



South Lake Primary School

Campbell Road, Woodley, Reading, RG5 3NA
Tel: 0118 969 1672

E-Mail: admin@southlake.wokingham.sch.uk
Website: www.southlakeprimary.co.uk

Mrs A M Butler-Willis
Headteacher

Autumn Newsletter October 2018

Our New Year

The children have settled in very well to their new classes and there are lots of exciting times ahead this year!

We enjoyed the BBC Music day recently, with a special singing assembly and a lunchtime flash mob! Year 3 made a brilliant music video – have a look on our website, on the gallery pages; there are also some photos from the day.

Year 6 children are currently enjoying a residential trip in Wales and the sun is shining!

School Priorities

We have been busy planning our school priorities, which are chosen by analysing the assessment data we have in school and by considering our next steps towards our vision of a happy, vibrant school where pupils achieve highly and enjoy creativity and active learning.

Our end-of-year results were excellent last year, the project we had been working on to improve writing has been very successful and we will continue to develop that; our aim is to have more children writing at the higher level by the end of year 6.

In addition, we are working on improving the curriculum in the foundation subjects; history, geography, art and music etc. Topic lessons will take a focus from art and will be more hands-on than they have been previously. There will be more workshops, trips and outside learning and lots of creative art.

We know how valuable singing and movement are to good emotional health and we now sing and dance in assembly, the whole school is a choir! We will also continue to have a competition choir, led by Miss Feather.

School Environment

You may have noticed changes in the Early Years outside area; the old play equipment, which had served its time very well, has been removed and the flooring replaced. There is now more space for the children to work on large projects with the crates, planks and pipes, such as the 10-metre-long bridge they built last week! More equipment is on order and it all fits in with the updated Early Years curriculum that allows the children to create their own play environment.

Over the next two years, we aim to upgrade some of the children's toilets in the school and re-paint the corridors and halls, starting with the entrance hall. We will also have a new sign for the front of the school. The PTFA are raising money to help us to replace some of the decking, playground markings and planters in the playground.

Communication and Administration

- A new online payment system has been installed and we will shortly be contacting users of the breakfast and after-school club who will be its first users. It will then be rolled out to all parents so that trips can be paid for online.
- Our website www.southlakeprimary.co.uk is full of information, photos and useful dates. You can go straight to the website or access it through the school app. It is updated every two weeks to ensure the information is correct. Letters that need a reply slip are always sent home with the children, but a copy is put on the website in case yours doesn't get to you! See the 'What's Happening' tab on the website.
- This year, we are trialling writing a half-termly newsletter to help you keep up to date with what's happening in school. Look out for the lilac paper!
- The school planner will now go out at the end of a term so you have dates in advance for the next term. Clubs are also available to book before the next term starts, to help with childcare arrangements.

Club Attendance

If your child has a place in an activity club and decides not to go, please ensure the teacher is aware of this, to avoid time spent looking for children who have already been collected by their parent.

School Uniform

The online order service for school uniform is working very well. The web address is: michaelhope.co.uk and you can have the order delivered to your home, or to school. There are now only PE t-shirts in a few sizes and some age 5-6 cardigans left to buy from school.

Dates: more information is available on the Autumn planner and the school website.

October	November	December
Tuesday 16 th and Wednesday 17 th October – Teacher consultation evenings – book online	Thursday 8 th November - Year 6 Open Assembly 2.55 p.m.	Christmas Performances All dates are on the school website
Friday 19 th October – Reception cake sale	Wednesday 14 th November – Pantomime	Monday 3 rd December – last week of activity clubs
Monday 22 nd to Friday 26 th October – half term break	Friday 16 th November - Children in Need day	Thursday 6 th December – non uniform day
Monday 29 th October - school closed for INSET	Thursday 22 nd November – individual school photos	Saturday 8 th December – PTFA Christmas Fair 2 p.m. – 4 p.m.
Tuesday 30 th October – back to school	Friday 23 rd November - Year 5 cake sale	Friday 14 th December – Christmas lunch day
	Wednesday 28 th November - Year 5 Open Assembly 2.55 p.m.	Monday 17 th December – Christmas party day
	<u>Friday 30th November – PTFA discos –change from the original date.</u>	Wednesday 19 th December – term ends at 2 p.m.

Mrs A M Butler-Willis
Headteacher