



# Headteacher Newsletter

*Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.*



Welcome back to the Spring Term 2019...how is it possible that we are already in 2019.

I am pleased to say that we have had a fantastic start to the brand new year and all the children are working very hard, although some are still a little bit tired from all the festive family fun so a few early nights this week I think.

While we are thinking of getting ourselves back to school, can I remind

you all that the school needs to be secured for all children's safety at 8:50am, so please ensure that all pupils are in school by this time. We have seen an improvement in this area but know that there is still room for improvement. Our admin and Welfare team are still using valuable time chasing absences, escorting late children and recording everyone so please try to help us with this target.

In the last newsletter I told you all about some of the staff changes we have had in school recently. It is always hard when we have to say goodbye to staff who have been with us a long time and made such an impact on school however it makes it bitter sweet when new staff come along and brighten up your days. I am really pleased to see how quickly our new members of staff have settled in and have already began to make an impact on the children they are supporting. They have all blown me away so far, thank you everyone!

Unlike last year with an abnormally long Spring term, this one is quite short with just over 6 weeks this side of the half term and just under 6 on the other. This term we see two year groups go off on their residential adventures starting with the Year 2's at Stibington in February, followed by the Year 4's at Horstead in March. All information regarding these visits will be coming home shortly if you have not already received it.

Clubs resume once again for the Spring term. You should have already received a letter confirming places in clubs or if you are on the waiting list for next term for oversubscribed clubs, they are once again very popular.

In the Welfare Newsletters over the past few months, we have been trying to raise further awareness of the parking issues some parents continue to have around the school site. We continue to ask you to park in a safe place if you need to drive into school at either of our agreed park and stride sites in Glatton Drive or the Whittlesey Road Community Centre car parks. We have still had a number of complaints from local residents and other parents who have had their driveway blocked or nearly been knocked over by some parents who do not abide by this. We are extremely concerned about this issue and hope that families are able to walk into school safely without the concern of parking being a hazard. We have passed on all complaints to the police and they will be monitoring parking outside the school gates on a routinely basis.

Finally as we are now in a new term I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all of the parents and children who sent kind messages, cards and gifts for the staff over the festive period. They are not expected but very much appreciated by all, your kindness has been overwhelming. We hope you have all had a wonderful break with you families and look forward to a brand new term and year ahead of us.



## Highlights from the past few weeks

The children from EYFS, KS1 and Year 5 performed their Christmas plays, 26 in total!

Santa came to visit us :) we were all on the nice list yippee

We had another very successful Christmas Craft and Games event

Year 4 Parents and children enjoyed a wonderful Christingle service at St John's the Baptist Church

The rest of KS2 also enjoyed another wonderful Christingle service at St John's the Baptist Church and KS1 had their very own service back in school

We enjoyed a wonderful Christmas talent show followed by class parties and a school Disco

We took cards we had made the local community of elderly residents who really enjoyed reading our cards and special messages

We worked hard as a school to bring the magic of this time of year to the school and would like to thank parents for all of their thanks for the effort staff put into this time of year

## New Years Resolutions

What will yours be?

In the last Newsletter I talked about reflecting on what has gone well and what we would do differently as we reached the end of 2018. I talked about what we are looking forward to and asked what you wish for your families in the upcoming year.

Parents please can I ask you for a huge favour? I would love to create a family display which encapsulates your hopes and wishes for your children in the future, so can you do me a little bit of homework too? Would you all make me a wish list of what you hope for your children for the upcoming year? You can present it however you wish.

I look forward to seeing ideas you have and displaying them in the school ☺



## Snow Day?

### School closure information



With the colder weather approaching, please could I take a little time to explain the school's weather closure procedures

If in the event that the school needs to close we will parent pay in the first instance, update the school website, teachers will send a Class Dojo message and parents can listen to 'Heart FM' on 102.7 where all of the Peterborough school closure announcements will be made. This can also be found on their web site [www.heartpeterborough.co.uk](http://www.heartpeterborough.co.uk). Posters will then also be put on the external gates by the caretaker.

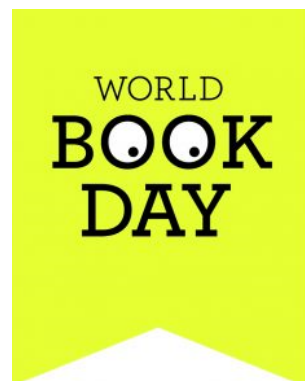
We try not to close the school as we are very aware that child care arrangements can be very difficult at short notice and unless the weather is very severe the school will endeavor to stay open (also I love playing in the snow with the children!). This is also very dependent on staff being able to arrive at school as we have many staff who drive as long as an hour to reach us.

