easter Holidays

This is just a reminder that we break up for the Easter holidays next Thursday 28th March and will be returning after the Easter holidays on Tuesday 16th April.

Diary Dates

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

26/03/2024	3pm	Y4 Grafham parents meeting
27/03/2024	9.30am	Easter Service at the Church – parents invited – Y1, Y3 & Oak Class
27/03/2024	2pm	Easter Service at the Church – parents invited Reception, Year 2 & Elm
18/04/2024	TBC	Y4 Transfer Festival at Arnold Academy
25/04/2024	All Day	Y4 Bikeability – children to bring in bikes & cycle helmets
13/05/2024	All Day	Y4 Grafham Water Trip
14/05/2024	All Day	Y4 Grafham Water Trip
15/05/2024	All Day	Y4 Grafham Water Trip
16/05/2024	3.30pm to 4.30pm	Scholastic Book Fair YR, Y1 and Y2
17/05/2024	3.30pm to 4.30pm	Scholastic Book Fair Y3 and Y4
22/05/2024	All Day	Reception trip to Standalone Farm
07/06/2024	All Day	Y2 Herrings Green trip
12/06/2024	Morning	School Photographer – Class Portraits

24/06/2024	9.15am	Y4 Moving up assembly/workshop
26/06/2024	3.45pm to 5.45pm	Book look & meet your new Teacher for 2024 to 2025
27/06/2024	All Day	Transition Day
28/06/2023	All Day	Y1 Mount Fitchett Trip
01/07/2024	All Week	Sports Week – details to follow nearer the time
04/07/2024	TBC	Singing Superstars concert – Details to be confirmed
05/07/2024	TBC	Y4 Leaf Walk in Silsoe
08/07/2024	All Week	Back up Sports Week (for events cancelled during w/c 01/07/2024 due to adverse weather conditions)
10/07/2024	TBC	Y4 Visit to Silsoe Parks
19/07/2024	9.30am	Y4 Leavers Assembly

OUR CURRENT VALUE IS:

Patience

‘But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.’

Romans 8:25

CODE QUESTS Afterschool Club

Use text-based programming languages to explore realms, conquer enemies and overcome challenges. Assist your chosen hero on a quest through a fantasy world. This workshop will require teamwork, problem-solving and creativity to succeed. Sure to be fun and engaging- this is real code taught through exciting games!

DATES :

17th of Apr - 22nd of May

TIME :

Every Wednesday

15:30 - 16:30

PRICE :

6 WEEKS OF FUN JUST £45!

Booking Deadline: 10th of Apr



BOOK HERE :

<https://portal.jamcoding.franscape.io/class-overview/2820>

Click the link above to view course details OR visit our website and head to the booking tab. Enter your postcode in the locations field and click search to view courses. Then select the school or venue you require.

N.B. You can only attend courses held at the school that your child attends. You can also search by the school postcode.

For more information, contact your Area Manager on:

MiltonKeynes@jamcoding.co.uk

WIN A FREE PLACE!

Follow us on social media for the chance to win a free place.



www.jamcoding.co.uk



Messy Good Friday

Friday 29th March 10.30am-12noon
Silsoe Church

A lively fun and creative time together for families,
children and people of all ages.

Songs, stories, puppets, crafts and creative prayers,
ending with refreshments together.

Booking recommended on
revsimon@3churches.uk

Voluntary Donations

All Welcome



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