



# Headteacher Newsletter

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



Welcome to the November Newsletter. We are already into month three of the academic year, and a busy two it has been so far!

As you already know, we are soon approaching my favourite time of year... Christmas! But first we have another month full of exciting opportunities for our children.

Today the Year 6 children have presented

a Remembrance Assembly in honour of those who lost their lives in the war. It almost brought a tear to my eye, what a wonderful assembly it was. Well done to everyone involved and a big thank you to all of the parents and families who were able to join us for the occasion.

Looking back at last month we shared many memorable experiences with the children. The majority of year groups held their Reading Cafes which have all been very well attended. Thank you for your fantastic feedback from these events. We hope that they have given you an insight into ways you can support your child with reading at home. In addition to these cafes, the book bus visited the Early Years and Year 1 classes. All of the children have a library card and enjoyed spending time selecting books to share with their families at home.



The planetarium visited the school to see Year 5 and they were all in awe. Absolutely amazing experience to see all of the stars, constellations and planets all from the comfort of our school hall! Alongside this, the Year 1's had their Superhero day and were visited by none other than Spiderman himself! Wow!!

We had an extra special visit for our Year R and 1's who had a go at balance biking. This is such a fantastic way of getting your child used to their bike and developing their balance and coordination in preparation for using their first pedal bikes. The children had great fun taking the bikes on their obstacle courses and learning fun tricks.



Our rearranged theatre visit took place with a production of Oliver. The children all completed some pre and post learning on this subject and completed some fantastic writing. Keep your eyes peeled for some of this during Parents Evenings this week.

In the final week of October, the Year 3 children put on their own mini productions in celebration of Harvest. Thank you once again to all that came to share the experience and shared food as part of the family feast. Well done to all of the children and staff involved, such a lovely celebration reminding us all to be thankful for what we have.



The PTA held a very special cake sale in aid of the 'Charlie Chimp Club' for bereaved children. It was once again very well attended raising a wonderful £310. Thank you again to the PTA for organising, to everyone who donated yummy treats and to those who came along and supported the event.

In addition to this, some of our children who take peripatetic lessons shared their progress at a special music assembly and our Year 5/6 Football Team took part in the Peterborough Championship and came a fantastic 3rd place overall. Well done everyone.

Looking forward to the rest of November we have a range of events to look forward to. Over the next three evenings we have our Parents Meetings. Please make sure that you turn up well in advance of your appointment and have a think about the kinds of questions you might like to ask, such as what are my child's talents/strengths? What progress has my child made this term? What does my child need to master next? How will they be learning to do that in school? How can I help them at home? Tell me about my child's attitude to learning in school. Please also take the time to have a look, either before or after your appointment, at your child's learning which will be located in your child's classroom.



Over the next few weeks we will be hosting some parents meetings for a few residential visits for the future. The first one is for current Year 1 parents looking forward to the Year 2 Stibington Residential in 2021 (yes we are over a year ahead!) and the next is for the Skiing Trip taking place this January 2020.



On the final day of the month we will be having a non-school uniform day in support of our Tombola and Christmas Hampers for the Christmas Fete. Please send your child into school with a Christmas related item to donate. This could be food (please make sure well within use by date), drink, toys, games and decorations. Thank you for your continued support with this event.

## Staffing News

You may already be aware that we have some growing members of staff in school. During this month we will be wishing well to Mrs Ferrara and Miss Pospieche as they begin their maternity leaves. We hope they both have a very steady start to their leave and look forward to lots of cuddles with their newborns in the near future.

Alongside this, Mrs Welsh is also starting to bloom and is now ready to share her amazing pregnancy news. As Mrs Welsh is in Year 6, we have appointed early and would like to welcome Mrs Churchill to the team from January giving the children almost a full terms transition and additional support. Mrs Churchill will be into school in the coming weeks to meet the children and is very much looking forward to taking up her new role with us. Mrs Churchill is currently a Secondary English Leader so brings with her a wealth of experience in KS3/4 which will support our Year 6's with their transitions this year.

