

10<sup>th</sup> November 2023

# Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a pleasure to welcome parents and grandparents into lessons this week to watch the children learn. We hope that if you were able to attend you found it a useful insight into how the phonics and reading are taught in school. We look forward to welcoming parents of children in Reception Classes on Monday morning. Over the year we will be offering opportunities for you to visit school again and watch different subjects.

Thank you to our fabulous PTA who organised a wonderful school disco for the children yesterday evening. It was a great evening filled with sparkle, sequins, glow sticks and some incredible dance moves! We hope that the children all enjoyed the event.

Today our school community has come together for our Remembrance service to pay our respects and to share our hope for peace. The children have all been incredibly respectful, participating in the minute silence, laying their class wreath and singing for peace. Please see our order of service with song words attached so that the children may be able to share their songs with you at home.

Next week we look forward to marking and celebrating Anti Bullying Week and Children in Need.

Mrs S Boyle

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Boyle', is located below the text 'Mrs S Boyle'.

Headteacher



## Class updates

### **Reception classes Acorn and Chestnut**

Reception classes have learnt about remembrance and labelled pictures of Poppies. They have made poppy potato print pictures. The children walked very sensibly to church and enjoyed their first remembrance service.

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

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## **Year 1 Willow and Hawthorn**

Year 1 have continued working on their nonfiction work looking at facts about animals and recording the facts in writing.

In DT they have been looking at moving mechanisms in books and made Gingerbread Man sliding mechanisms. Some of the children enjoyed this so much they went home and made new ones to bring in and show everyone.

## **Year 2 Sycamore and Maple**

Year 2 enjoyed their watch me learn session and continued to read 'The Owl who was afraid of the Dark' they enjoyed using the dictionaries to look up words and find out what they meant.

In Geography they have been looking at continents and have enjoyed learning the continent song.

## **Year 3 Pine and Palm**

This week Year 3 have been using their mapping and compass skills in geography. The children have been using 8 point compasses to find precise directions, they have also identified symbols on Ordnance Survey maps and had lots of fun giving each other directions.

## **Year 4 Oak and Elm**

This week we have discovered more about our main character 'Ruskin' in our story Krindlekrax. He wants to be the hero of the story but he could not be described as a typical hero.

We have planned to write a sequel to the story 'Journey' where the girl draws herself into new lands.

In science, we have discovered how sounds are made using cymbals, rice, drums and tuning forks!

In Maths, we have begun our new unit on Area and in DT, we have begun to investigate a range of light boxes and how we can illuminate them in readiness for designing our own.

## **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 thinking about conflict resolution in our Hamish and Milo sessions.

We cooked biscuits in the shape of poppies this week and made a wreath as part of our Remembrance Day activities.



## **General information**

### **School Council and Children in Need**

The children have now nominated and created our School Council and Eco council and following on from their first meeting the School council has decided on some fundraising ideas and also chosen 4 charities they would like to support throughout this year. In the School voting process 75% of the pupils decided they would like to 'Bring a teddy into school for the day', and so this is what the children will be doing for Children In Need this year on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November.



The shop for items relating to Children In Need will be open during the week commencing 13<sup>th</sup> November please see the letter sent home separately for the price list of items and where and when the shop will be held.

### **The Little Mermaid**

Last week Ella in Year 4 took part in the production of The Little Mermaid at the Bedford Corn Exchange. Ella played a part of the choir and was one of the youngest performers to take part in this production.

Well done to Ella we are all really proud of you.



### **Arnold Open Evening**



Thomas in Year 4 attended the Arnold Academy open evening last week and while there he entered a competition to win a Kindle Fire. We are delighted to say that Mr Roberts and Miss Cusack have been to visit Thomas at Silsoe this week to present him with his winning Kindle Fire.

Arnold are still holding tours during the day if you missed out on the open evening.

### Preen Charity shop in Biggleswade

We would like to say a big thank you to Preen in Biggleswade who have donated a large number of toys to our reception classes. They will thoroughly enjoy exploring these new toys.

### Pokémon Cards

Please be aware that Pokémon Cards (or similar) are not to be brought into school, when children bring them in this can cause upset and arguments, so please can they be kept safely at home.

### Salvation Army Christmas Appeal

This year we will once again 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 chose 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 on the 30<sup>th</sup> November to the school office. Thank you.



### Odd sock day for Anti-bullying



Odd Socks Day marks the start of Anti-Bullying Week. This year we are asking everyone to come into school in odd socks on **Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November** as part of Anti-bullying week. During the week we will celebrate what makes us all unique and spread kindness! Most importantly, Odd Socks Day is designed to be fun! It's an opportunity to encourage people to express themselves and celebrate their individuality embracing and celebrating people's

differences. The idea for this day in Anti-Bullying Week is to encourage children to express themselves fully, without any fear of judgement from others. Wearing funky socks may seem like a very small way to do this, but its overall impact can be huge. Through celebrating this day, the Anti-Bullying Alliance in the United Kingdom hopes to raise awareness of bullying and the impact that it can have on people's lives. It is important that everyone does their bit to put an end to bullying, which is a message that will be reiterated throughout Odd Socks Day and anti bullying week.

## **Flu Vaccination**

Just a reminder an email has been sent out regarding consent for the Flu vaccinations, this has been sent to all year groups. We are still waiting for a catch up date for Year 4 but if we have a consent already then we will hopefully be able to get this fitted in. The deadline for this to be completed is 23<sup>rd</sup> November.

## **E-safety**

We still have consents outstanding for E-safety please can we ask parents to go onto SCOPay to confirm that you have read and agree to the guideline that the children need to follow. This is for all children in every class.

## **Dogs on the School Site**

Just a reminder that dogs are not permitted anywhere on the school site e.g. the playground, internal paths, the pre-school or main school reception areas

## **Message from the PTA**

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

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](mailto: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

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

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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.

13/11/2023	All Week	Global Education Week
13/11/2023	All day	Odd sock day – To support Anti-bullying week
13/11/2023	9am	Reception class Watch Me Learn (approx. 45 mins) Parents invited to classrooms
17/11/2023	All day	Children In Need – Bring a teddy to school day
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 <sup>st</sup> Century Palestine visit to the Church – Elm then Acorn (children only)
14/12/2023	Afternoon	1 <sup>st</sup> Century Palestine visit to the Church – Chestnut (children only)
15/12/2023	Morning	1 <sup>st</sup> Century Palestine visit to the Church – Oak then Willow (children only)

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15/12/2023	Afternoon	1 <sup>st</sup> 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)

# YOUNG CARERS INSIGHT SESSION



Please join us for our insight session where you will have the opportunity to meet the young carers leads in your area and to find out information about our young carers offer in Central Bedfordshire.

## **Topics covered**

- What is a young carer
- How to register your young person as a young carer
- HAF program
- Emotional wellbeing support,
- Types of events offered
- Young carer groups
- Young carers voice

To register, sign up using the links below. You will receive the Microsoft Teams link the day before the insight session via email.

Thursday 16th  
November  
17:30pm until  
18:30pm

Click below to register

<https://forms.office.com/e/SdYmyzGDF1>



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*OUR CURRENT VALUE IS:*

*Peace*

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

**Matthew 5:9**