



SOUTHRIDGE FIRST SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2020



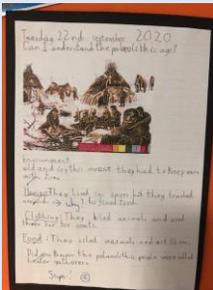
Returning to school after half-term - Thank you for supporting a smooth return to school. The children have settled back into their routines quickly and we are all so proud of how they are managing in all areas of school life. Before half-term we were obviously unable to hold a face to face parent's evening but we hope that the telephone consultation with your child's class teacher was helpful. Please remember if you have any concerns, queries or worries please contact the classteacher.

Our children are clearly thriving and enjoying school. Even though there have understandably been some unavoidable absences due to self-isolation, remote learning for some classes etc. our attendance levels are extremely high. Every class has been presented with a class Certificate of Attendance to celebrate our return to full time school this term.

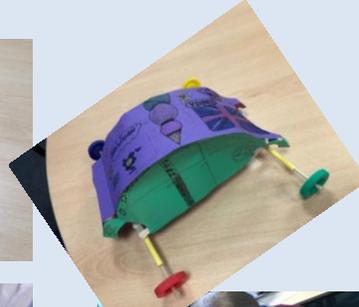
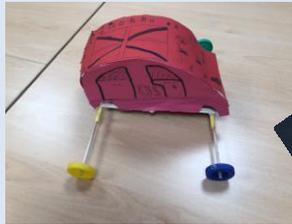


Curriculum - the children are taught the full curriculum and timetables are running in the normal way with specific time at the beginning and end of sessions for handwashing or hand sanitising. Last half-term children worked incredibly hard undertaking 'catch up' from missed learning last term and then moved to this years objectives. This half-term learning continues as each class will begin a new topic related to history, geography or science. We are developing an enquiry based learning approach in geography to ensure a secure progression of skills as children move through the school. The children are also enjoying their technology projects - a real strength of the school. Here's a quick peek in to some of our learning:

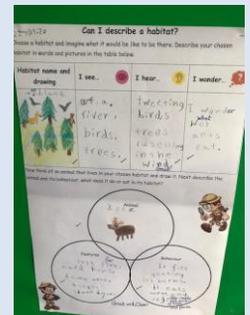
HISTORY ENQUIRIES



BUILDING STRUCTURES IN TECHNOLOGY



HABITATS IN SCIENCE



Anti- Bullying Week began with Odd Socks Day ! - a good starting point for a Monday morning and developing conversations around what makes us all unique and special. Classteachers have talked to the children about what bullying is and who you can ask for help when you need it. Most importantly, we have been supporting the children to think about how we can promote a happy school and develop our school Core Values.



This was reinforced at the end of the week when Core Value certificates were awarded in each class.



Children in Need - thank you for your kind donations we raised £422.80. The children had an excellent day during their '5 to Thrive' activities



The Poppy Appeal -

Thank you, on behalf of the Royal British Legion, for supporting the Poppy Appeal in school this year.



PTA - The Friends of Southridge. Our PTA held their AGM and appointed a new Chair (Naomi Reid), Vice Chair (Alexia Lee) and Events Co-Ordinator (Kayleigh Brown). They will be holding another meeting later in the term and are looking for a Secretary and Treasurer as well as helpers for events. If you are interested in being involved please email southridgefirstpta@gmail.com or office@southridgefirst.org.uk and we will pass your details on.

Christmas at Southridge - The national lockdown and likelihood of tiered restrictions following it, means that our normal festivities are restricted in some ways and we will be unable to hold the Christmas Fair and Christmas performances in the hall. However, please be reassured all the staff will be making sure that Christmas is still special.



Our Christmas tree will be delivered at the start of December and **each year group will have a 'Party Day' (enabling us to celebrate in our 'bubbles')**, including Christmas Lunch. The children will also be doing Christmas crafts, making their Christmas Card and Calendar to bring home for their family. Christmas Jumper Day will be the last day of term which we will make special as the excitement and magic of Christmas builds. Please see the diary dates below and don't worry we will send reminders nearer the time.

Christmas cards - we know how much the children enjoy sending their own Christmas cards and we encourage them to do so.

Option 1 - a lovely idea would be for children to write ONE card to the whole class which will be shared and displayed on a notice board.

Option 2 - children write cards to their friends and they are handed out as below:

Any cards brought into school will go into a quarantine box for 2 days before being handed out on Mondays and Fridays.

Bring cards on a Monday or Tuesday - handed out on Friday

Bring cards on Wednesday, Thursday or Friday - handed out on Monday. Classteachers will explain to the children that there is a slightly different system this year :

Please do not bring cards in BEFORE 2nd December and please don't send any AFTER Tuesday 15th December.

Diary dates -

Start of December: Christmas Tree arrives in school

Thursday 10th December Reception and Year 1 Party Day

Friday 11th December Year 2 Party Day

Wednesday 16th December Year 3 Party Day

Thursday 17th December Year 4 Party Day

(Nursery Party Day - see Nursery newsletter)

Friday 18th December - Christmas Jumper day, wear your favourite Christmas Jumper Day and non -uniform



Party Days -

Please read the information below about Party Day carefully:

Each year group have been given a different day so they can use the hall in their usual class bubbles so classes do not mix. **Children are asked to bring their own party plate of food (on a named disposable plate).** The children will not share food so please don't send in items / packets for a shared buffet (so that we remain Covid and allergy safe).



On Party Day the children can come to school wearing their party clothes. They will have Christmas activities in their classrooms and at lunchtime they will have their Christmas Lunch in the hall. In the afternoon they will also have party games in the hall and lastly a small party tea before home time.