



South Avenue Primary School

Newsletter End of Term 3



Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

I cannot believe that we are half way through the academic year already! We have had a very busy term with lots of fantastic events and workshops. We were treated to some wonderful Chinese Dancing by our Reception children and it was lovely to see so many of our Reception parents able to join us for the *Stay and Play* and dance display.



An absolute highlight was the Dinosaur that visited Year 3 – the children's faces were fabulous; they weren't quite sure whether to be thrilled or scared! (Pictures overleaf).

We have had lots of staff illness and absence this term. This has resulted in Mrs Streatfield and I covering lots of classes across the school. The upside of this is that it is a fantastic way to get to know the children and to see the progress they are making. There have been lots of green slips signed this term – this is definitely one of the best parts of being a Headteacher. It is fantastic when a child comes into the office all full of smiles, proudly waving their green slip. I hope that those of you who have received a postcard home have enjoyed celebrating your child's success.

We have had some staff changes. Mrs Osborne has resigned from her post as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) and left us in January. We are very grateful for her hard work during her time at South Avenue. Mrs Blewitt, Year 5 TA, has started her maternity leave. She gave birth to a gorgeous little girl on Saturday. Mother and baby are doing well and we send all our love and congratulations to Mrs Blewitt and her husband.

We have a new teacher joining us, Mrs Seymour, she will be supporting the children with their letters and sounds work and will be working Monday-Wednesday. Mr Baker will be joining us as a HLTA (not to be confused with our lovely caretaker Mr Baker) and will be covering classes across the school as well as running some after school clubs. Mrs Sedge has joined us as a TA in Year R. Miss Wildish and Mrs Birchmore will be joining us as TAs working in Year 2 and Year 5.

I am looking for a group of parent helpers to help us keep the school library tidy. Do you have any spare time from 2:30pm? If so, would you like to come into school and check that the books have been returned to the correct shelves in the library. If you are able to help out, please come and see me at the start of the new term.

Mrs Lofts has sorted out all of the lost property and has had it out on display. We have so many items of unnamed uniform. Please check your child's uniform over half term and make sure it is named. Thank you.

Thank you all so much for all your support and encouragement this term. We really appreciate all you do to support our school. I hope you and your family have an enjoyable half term break and I look forward to seeing you on Monday 25th February.

Best wishes,

Miss Fenn
Headteacher

We are delighted with the 60 new raincoats purchased by the Friends Association for the children to use across the Reception and Key stage 1 classes.



Community, Courage, Commitment, Collaboration, Creativity & Challenge.

Reception have been learning all about the Chinese New Year. We learnt that this year is the year of the pig and we found out lots of other animals represent each year.

Darren taught us lots of traditional moves and we even got to use fans, parasols and dragons to help us with our dancing. We definitely had lots of fun learning our moves and creating our costumes.

Secondly, a big thank you to the parents who were able to attend the stay and play session last Friday and for giving such positive feedback. We will be organising more stay and plays in the future and will aim to use the feedback given to decide what the focus will be next time.



Year 2 had a Chinese day linked to their topic for this term. In the morning, we were extremely lucky to have Darren visit and teach us an amazing Chinese dragon dance. The children were extremely engaged and performed to each class with enthusiasm and confidence, which was lovely to see.

In the afternoon, Year 2 tried some different Chinese foods and learnt how to use chop sticks. We had a fantastic day that created lots of lovely memories for the children and the staff!

It was the best day of my life! - Ben

I loved all of it! - Layson

I loved the food especially the sweet chilli sauce because it was spicy and I like spicy foods – Emilia



Our Year 3 classes (Amber and Diamond) were visited by Jurassic George. The children learnt lots of interesting facts about dinosaurs to support their topic work.

Thankfully, none of the children were eaten by him!



Commitment, Courage, Community, Collaboration, Creativity & Challenge.

This term, Year 4 have been learning about who Anglo-Saxons were and how they settled here in the UK, within their seven Kingdoms. In our Topic lesson, we used our STEM skills to design our very own Anglo-Saxon house. The children worked together to plan their house; designing the length of each wall, what materials they were going to use and how they would assemble it. They turned out to be a great success and the children were extremely proud of their final piece.

