

Issue 6

South Wootton Infant School Newsletter



28th February 2023

South Wootton Infants out and about

As I am writing this newsletter, the Reception classes are preparing to go out on a visit to Church Farm. Later on in the term, Year 2 are going to Cambridge to visit the Botanic Gardens and Year 1 are visiting the Dinosaur Park. These trips are planned to enhance the curriculum, having clear objectives linked to the learning within the classroom. Reception will see farm animals and their young in person and should be able to feed some lambs which will develop their understanding for their topic on farms. Year 1 will be able to put their learning from their dinosaur topic into context and see models of many of those prehistoric creatures that they have learnt about. In Year 2 the children will take part in a workshop at the Botanic Gardens investigating plants from other countries.

The children also regularly go on walks in the locality, whether it be to sketch the church as part of an RE day, post a letter to Santa or take part in a traffic survey.

These visits allow us to put some of the knowledge into context for the children and enable us to build on these experiences in order for the learning to become embedded. This is sometimes referred to as "sticky knowledge". As staff we are currently focusing on how to ensure our curriculum supports the children to develop their memories so that they "know more and remember more".

World Book Day—Thursday 2nd March

It is World Book Day on Thursday. Staff would like the children to come dressed up as a character from a book. We have focused on certain authors—Nick Sharratt in Reception, Oliver Jeffers in Year 1 and Anthony Brown in Year 2—as their books are a focus for the year groups. All three authors have written a variety of books so we look forward to seeing a range of characters on Thursday!

RED TED readers

Hedgehogs continue to be the class who read the most at home with an impressive 3192 reads recorded between them.

There has been a massive jump in home reading this past half term compared to the second half of the Autumn term. Well done to everyone. By supporting reading at home you are ensuring your child has the best start to their education as becoming a confident reader is so important to their progress.

Book Looks

On Friday 3rd March and Friday 10th March, parents are invited to come into classrooms at the end of the day to look at their children's work from 3.15—3.45pm. Your child will be able to show and talk to you about their learning. Hopefully, you will have all been able to attend the recent parent consultations and find out about your child's progress and their targets.

PTFA update

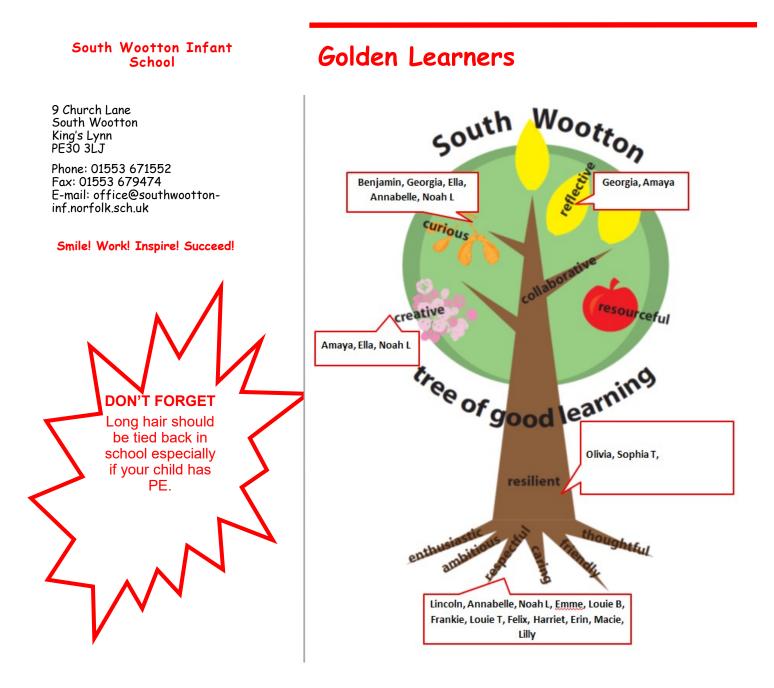
There was a PTFA meeting on Monday 27th February. It was announced that the Valentine Parties raised a total of \pounds 360 which was an excellent return. The events themselves ran well and all the children who came appeared to enjoy themselves.

The next thing on the fundraising calendar is a "Coronation Bingo" night planned for Friday 5th May. Look out for more details of this.

The PTFA have agreed to support the school in an exciting new project to enhance the outside areas in school. Again look out for more information about this soon.

Attendance update

Attendance remains a focus for improvement. The school now has to report weekly attendance to the Department for Education. There are termly meetings with the Attendance Officer who analyses the data and questions individual pupils where the attendance drops below 90%. The Local Authority have expressed concern about the number of holidays being taken in term time.



Birthdays

The children who have celebrated/ or will celebrate their birthday in February are: Fletcher **who is 5 years old**.

Bonnie, Scarlett and Castiel who are now 6 years old.

Caleb Seth and Colby who are now 7 years old.

CONGRATULATIONS to everyone who celebrates their birthday in FEBRUARY

Attendance

For the month of February the Class with the best attendance is OWLS CLass

with an attendance total of 97.3%. **CONGRATULATIONS to them.** Our overall attendance is now 94.75%

Our target for the year is 97% so we are significantly below. Please ensure your child is in school every day that they are well.