



WELCOME TO TERM 1

I hope you all had a great summer holidays and were able to enjoy the wonderful weather. It is always lovely to see familiar faces again after the long break and sense the excited, if a little nervous, anticipation as children, parents and staff start the new school year. I would like to extend a very warm welcome to our children and families that are starting with us this term, we look forward to working with you.

As I am sure you are aware, the world of education is constantly changing and here at South Malling we work hard to keep focussed on what we consider to be the key to our work -the children's learning. Despite increasing expectations and accountability as well as pressures on our budget, our core purpose remains supporting all our children to be learners that are successful and happy, not just now but also in their future. To achieve this our children need to develop resilience so they can persevere and learn from their mistakes, make improvements and then enjoy well-earned success. This doesn't always make learning a comfortable or easy experience but the sense of achievement and success, not to mention the delight on their faces are unparalleled.

Mrs Jo O'Donoghue, Headteacher



Staffing News

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Sara Head on 7th September. As many of you will know Sara loves trying to solve a mystery and she has been offered a job working with the Police. This is a great opportunity for her and we wish her all the very best as well as thank her for doing such an amazing job at South Malling over the last 12 years.

We are delighted that Mrs J Cable (mornings) supported by Mrs J Moorey (Weds and Fri afternoons) will be taking over the role of school secretary.

In this issue: This newsletter contains information about up and coming events in the school and also tries to give you an insight into some of the work we do in school. Please ensure that you check out the latest news section of the website for the most up to date information. We also endeavour to pop all letters we send home onto the website too. These can be found under the 'Year Groups' tab and you can see some of the exciting things to look forward to this year.

STAFFING FOR 2018-19

CLASS	TEACHER	COVER for planning, preparation and assessment	TA SUPPORT
Nursery Lilac Lambs	Mrs Catherine Hann		Mrs Rachel Brown Mrs Jo Moorey
YR Red Rabbits	Mrs L Spall	Mrs L Ashwood	Mrs L Ashwood Miss L Kemp
Y1 Gold Gibbons	Mrs V Burch	Miss C Harrison/ Miss K O'Neill/Mrs M Hunt	Mrs L Rusby
Y2 Turquoise Tigers	Mr A Moylett	Miss C Harrison/ Miss K O'Neill/ Mrs M Hunt	Mrs S Bowler
Y2 Turquoise Toucans	Mrs N Geering	Miss C Harrison/ Miss K O'Neill/ Mrs M Hunt	Mrs S Bomansaam Mrs S Eade
Y3 Fuchsia Flamingoes	Mrs M Harley Mrs M Hunt	Miss K O'Neill	Mrs S Whiting
Y4 Orange Otters	Mr C Wooller	Miss C Harrison/ Miss K O'Neill/ Miss A Schulte	Mrs R Burgess
Y5 Emerald Eagles	Miss K Matthews	Miss C Harrison/ Mrs Hunt/ Miss A Schulte	Mrs V Newth
Y6 Purple Polar Bears	Miss A Straker	Miss K O'Neill Miss A Schulte/ Miss C Harrison	Mrs S Swan
Additional teachers/ support staff	Miss A Schulte (Deputy Headteacher+ Inclusion Manager) Mr J Beattie		Mrs B Bosworth (Additional Needs assistant) Mrs H Powell (Additional Needs assistant)
Office and Premises team	Mrs S Warren– Business Manager, First Aid lead Mrs J Cable & Mrs J Moorey– School Secretary Mrs R Burgess- Sports Development Officer Mr P Vinall- Caretaker		

Contacting us:

If you have a question, information or concern about your child at school please see the class teacher in the first instance. If the matter is not resolved or you have further concern please see a member of the senior leadership team (Mr Moylett– Key Stage 1, Mr Wooller– Key Stage 2, Miss Schulte– Deputy/Inclusion, Mrs O’Donoghue– Headteacher). You can contact the school office and the Secretary will make an appointment for you.

Talking to Us:

If you would like to talk your child’s class teacher please pop into class at the end of the day or phone the office to arrange a mutually convenient time.

School Facebook page:

Don’t forget we have got a school Facebook page that has lots of information on it. If you would like to join please pop into the Office and we will set it up for you.

Inclusion Team:

If your child has a special educational need or disability, you may want to contact the Inclusion Team. The team is made up of: Annie Schulte (Inclusion Manager), Janet Wilde (Play Therapist). You can contact us on 01273 473 016, option 2, or pop into the back office, opposite the Orange Otters classroom. We hold a termly forum for parents of children who have a Special Need or Disability (SEND), look out for the dates in the newsletters.