## Children in Need - Pudsey Day

As with every year here at Southfields, we will once again be taking part in the Pudsey Day with our very own pyjama day. This will take place this coming Friday (15th November) at a cost of £2.00 for each member of staff and pupil taking part. This donation will be split with £1 going directly to the Children in Need Charity and £1.00 towards our year groups 100 books. We cannot wait to spend another settled day learning about the amazing work this charity does for children and young people throughout the UK. Please remember that children can wear their pj's, dressing gowns and slippers but also need to bring their coat



## Snow or Flood Closures

With the colder weather approaching and the recent flooding sweeping the nation, 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, 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 childcare arrangements can be very difficult at short notice and unless the weather is very severe the school will endeavour to stay open (also we 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 snowman's nose...we always run out!) two lots if they love being outside and then they will have a change if they get wet.



### SCHOOL HAIRCUT SESSIONS

Tuesday 17th December  
3:15-5pm

Pupil Premium	FREE
Fringe trim	£2
Boys Haircut	£5
Girls Haircut	£5



## Pupil Haircuts - Free for Pupil Premium Children

You will all be aware that the fantastic Charlie has been donating her time to provide free and low cost haircuts to pupils of Southfields. The next date for haircuts is Tuesday 17th December from 3:15-5pm.

Once again this is by appointment only which will be organised by Mrs King closer to the event. Keep your eyes peeled on Class Dojo as the appointments go very fast!

Once again a huge thank you to Charlie for providing this for our families.



## Amazing things I've done at home

Outside of school, lots of our children get involved with a variety of sports, music and other interests to which they excel in. Each month we would like to take the opportunity to recognise some of those pupils and share their successes with you all.

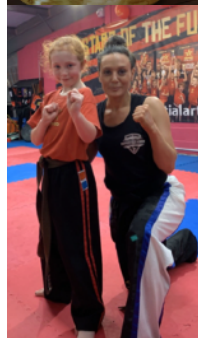
If you would like your child to be featured in the future, please email Mrs King with the subject 'Amazing things I've done at home' followed by your photos and information regarding their success.

This month we would like to congratulate Henry and Imogen for their fantastic achievements.

Henry entered himself into a National Trust Baking Competition and won! The competition was to bake a cake inspired by Houghton Mill and Henry chose to make his cake into a sack of flour. Well done Henry, what a fantastic achievement, especially pushing yourself outside of your comfort zone. We are all very proud of you.



Imogen has continued to focus on challenging herself through her martial arts and has achieved amazingly well over the last few months. Most recently Imogen completed her 3 hour grading and passed with a fantastic A grade. She even had a very special training session with the famous Zara Pythian who stars in the marvel film Dr Strange. Wow Imogen, fantastic achievements.



### BIRTHDAYS IN NOVEMBER

Harleigh, Alexander, Archie, Diana, Marieme, Kaden, Macy, Sobada, Leo, Sam, Reubun, Kallum, Alex, Temidayo, Reuben, Eduardo, Edward, Evelynne, Marta, Brennan, Blake, Alek, Aryan, Hollie, Ruby, Paige, Patricija, Ali, Poppy-Rose, Laura, Heela, Nevaeh, Charlotte, Andrei, Kian, Aston, Daniel, Sofia, Tiana, James, Thomas, Vienna, Muhammad, Dawn, Eviee, Elios, Sophie, Youssef, Jakub, Mervin, Jakub, Erin, Mollie, Marcel, Alfie and Natan.

## Local English Challenge - Winners

Just last week we hosted the local stage of the Peterborough English Challenge with many of our local schools taking part. We entered two teams are delighted to share that after many gruelling rounds (including questions about books, authors, grammar, matching extracts to books, inferring and deducing texts, making summaries) our Southfields A Team were victorious. Local schools Oakdale and St John's came in second and third with our brilliant B Team coming in a close 4th place. A huge well done to all of the children who took part, we are extremely proud of you all. Southfields Team A now progress onto the Peterborough Finals. Come on Team Southfields!