As well as designing our houses, we studied how stained glass windows were made and introduced by the Saxons. With this, the children created their own stain glass window using cellophane and used symmetry skills to ensure their pattern would work.



Year 5 have been learning all about life in Antarctica. In science they had a *bbbbrrrrlllllllll* time investigating the insulating properties of blubber, by timing how long they could hold their hand in icy water. Firstly, they put their bare hands in and then they tried again with their hands covered in 'blubber' (butter)!



Year 6 have been busy making paper mache volcanoes and causing a chemical reaction to make them explode with lava.



Commitment, Courage, Community, Collaboration, Creativity & Challenge.

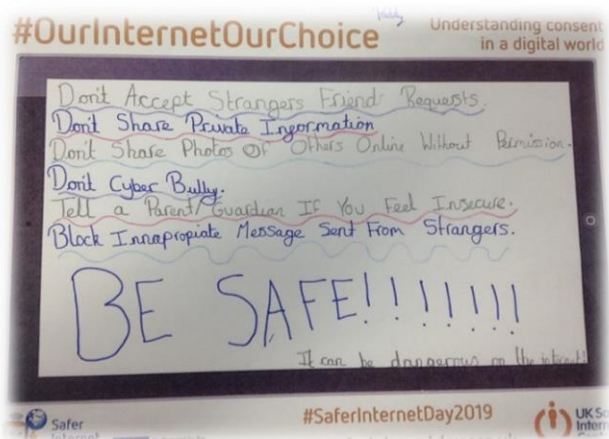
On Tuesday 5th February, South Avenue pupils took part in a variety of activities as part of Safer Internet Day.

This year the focus was: ***'Together for a Better Internet'***. All children worked on information from the Safer Internet Centre, watching videos and thinking carefully about how to keep themselves safe online.

We would ask that over half term you have an honest discussion with your child/ren about what they are accessing online and how to get help if needed. In school, they can speak to any adult for support.

One of the burning issues at the moment is how much screen time is too much screen time. We have attached some guidance for you. In general it has been found that to ensure that sleep disturbance is not caused from screen use, all screen based activities should cease 1 hour before bedtime. (United Kingdom Chief Medical Officers' commentary on 'Screen-based activities and children and young people's mental health and psychosocial wellbeing: a systematic map of reviews').

For further information and advice you can visit:



Examples of Organisations

The UK Safer Internet Centre (www.saferinternet.org.uk)



The UK Safer Internet Centre provides online safety advice and resources for young people (aged 3-19), parents and carers, teachers and child protection professionals. You can also contact the centre to suggest ideas you could contribute on Safer Internet Day.



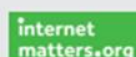
O2/NSPCC provide advice and guidance for parents, carers, teachers and professionals with a dedicated online safety helpline (0808 800 5002), nationwide parental workshops, parental "Share Aware" resources and PSHE accredited teacher resources, as well as a parent's guide to social networks ([Net Aware](#)).



NCA-CEOP's "ThinkUKnow" educational programme aims to empower and protect young people from sexual exploitation and abuse. Young people (aged 5-14+), practitioners and parents/carers can access a wide range of educational materials on this site, including films, factsheets, lesson plans and guidance documentation.



Parent Zone works with schools, parents, young people and companies to deliver effective education and awareness initiatives on issues that are caused or, more often, amplified by the internet. Working with children from 0-18, Parent Zone trains and supports the professionals who reach families to build online resilience, and develops approaches that work for multiple audiences.



Internet Matters is an independent, not-for-profit organisation to help parents keep their children safe online.

UK Chief Medical Officers' advice for parents and carers on Children and Young People's screen and social media use

Technology can be a wonderful thing but too much time sitting down or using mobile devices can get in the way of important, healthy activities. Here are some tips for balancing screen use with healthy living.

Sleep matters

Getting enough, good quality sleep is very important. Leave phones outside the bedroom when it is bedtime.



Sharing sensibly

Talk about sharing photos and information online and how photos and words are sometimes manipulated. Parents and carers should never assume that children are happy for their photos to be shared. For everyone – when in doubt, don't upload!



Education matters

Make sure you and your children are aware of, and abide by, their school's policy on screen time.



Keep moving!

Everyone should take a break after a couple of hours sitting or lying down using a screen. It's good to get up and move about a bit. #sitlessmovemore



Safety when out and about

Advise children to put their screens away while crossing the road or doing an activity that needs their full attention.