Safeguarding and Child Protection

Everyone who comes into contact with children and their families has a role to play in safeguarding children. School staff are particularly important as they are in a position to identify concerns early and provide help for children, to prevent concerns from escalating. Schools and their staff form part of the wider safeguarding system for children.

In all of the work that we do, **we believe that the rights, safety and welfare of the children with whom we are involved are paramount.** This may mean that we sometimes have to take actions which parents or carers could find difficult. In such cases we will always work to achieve mutual understanding. We will explain our professional and statutory responsibilities and try to give every assurance as to the reasons for our actions. However we must stress that for us, **the child’s needs must come first.**

If you would like to find out more about our safeguarding and child protection procedures please see the policy on the website or speak to one of the designated safeguarding leads (Mrs O’Donoghue, Miss Schulte, Mr Moylett)



South Malling News

SCHOOL GAMES MARK BRONZE AWARD!

We are delighted to announce that we have achieved the School Games Mark Bronze Award for the 2017/18 academic year.

The School Games Mark is a Government led award scheme launched in 2012, facilitated by the Youth Sport Trust to reward schools for their commitment to the development of competition across their school and into the community, and we are delighted to have been recognised for our success.

Our sporting participation this year includes:

- Primary Schools Swimming Gala, Year 5/6 Football League, Year 5/6 Netball League, Year 4 Basketball tournament, Year 6 Dance Workshop, District Sports/ Cross Country, Badminton Festival, Tennis Festival, Wallands Netball Tournament, Southover Football Tournament, Lewes Primary Schools Dance Showcase, Chance to Shine Cricket

With a total of 80 KS2 pupils representing South Malling and competing in local inter-school competitions this year, we are extremely proud of our pupils for their dedication to all aspects of school sport.

As part of our application, we were asked to fulfil criteria in the areas of participation, competition, workforce and clubs, and we are pleased that the hard work of everyone at our school has been rewarded this year.

We look forward to applying again in 2019!



Trench Brothers Project: The next stage

This term, the Emerald Eagles will kick off their year with a timely learning journey focusing on World War One, continuing and building on their participation in the 'Trench Brothers' project. This project 'brings the First World War to life for students through the experiences and personal stories of Indian Army, British West Indies Regiment and black British Soldiers'. Last term, whilst in Year Four, the children took part in various immersive workshops and learned about the stories of Manta Singh and Khudedad Khan, who was the first South Asian recipient of the Victoria Cross. The children's creative responses are currently **on show at Newhaven Fort until the 4th November**, as part of the Trench Brothers exhibition. If you would like to learn more about the 'Trench Brothers' project, the Creative Director will be giving **a talk at Newhaven Fort on Thursday 13th September 7pm-8:30pm**.

The culmination of the project will see the children mark the approaching centenary of the end of the conflict by performing in a musical theatre production alongside professional actors and musicians and children from other local primary schools at Brighton Dome on Wednesday 17th October at 7pm.

Tickets available online at https://brightondome.org/event/18306/trench_brothers/.

Information for 2018-19:

The Office is staffed between 8.30 am. and 4.00 pm. each day. Outside these hours there will be an answer machine service. If your child requires any medicines whilst in school please see Mrs Warren for information.

Beat the Bell! The school day starts at 8.55 am. and the gates are opened at 8.45 am. We strongly encourage children to arrive between 8.45 and 8.55 so they can be ready for the start of the day. Children in Years 3-6 can come onto the playground or go to class independently on arrival. Children in Years 1 and 2 can go straight into class and are encouraged to be as independent as possible, saying goodbye to their parents at the main door. The gates are closed at 8.55 and anyone who is late needs to go to the office to be registered. It makes a real difference to the children if they arrive on time as they can take part in the class arrangements for the day and will know what to expect during the day.

The school day ends at 3.15 pm. Children in Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 are delivered to their parents/carers. Children in Years 5 and 6 are dismissed from the classroom. If you need an alternative arrangement for your child please see your child's class teacher.