## Reading Miles - Can you help?



As you all know, our school priority this term is all around Reading. Alongside this we would like to ask you all for your help. Reading is essential to support children in all areas of the curriculum and once mastered will support your children in every avenue as they grow and go on to their future roles out in the business world. Recent research has shown that those children that read regularly, become more fluent and much more able to read at faster paces than those who read less. As a school we ensure that books and reading is interwoven into every area of the curriculum but it still isn't enough.

Please can you all make sure that your children read to you every day, whether it be a story book, a magazine, a non-fiction book full of information, or something else, to support in building up your children's reading miles. Thank you to those parents who already read every day with their children, please keep it up. You are making a huge difference to your child's education.





## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

### November

Monday 11th - Remembrance Assembly for Year 6 families  
 Monday 11th - Wednesday 13th - Parents Evenings by appointment only  
 Wednesday 13th - Finance and Resources Governors Meeting  
 Friday 15th - Pudsey PJ Day - £2  
 Friday 15th - School Nurse Clinic  
 Wednesday 20th - KS1 Flu jabs  
 Wednesday 20th - Parents Meeting for Stibbington 2021  
 Thursday 21st - Curriculum Evening  
 Friday 22nd - KS2 Flu jabs  
 Friday 22nd - Parent Rep Meeting  
 Friday 22nd - Ski Trip Parents Meeting 2020  
 Friday 29th - Non-school uniform day for Christmas Fete hampers

### December

Tuesday 3rd - Christmas Jumper Day  
 Wednesday 4th - Panto visits  
 Thursday 5th - Christmas Fete  
 Monday 9th - KS2 Christingle service  
 Tuesday 10th - Year 5 productions  
 Wednesday 11th - Year 1 productions  
 Wednesday 11th - Full Governing Body Meeting  
 Thursday 12th - Year 4 Christingle  
 Thursday 12th - Year 2 productions  
 Friday 13th - Christmas BINGO  
 Monday 16th - Year R productions  
 Tuesday 17th - Santa visits school  
 Thursday 17th - Pupil Haircuts  
 Wednesday 18th - Talent Show, Xmas dinner and DISCO  
 Wednesday 18th - End of term - No Explorers Club

## 2019-2020 TERM DATES

### Spring Term 2019

Opens Monday 6th January  
 Half term - Monday 17th to Friday 21st February  
 End - Wednesday 1st April

### Summer Term 2019

Opens - Monday 20th April  
 May Day - Friday 8th May  
 Half term - 25th to 29th May  
 Ends - Tuesday 21st July

## 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 the 'Comments Box' located in the main school office.

## Christmas is coming!

In only 3 weeks time we will be into December and with that comes all of our exciting Christmas events starting with our Christmas Fete on Thursday 5th December. We will have a range of crafts, games, tasty treats and stalls on offer for our families to enjoy. As this will be coming around very quickly, keep your eyes peeled for further information about how it will be organised this year and where to get your family tickets.



We have today opened up the stall holders register, so if you are a small business and would like to take advantage of our fantastic event then please email the main school office to get your name down and receive all of the information for stall holders. Stalls this year will be at a cost of £5.00 per table and this is payable before the event.

To make it really clear, we will once again have a special visitor at the Fete in addition to his usual annual visit to see the school children. Therefore we will be selling special tickets for the fete visits at £3.00 per child.

Family tickets to gain entry to the event will be £1.00 and can be ordered from today - please see the letter regarding the Christmas Fete.

Christmas Fete tokens will be £1.00 a strip or 20p each and can once again be preordered or purchased on the evening.

We look forward to sharing some festive fun with you and your family soon.