Talking helps

Talk with children about using screens and what they are watching. A change in behaviour can be a sign they are distressed – make sure they know they can always speak to you or another responsible adult if they feel uncomfortable with screen or social media use.



Family time together

Screen-free meal times are a good idea – you can enjoy face-to-face conversation, with adults giving their full attention to children.



Use helpful phone features

Some devices and platforms have special features – try using these features to keep track of how much time you (and with their permission, your children) spend looking at screens or on social media.



Source: United Kingdom Chief Medical Officers' commentary on 'Screen-based activities and children and young people's mental health and psychosocial wellbeing: a systematic map of reviews' (February 2019)

Gentle Reminders!

Please park
considerately



Please do not use the Busy Bees Nursery car park when dropping off or collecting your children from school. This private car park is solely for the parents of children attending the Busy Bees Nursery, however, I have received a number of complaints that South Avenue parents are using it. Thank you for your co-operation.

School Payments

Please could you ensure that dinner money is paid in advance, or on the day at the latest. The cost is currently £2.30 per day or £11.50 per week. This can be sent to the school in an envelope with your child's name and class marked clearly. Please note, only cash is accepted. Alternatively it can be paid by paypal using:

principals-catering.com/accounts/signing

Breakfast club money should also be paid in advance for the week. The daily cost is £2.00 if your child arrives before 8am and £1.50 after (£7.50 or £10 per week) Thank you.



Our Platinum Out of School Club continues to run. Please do enquire if you wish to book a place by emailing asc@southavenue.kent.sch.uk or office@southavenue.kent.sch.uk. Alternatively, you can pick up some information from the main office.

Community, Courage, Commitment, Collaboration, Creativity & Challenge.

The year 6 gymnasts that attended the after school club have had another successful year at the Key Steps Gymnastics Competition.

Mr Graham is extremely proud of all of them that took part as they had all worked hard and performed to the best of their ability.



After much hard work at the club, they demonstrated their routines with confidence. That showed in the results, with our level 2 teams coming 4th and 6th and a silver medal for our level 3 team. Well done to you all!



Level 2 - Kacie, Sophie, Ronnie.

Level 2 - Kamilla, Anastasija, Evie.

Level 3 - Kyla, Lena, Rhianna, Rebecca



Attendance Honour Roll:
Congratulations to the 222 children who have achieved perfect attendance in Term 3. There are too many to list individually, however we are very proud of their commitment, with the support of their families, for achieving this fantastic 100% record.

Attendance at the end of
Term 3 stands at
96.27%

Remember, we are aiming
for whole school
attendance of 100%

The Arts and Crafts club have thoroughly enjoyed making lots of crafty items, which ranged from flower headbands, puppets and cards. We have loved learning to use a variety of materials and designing what we are making. Here is a photo of us with our puppets.



Commitment, Courage, Challenge, Collaboration, Creativity & Challenge.

Headteacher Awards

Lots of children have received 'green slips' this term. These are awarded for exceptional effort, behaviour or work, and if a child receives one a postcard is sent home to let parents know.

Well done to: Emmy H, Annabelle K, Oscar T, Amelia E, Olivia A, Emily T, Jayden H, Finley-James S, Lilly G, Dani A, Connor W, Faith M, Kaci-May G, Raphael D-B, Rose B, Sharay M, Ellie B, Jagoda T, Daniel R, Connie C, Poppy A, Maisie D, James S, Scarlett E-F, Anastasiya M, Luke B, Lola B, Terry D, Reggie P, Charlie H, Imogen B, Boyan T, Ava K, Siena-Louise W, Logan H, Amelia M-K, Annabelle K, Summer L, Tommy K, Ronnie S, Olivia A, Olayemi U, Sasha W, Oliverjack S, Philip C, Archie S, Paddy T, Ali G, Jerry L, Skye G, Sadie W, Joey H, Jack B, George W, Shaneesta N, Olivia H, Bethany M-K, Ruby-Rose G, Konstantina B, Connor A-C, Darci S, Harry A, Millie C, Mason B & Anastasia L.

Celebrating our core values.

(Collaboration, Challenge, Community, Courage, Commitment & Creativity)

Staff award children for their practical application of any of the 6C's during the week.

