

8<sup>th</sup> September 2023

# Weekly Newsletter



## *Welcome Back*

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderful return to school and you should all be incredibly proud of your children, they have made a very positive start in their new classes and have been excited to learn. Thank you for preparing your children for the new term with the appropriate uniform and equipment; it really does help the children to feel a sense of belonging and to have pride in being part of Silsoe Lower School.

Please see below for clarification of the uniform policy and do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions regarding uniform.

We are currently focussing on the value of 'Quality' and this sits perfectly with the start of the new year and setting our standards for the year ahead. I have visited each classroom this week and I am extremely pleased with how well the children have already settled into their classes and have made a good start with their learning. There is a calm and happy buzz about school and it's great to be back!

A special welcome to our new children in Reception. All the children in both Acorn and Chestnut classes have made a very positive start to their school journey and we are delighted with how cheerful and grown up they have been in what could be quite a daunting week for them. They have all begun to build new friendships, smiled and laughed lots and enjoyed their learning.

Welcome to any new children who have joined year groups across the school, we are pleased to welcome you to our school family. I'd also like to extend a warm welcome to any new families, parents and carers who are joining us for the first time at Silsoe Lower.

We are all looking forward to the year ahead and will shortly be sharing events and dates for the academic year with you.

We look forward to welcoming you into school during the next year and working with you to ensure that your children have the best possible learning experiences.

Yours faithfully,

Sarah Boyle

Headteacher

All of the teachers have said how much they have enjoyed getting to know each of the children in their classes.

This year we will be sending out a weekly newsletter to share a few details about the activities the children have been taking part in during the week in their classrooms and any important messages which will be relevant to different year groups.

## **Reception classes Acorn and Chestnut**

The staff in Acorn and Chestnut classes have had lots of fun with all of the children that have joined us this week and helping the children settle into their new class, as well as meeting some of the parents with the settling in meeting.

The children have enjoyed making Superstar crowns, as well as listening to lots of stories and singing songs.

## **Year 1 Willow and Hawthorn**

The children in Year 1 have helped Mrs Taylor settle into her new class well and enjoyed getting to know each other better through different friendship activities.

They have recapped over some of the Phonic sounds they learnt last year.

## **Year 2 Sycamore and Maple**

Year 2 have taken part in lots of friendship building activities and getting to know their new teachers.

The children have started to look at their new guided reading book called 'The dragon sitter' and are looking forward to learning more about this over the next few weeks.

## **Year 3 Pine and Palm**

Year 3 have also participated in lots of friendship building activities to help get to know each other better and also their teachers.

The children have started to learn about the Stone age in History and about Animals including Humans in Science.

## **Year 4 Oak and Elm**

Year 4 are settling in well and the teachers are looking forward to getting to know the children in their classes more throughout the coming weeks.

They have started some art work with charcoal this week, as well as enjoying multi skill activities in PE and learning about the dangers of electricity.

## **Conifer Class**

Conifer class have enjoyed getting to know each other this week with different friendship activities.

## General information

### Before and after school clubs

We offer a number of clubs by external companies both before and after school, which are available to children in different year groups. If you have not already signed up to any of them there is still time to do this.

	AM	PM
Monday	None	None
Tuesday	Premier education gymnastics club (Years 1-4) Please sign up via this link <a href="http://premier-education.com">premier-education.com</a>	Choir (year 3 and 4) This is currently full we will advertise once we have spaces.
Wednesday	Dance class by Performing Art collective (Year 1 and 2) To sign up please click on this link <a href="#">Performing arts collective limited Years 1 and 2 dance club</a>	None
Thursday	Premier education multi sports (Year 1 – 4) To sign up please click on this link <a href="http://premier-education.com">premier-education.com</a>	Dance class y Performing Art Collective (Year 3 and 4) To sign up please click on this link <a href="#">Performing arts collective limited Years 3 and 4 dance club</a>
Friday	None	Tennis (Year 3 and 4) Please sign up via SCOPay (Please note this will not take place on 22 <sup>nd</sup> September)  Jam coding (Year 2-4) coding to create retro arcade games. Please click on this link to sign up <a href="#">Jamcoding</a>

### Information for Reception classes

Please see this link regarding information for parents about Base line assessments that are due to take place over the next 6 weeks. This is nothing to be concerned about and your child cannot pass or fail these, it is a way in which the Department of Education can see your child's development and progress until they reach year 6.

[Information for parents: reception baseline assessment \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](http://publishing.service.gov.uk)

### Thank you PTA

With some of the money that was raised by the PTA last year, we were able to purchase a significant amount of phonics resources and reading books. The PTA generously donated some additional funds in the Summer term to enable us to make further purchases of books and phonics resources that were required for the children to use in school. We would like to say a big thank you for your support and continuing to help us to get new resources.

### Book fair



We would like to thank all of the parents who kindly purchased books from our Schoastic Book Fair in the summer term of last year, due to the incredible number of books that were purchased the school has been able to purchase a supply of dictionaries and thesaurus for the children to use in school and help with their learning.

## PTA Autumn Fair

We are looking forward to the Autumn Fair that is being held on Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, we hope many of you will join us as we come together as a school community.

## Governors

Our Chair of Governors Mandy Reddick enjoyed meeting the parents of our new reception class this week on their first drop off at school, we hope you enjoyed the gift that was given by Mandy but supplied by the PTA .



# *OUR CURRENT VALUE IS:*

## *Quality*

## **OUR SCHOOL VISION**

Our school vision is important to us and drives all that we do. We hope that all parents and carers are already aware of our vision, it has previously been shared in many communications and we refer to it with the children often. We hope that you will support us in our vision.

***“Our vision is to be an excellent, God-centred, values-based, community-focused school where everyone is welcomed, encouraged and included.***

***Our children will develop as creative, determined learners and responsible citizens inspired to achieve their God-given potential and live life in all its fullness.***

***We will foster understanding, tolerance and forgiveness within our caring Christian community.”***