

29th September 2023

Weekly Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

We are extremely privileged to have a wonderful PTA who work incredibly hard throughout the year to plan fabulous events for our children in addition to raising funds for our school. I would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude for the tremendous amount of work that went in to planning and preparing for our Autumn Fair. So many children and families were able to enjoy the day; it really was a wonderful day and a great success! A big thank you to all the staff who volunteered their time to support the event too. I know that the 'Sponge a teacher' stall was very popular! And finally thank you to all in our community who attended and supported the fair, it really was a very special day for all.

We are still waiting to get the final total for the funds that were raised, but we will share this with you all once we know.

This week has been another busy learning experience and the curriculum has been taught through a variety of different methods, including an educational visit to Celtic Harmony. We hope you enjoy reading about the learning in each year group.

Mrs Boyle

Headteacher



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

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Class updates

Reception classes Acorn and Chestnut

This week reception classes have been practicing their scissor skills and making a collage of pets using tissue paper and wool. The children then cut their pets out independently.

The children also went to the music room for the first time with Mrs Ashwell to practice their songs for the Harvest Festival next week.

Year 1 Willow and Hawthorn

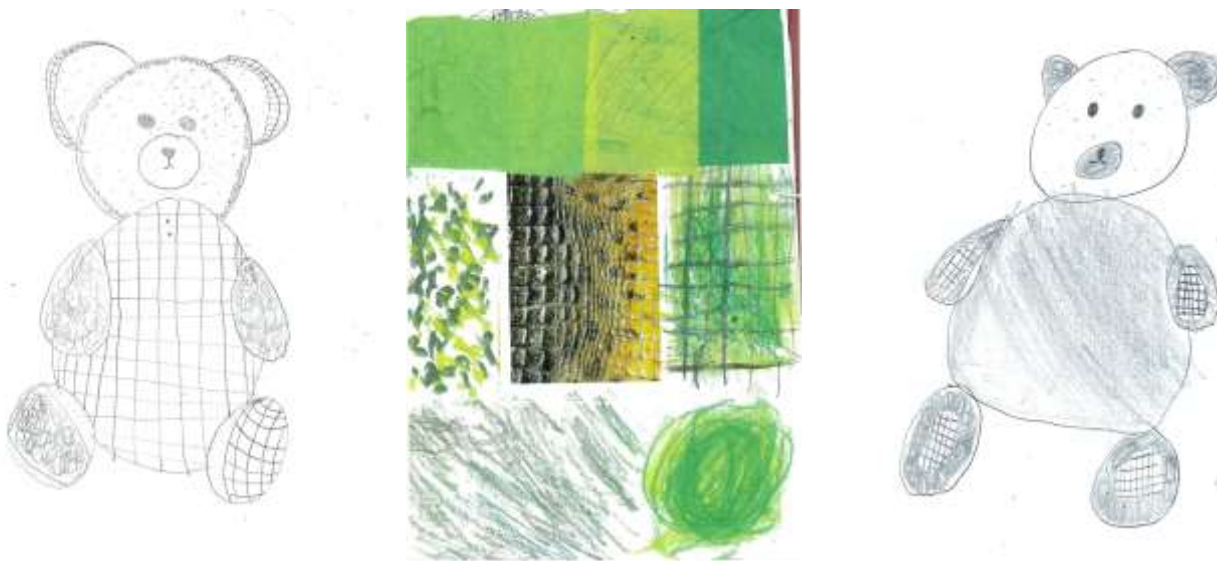
Year 1 have been practicing for the Harvest Festival with Mrs Ashwell in the music room.

They have continued to look at the history of toys. In Maths they have been using different vocabulary to explain fewer and more.

In English this week they have been practicing the sounds 'ea' 'ou' 'ay' 'oy' which is phase 5 of our phonics.

Year 2 Sycamore and Maple

This week Year 2 have been exploring different textures using charcoal, pencils, crayons and pastels. They have had lots of fun sketching a teddy bear, this is some of our art work



Year 3 Pine and Palm

Year 3 went back in time on Wednesday and travelled to a pre-history camp, AKA Celtic Harmony. Our pupils split into two tribes, the stags and the mammoths, and took part in activities throughout the day that immersed them into pre-history life. Year 3 had so much fun grinding wheat to make their own flour and bread, making arrow heads and even making their own clay pots. We were grateful for the shining sun as we explored Stone Age caves and Iron Age roundhouses. We have attached some photos further down for you to see what we experienced.

Thank you to the PTA for funding the Coach for this trip we really appreciate your help.

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Celtic Harmony trip 2023



Year 4 Oak and Elm

Over the last 2 weeks Year 4 have been creating some art work using a range of tools to scratch and create their designs based on the scissor art they created a few weeks ago. Below are a few examples of their work.

They have been creating electrical circuits this week to light a bulb.

The times table battle has taken place this week and Oak have been successful in achieving 334 points compared to Elm's 325. Well done Oak!



Conifer Class

Conifer Class have been taking part in different activities such as playing games and learning how to work together and not just individually.