Attendance At the start of a new academic year the attendance slate is wiped clean again. It would be great if we could keep everyone's attendance figure as close to 100% as possible. It is crazy how quickly a few missed sessions has a serious impact on your child's attendance figure. If your child falls below 95% we will be getting in contact with parents as we really don't want anyone to reach 90%, as this is when the government now class the child as a persistent absentee. If you are having any difficulty in getting your child to school please let us know and we will see what we can do to help. . If your child requires time off school for any reason please complete an 'withdrawal from learning' request form from the office. Medical and dental appointments are best made outside school hours where possible.

Medication If your child requires any medication can you please ensure that it has been handed into the front office and appropriate permission forms have been signed. If your child requires an asthma inhaler please ensure we have medication that is in date and full. It would be terrible if your child needed their inhaler and we only had an empty pump.

Lunches cost £2.10p (for Years 3-6) and **ALL** payment is by ParentPay. Lunches cannot be provided without payment. Please see the Office if you would like more information.

Staying Healthy! Our children should only bring a **fruit** snack to school for playtime and they should only have **water** in their drinking bottles (not juice) in class. This is important for their physical well-being and it helps them to learn about how to keep themselves healthy. Please see our guidelines on the website or ask at the Office if you're unsure what can/can't be included.

Clubs: A separate newsletter listing all the Clubs on offer will be issued by the end of the week. All Clubs will start on the week beginning Monday 10th September

- * **Class newsletters will continue to be published every Friday. These are an important source of information about what is happening in your child's class so please make sure you don't miss them!**

Dates for your diary:

September:

10th– Clubs start this week
10th– Coffee mornings start for each class, see class newsletters
27th – School Council elections

October:

1st -e-safety week. Parents invited to IT lessons.
3rd– Individual Photos
4th– CLASS coffee morning: managing Anxiety as a Family Friends AGM tbc
12th-Parent's Forum @ 2.30 pm
12th - Harvest Festival
17th- Trench Brothers Performance at Brighton Dome
9th& 11th –Reception class coffee morning @9.15 and tea @2.30pm. in Hall
Week beginning 15th Parent consultations (see class newsletters for days).
18th - after school parent consultations
19th - last day before half-term holiday
Monday 29th return to school

November

6th– INSET day. School closed to children

Open Afternoons: Class and School museum see individual class newsletters
Friends committee meeting
9th- Bonfire assembly
12th-16th Anti-Bullying Week
14th - Nursery coffee morning @9.15 am.
16th- Children in Need Day
23rd – Parent's Forum @ 9.00 am.
Prospective parent visits Wednesday 28th @ 2.00 pm. and Thursday 29th @ 10.00m.

December

Week beginning 3rd -Decoration Days (see class newsletters)
7th- non uniform day - children to bring in Christmas hamper items
12th &13th-KS1 performances @9.30 am.
14th-Christmas Fair
17th- Year R and Nursery Christmas performance @ 9.30 am.
18th- KS1 Church Service @ 9.45
18th-KS2 Carol Concert @2.15pm. and 3.30 pm
19th - Talent show
19th- last day before Christmas holiday

January

7th –children return to school
9th– Prospective parent visit 10.00 am.
Friends committee meeting

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February

13th-Year 4 show @2.15 pm.

14th - Open Afternoons: Class Enterprise Fair, see individual class newsletters

Enterprise Fair: Open afternoon in the classes at 2.45pm. All welcome

15th- last day before half term

25th- children return to school after half term

Friends committee meeting

March

Week beginning 4th– Parent Consultations

7th– After school consultations

8th - World Book Day (dress up)

13th- Year 3 performance @ 9.30 am.

23rd - Comic Relief Day

April

3rd– Year 5 show @2.15 pm.

4th- Easter Service in Church for KS2 @ 9.45 am.

5th- Easter cake competition

5th– last day before Easter holidays

23rd - return to school after Easter holiday

26th- Grandparents tea party (9.30am. KS1 and 2.00pm. KS2)

May

Year 5 trip to Southease tbc

6th - Bank Holiday

Week beginning 13th Year 6 SATs

24th—Fun Run

24th - Last day before half term holiday

June

3rd- INSET day, no children in school

4th-return to school for children

5th– 7th Bowles residential trip -Year 6

13th– Music concert

Class photos tbc

25th - Sports Day

26th - Reserve Sports Day

29th-non uniform day; children to bring in fete items

July

2nd-New Parents evening

6th-Summer fete

8th - Reports out

18th - Year 6 Performances @ 2.15 and 6.30 pm.

22nd -Celebration event

23rd - Year 6 Leavers Assembly+ Tea

23rd - last day for children before summer holiday

Contact Details:

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