If we are able to remain open, please could children bring extra clothes, (warm jumpers, wellies, socks and trousers or snow gear if you have any, warm hats and gloves...oh and a carrot for the snow man's nose...we always run out!) two lots if they love being outside and then they will have a change if they get wet.

## World Book Day

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

Once again we will be celebrating World Book Day as it goes into it is the 22<sup>nd</sup> year. Details will follow shortly to give you all a heads up on how we will be celebrating this year. We will, as with every year, be setting up some fab competitions alongside the day and encourage everyone to get involved with this wonderful national event, however we have made the decision not to dress up this time, so don't go out buying costumes this time! Take a look at the website for more details and for some inspiration. You can also find a list of books that can be purchased for just £1 using the token that will be sent home on the day: [www.worldbookday.com](http://www.worldbookday.com)



## Year 6 have been evacuated!

As you all know, each year group takes part in adventures outside of the school gates from time to time. This month the Year 6 pupils have been evacuated to Stibbington for the day to experience what it was like for children back in the 1940's

The children will go back in time to take on the role of a child who was actually evacuated during the war and will experience a range of activities such as creating their own Identification cards, having a lesson in the period classroom, practising how to put on their gas masks and experiencing a rationed period-style lunch! I wonder whether there will be an air raid while the children are there too!

We look forward to hearing all about their adventures on their return after the war :) I wonder what they will be able to share with us all.



## Safer Internet Day



Safer Internet Day is a focus for us as a school in February of each year to promote safer and more responsible use of online technology and mobile phones, especially among children and young people across the world.

We feel that this is an extremely important topic so will be holding our own Safer Internet Day to teach the children the importance of being safe online. More information about this and how parents can get involved will follow from the school Computing leader throughout February Mr Howlett.

## Pancake Day!



We will soon be heading towards a special event we have planned in school for Shrove Tuesday – Pancake Day 2019 March 5<sup>th</sup>. We would like to invite families to join the PTA to have competitions and fun after school for families to take part in some fun games and purchase their own crepes and pancakes. Please come and join us on the playground and take part in this fun event. We will use any money raised to support the school by purchasing more I pads for the new trolley that the PTA purchased for the school in 2018. Please see some ideas for books you could read linked to this event.





## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Aimee, Roxas, Katie, Oliver, Scott, Archie, Henry, Nicole, Zachary, Christian, Lora, Grace, Jacob, Mohammed, Scarlett, Patriks, Scarlet, Dorian, Hanika, Sonny, Maisie, Layton, Elsie-May, Oliver, Freddy, Lauren, Sanjana, Mohammed, Benjamin, Vedansh, Cienna, Saskia, Mason, Marcel, Kaycee, Ugne, Paige, Melisa, Robert, Kieran, Frank, Bradley, Gracie, Isobelle, Samuel, Giovanni, Jayce, Eliza, Holly, Jacob, Amelie, Muhammad, Martyna, Tyler, Alicja, Jake, Lexie, Divyana, Logan, Miles and Logan.

## HOUSE WINNERS END OF TERM RESULTS JANUARY 2019

|                             |      |
|-----------------------------|------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Robins      | 1568 |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Canaries    | 1319 |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Kingfishers | 1299 |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> Parrots     | 1145 |



## PARENT'S COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

As always we really value your opinions about our school. Please add your comments here for the Headteacher. You can return them in an envelope if you would prefer them to remain confidential or email me directly on [lauramartin@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:lauramartin@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk)

Please use the remaining space to make any further comments about things you like, the things you think we need to develop or any ideas you may have and we will try to use them in school.

**Happy New Year Everyone**  
**Love from Mrs Martin and the Southfields Team xxx**

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

|                  |                                                    |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| Spring Term      |                                                    |
| School opens     | Friday 4 January 2019                              |
| Half Term        | Monday 18 February to 22 February 2019 (inclusive) |
| Last Day of Term | Friday 3 April 2019                                |
| Summer Term      |                                                    |
| School opens     | Tuesday 23 April 2019                              |
| May Day          | Monday 6 May 2019                                  |
| Half Term        | Monday 27 May - Friday 31 May 2019 (inclusive)     |
| Last Day of Term | Friday 19 July 2019                                |