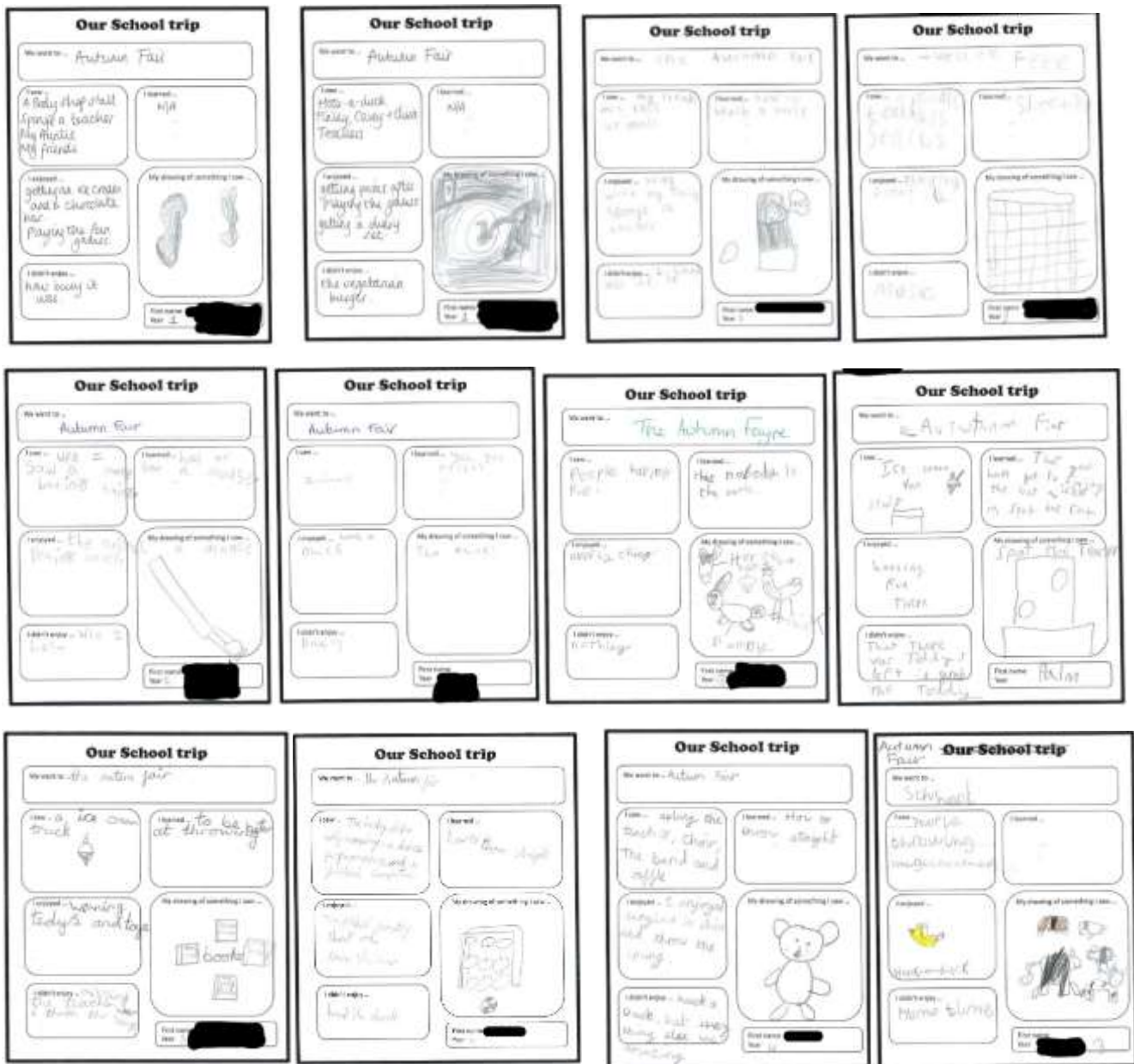
Some of the children have been looking at lunch boxes in DT and thinking about what makes a lunch box a good design and what could improve the design.

General information

PTA Autumn Fair

Thank you so much to our PTA for organising such an amazing event, I think that we will all agree that everyone had a great time.

Thank you to all of you that attended and who gave up your time to help with the event. Some of the children in school have completed reviews of the Fair and sum up their experiences that you can see below.



Music Provision at Silsoe

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to inform you of the exciting musical opportunities being offered to the children at Silsoe in this academic year ahead. They are as follows:

Choir club for children in Years 2- 4 This runs on a Tuesday afternoon from 3.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. This is currently full and we will be opening up spaces from January. More details will be sent out in early Spring 2024. I would also like to thank the choir for singing at the PTA fair on Saturday.

Instrumental tuition is offered to all children at Silsoe. Currently we have the following:

Piano and keyboard lessons – Thursday morning

Guitar lessons – will resume again this half term on a Friday and we are also delighted to announce that Nick Barnes will be returning to us in Autumn 2.