Our award winners for this term are: Emma Z, Ellesse R-G, Demi O-R, Ethan K, Tanisha L-P, Olivia H, Kacie N, Mia D, Ashton T, Connie C, Summer L, Lena B, Tamika B, Ronnie S, Claudia Y, Lola B, Imogen B, Lexi D, James S, Jennifer E, Alfie S, Diana S, Jayden E, Alfie G, Scarlett B, Codey P, Charlotte J, Aston K, Rhianna C, Charley H, Eloise G, Lukas K, Lexi S, Ryley B, Riley H, Hayden H, Tommy K, Chloe W, Charlie M, Poppy W, Bella M, Tyler G, Ellie B, Oscar H, Sophie G, Kieran H, Lillie D, Jerry L, James G, Lexi H & Kamilla B.

Scientist of the week:

Ollie H, Tommy K, Poppy W, Aleksandra K, Rhome P, Ethan E, Finley-James S, Ryan P, Danny I, Hadleigh S, Oliver D, Alfie W, Chester B, Samuel H, Keira W, Logan E, Samiha R, Poppy A, Jayden-Scott J & Connie C.

Mathematician of the week:

Vitas R, Faith M, Madison T, Dylan P, Bethany J, Aimee S, Alfie W, Raphael D-P, Dani A, Charlie H, Ruby-Rose G, Connor A-C, Lilly G, Isla O, Rosie N, Isla M, Lauren R, Holly S, Katie S, Aston T, Gracie T, Rebekah T & Aliyah G.

	WoW Term 3 Figures						Total
Class/Week	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Peridot	23	20	21	20	23	21	128
Emerald	19	19	20	21	20	21	120
Garnet	17	18	19	17	12	27	110
Topaz	20	15	13	22	21	22	113
Quartz	22	22	21	22	21	22	130
Sapphire	20	21	21	23	20	20	125
Amber	15	16	18	16	21	16	102
Diamond	18	17	20	20	21	20	116
Onyx	19	17	15	17	19	19	106
Tanzanite	21	21	19	21	21	21	124
Opal	15	17	19	15	12	16	94
Amethyst	14	08	11	11	11	8	63
Pearl	20	17	20	21	20	21	119
Ruby	18	19	18	13	13	18	106

Walk on Wednesday

Congratulations to

Quartz class

This term's
Walk on Wednesday Challenge
winners!

A massive thank you to all those
who have supported this worthy
initiative.

For more information on WOW go
to

<http://www.kmcharityteam.co.uk/walktoschool/>



Commitment, Courage, Challenge, Collaboration, Creativity & Challenge.

Dates for your diary!



Monday 25th February 2019

Friday 1st March

Monday 4th March

Thursday 7th March

Thursday 14th March

Friday 15th March

Monday 18th March

Thursday 21st March

Tuesday 26th March

Thursday 28th March

Tuesday 2nd April

Wednesday 3rd April

Thursday 4th April

Friday 5th April

Tuesday 16th April

Tuesday 23rd April

Start of Term 4

Y6 secondary school offers day – Sept 19 (letters sent out to parents/emails after 4pm – log in after 5pm using your registration login to view your offer online)
Living eggs in school for a fortnight (Infant site)

Whole school World Book Day – come dressed as your favourite book character

Y1 visit to Kent Life

Comic Relief Red Nose Day

Whole School parent consultations (3.30-7pm)

Y5 visit to Harry Potter World – Warner Bros Studios

Whole school parent consultations (3.30- 5pm)

Spring Disco (details to follow)

Braiswick Class Photographs (a.m.)

T5 100% Attendance Reward (p.m.)

Mother's Day event

Mother's Day event

Easter Egg/Bonnet & Techno bunnies competition

Last day of Term 4 – (School finishes at 1.30pm)



Staff Development for 2018/19

Monday 22nd & Tuesday 23rd July 2019

YR Primary school offers day – Sept 2019

Start of Term 5

Y4 Swimming lessons start (1/5)



Don't forget World Book Day on Thursday 7th March!

On 7th March, we will be celebrating World Book Day by dressing up as our favourite characters from books. Each class will be taking part in a 'book blether', where we will discuss our favourite stories, spend time in the reading den and we will also be launching our new reward scheme for reading.