Woodwind lessons – Friday afternoon

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There will be a demo from each teacher to children across the school before half term. Anyone interested in enrolling for music lessons can find more information by clicking on the links below:

[Music lessons in schools — Inspiring Music - Central Bedfordshire](#)

[Inspiring Music Centres — Inspiring Music - Central Bedfordshire](#)

Saturday morning **music centres** are also available to anyone who has a love of music from complete beginners, learning an instrument or having lessons in or out of school. The closest one to Silsoe is Ampthill and more information can be found by clicking the links below:

[Ampthill](#), [Biggleswade](#) and [Leighton Linlade](#))

In addition to this, we are proud to work closely with the Inspiring Music team in Central Bedfordshire and have organised for the Year 3 children to take part in a 'Singing Superstars' programme in the Spring term. This will be taught by a music specialist and will run each week through the spring term and will culminate with a performance with other schools in the summer term. Further details of this will be sent out nearer the time.

Finally, there is a comprehensive programme of singing in the community which will include:

All Saints Church, The Beehive Centre, Taymar Nursing Home and the O2 for Young Voices.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Ashwell

Vacancy

Midday Supervisory Assistant

Hours: Monday to Friday – 11.45am to 12.45pm, 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 half term, also please note dates which have changed or been added for the year which have been highlighted.

02/10/2023	All Day	Y2 Wrest Park History visit – details to follow
02/10/2023	TBC	Y4 Geography Field Trip
04/10/2023	9.30am	Harvest Festival (approx. 1 hour) – parents invited Reception, Year 2 & Elm Class. More details to follow
04/10/2023	2pm	Harvest Festival (approx. 1 hour) – parents invited Year 1, Year 3 & Oak Class. More details to follow

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11/10/2023	All day	School Photographs – pupil portraits
12/10/2023	4pm to 7pm	Parent consultations – More details to follow
13/10/2023	Morning	Y4 Arnold Academy taster session – More details to follow
16/10/2023	Morning	Y3 Resilience Workshop
17/10/2023	4pm to 7pm	Parent consultations – More details to follow

European Day of languages



This week we have been celebrating European languages. This day began to be celebrated in 2001 by the Council of Europe which has 46 member states of which the UK continues to be a permanent member. The core mission of the council is to promote human rights, democracy and the rule of law across the continent.

The council believes that linguistic diversity is a tool to achieve greater intercultural understanding. Classes will have tried to guess the language being spoken, tried to guess country from a picture, they will have had a go at some tongue twisters in other languages amongst other activities.

Here are a few tongue twisters you might want to try:

English

Freddy Thrush flies through thick fog.

French

Papier, panier, piano

Paper, basket, piano.

Italian

Three tigers against three tigers

Tre Tigri contro tre tigri



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Who are young carers?

We recognise a young carer to be a child or young person aged 5-17 who looks after someone in their family who has an illness, disability, mental health, or substance misuse problem, who takes on practical and/or emotional caring responsibilities which are normally expected of an adult.

Young carers may:

- Carry out practical tasks such as cooking, shopping, washing, or cleaning
- Help with money
- Look after their brothers and sisters
- Offer other practical and emotional support.
- Collecting and giving medications

What do we offer?


We have some fantastic events and support you might like to know about!

- Regular groups to meet other young carers and join in activities
- Access to wellbeing support
- Chatterbooks book clubs held at libraries across Central Bedfordshire
- Fun activities and events such as magic shows, fetes, bowling, laser tag, zoo trips and more!
- Young carers Voice groups – providing a chance for you to have your say on what we offer
- And much more!

Get involved

Are you a child or young person who cares for your brother, sister, parent, or family member?

If you have answered yes to the above question, or this sounds like something you do, contact us find out how we can support you and register you as a young carer.

You, or your parent or carer, can call us on:  0300 300 8585

Just tell us you are calling to register as a young carer, and give your (or your child's) name, date of birth, address, and contact details.

To find out more about what we offer and how we can support you, please get in touch.

“Young Carers has changed my life as I can have a break away from caring... Some people don't understand that, but you get to play with people that do... You can talk to people that understand what you're feeling.”

Young carer

“This group has boosted our children's confidence and our children can't wait to go every month. Life at home with a disabled Mum in a lot of pain can be hard, but knowing they can have a couple of hours to be kids and have loads of fun is so important to us.”

Parent

Parent Insight

Childhood Mental Health



Guest speakers from PoetsIN a Creative Mental Health Charity.

A Charity Created For People Struggling With Their Mental Health By Two Poets Who Have Struggled Too.

Parent Session

Thursday 28th September 2023

4.30-5.30pm

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/694086420167?aff=oddtcreator>

Resources will be shared after the workshop.

Organised by the CBC North Localities Early Help Teams:

For more information, please contact

North Early Help - northeearlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

South Early Help - southeearlyhelp@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk

OUR CURRENT VALUE IS:

Quality

But all things, when their true quality is seen, are made clear by the light:
because everything which is made clear is light.

Ephesians 5:13