

WELCOME TO TERM 4



Once again South Malling was a very busy and productive place last term. All classes were working on their Enterprise theme with lots of designing, making and selling of a whole range of interesting products including pizzas, homemade books, bags and Yum Yums! We had a wonderful performance of The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe from the Year 4 Orange Otters and an inspiring art exhibition from the Year 5 Emerald Eagles.

This term promises to be equally busy and it is also the time of year when the staff, governors and children start to discuss what we need to work on for the coming year in preparation for our new budget in April. Hopefully we can also include parents/carers views this year so if there is something in school you think needs to be worked on, please come to our next Parent's Forum and let us know.

Unfortunately, our plans for the coming school year will be severely restricted by a much reduced budget. As I'm sure you are aware, East Sussex County Council have announced huge cuts to all budgets and will only be able to provide what they call a 'core' service. This, combined with the loss of our double class last year, has had a devastating impact on our own school's budget. We are now faced with some very difficult decisions about what we can provide for our children.

We will of course continue to put high quality teaching and learning at the heart of all we do and will strive to do our best in increasingly difficult circumstances.

Jo O'Donoghue, Headteacher

[Thought for the term from Neil Chisnall, Children and Families Minister at TRINITY Church](#)

I wonder what is the most loving thing someone has done for you today? I wonder why did they do it? Our friends and family are always showing us tiny acts of love each and every day. When your parent or carer makes your lunch for school, they do it to show you they love you. When your child gives you a hug they do it because they love you. But what is the greatest and most loving thing someone has ever done for you?

The Bible says (in John 15:13) "The greatest love people can show is to die for their friends." This is the ultimate act of love and one that involves putting others before yourself so that they can be safe.

As we approach Easter and we busy ourselves with holidays, buying Easter Eggs, organising egg hunts, enjoying the sunny weather when we get it, maybe it is worthwhile thinking about Jesus and asking the question just how much does he love me? How does he show it at Easter? I wonder why do you think he showed you love in this way?

When I hear stories of how people have shown love to others, I know it inspires me to go and love those around me in a greater way. I wonder whether this Lent and Easter, if the story of Jesus' love for you will inspire you to go and love others in a greater way?

Looking Forwards: Term 4 Events

Week beginning 4th March 2019

Each year South Malling School celebrates World Book Day. Reading is important all year round but the children really enjoy having a week with some special events to look forward to.



All week Grandparents are invited to come to school daily from 2.50pm to read to children. Do bring your favourite childhood book or your Grandchild's favourite book to share. Please let your child's class teacher know which day – thank you.

We will be creating a display of members of staff reading their favourite childhood books. To add to this, do email the office with pictures of your child, that you are happy to be displayed, reading their favourite book. If they would like a caption added to their photo about why it's their favourite book, please add their words in the email with the photograph. office@southmalling.e-sussex.sch.uk

Friday 8th March 2019 - special events.

- Each class will perform a poem or nursery rhyme during our Stars of the Week assembly.
- 'Drop Everything and Read' – During the day a bell will ring and everyone will stop and read.

A letter has been sent home separately giving fuller details about these events.

Friends Events

A Night At the Races! Saturday, 9 March 7:30pm £2.00 entrance fee, bar, raffle and races.

The Great Easter Cake Competition and Bake Off

On **Friday 5th April**, is the Great Easter Bake Off! Bring in a cake or cupcakes with an Easter or Spring theme. Entries from KS1 (reception – Y2) and KS2 (Y3 – Y6) will be judged separately and a cake and cupcake winner will be selected for each group (There will be 4 winners). Please note that cakes will be judged only on their appearance (not their taste). Winners will be announced during assembly.



Friends Committee Meeting: The next Friends Committee will be held on **Monday 4th March** at 7:30pm at the Dorset Arms. All welcome!

FUNDS RAISED

This year we have raised £2,251 so far with the Christmas Fair, Secret Present Shop, Valentines disco and the Christmas Card orders! Thank you to everyone who supported our events.

What's on this term?

Our school Learning Journey this term continues with our Curious Creations theme and focusses on 'Bookworms' where the focus is English. Our paired classes will be reading to each other and sharing their writing.

- Red Rabbits: *If you go down to the woods today...*
- Gold Gibbons: *I'm the King of the Castle* (Jack and the Beanstalk)
- Turquoise Tigers and Turquoise Toucans: *Can changes be invisible and still take place?* Creating an information book on butterflies
- Fuchsia Flamingos : *What would our modern day Iron Man/Woman look like and what will they teach us?* The Iron Man (Performance)
- Orange Otters: *What makes us healthy?* This Little Otter went to Market: Can you cook a savoury treat to sell at market?
- Emerald Eagles: *What is love?* The Highwayman poem
- Purple Polar Bears: *Curiouser and Curiouser:* Curious incident of the Dog in the Night Time.

Our assemblies will focus on the character strength of '**Eloquence**' and the Christian value of '**Responsibility**'.

Eloquence - Term 4

This term, our 'bookworm' learning journey of 'Curious Creations' naturally leads us to focus on the character strength of '**Eloquence**'. The children will be encouraged to think about and compare different ways in which we can be eloquent; from learning to perform poetry for World Book Day to considering how we can improve our 'exploratory learning- talk' in lessons, by challenging ourselves to ask curious questions and justify our responses using 'because'. We will also be discussing the link between Eloquence and our Christian value of '**Responsibility**'; thinking about how we have a responsibility to choose with care the words we use, and how they can make people feel, and we will ponder how our words have more power, whether that be for good or bad, than we might think!

What can I do at home? You could talk to your child about their favourite books or authors. Ask them what they like so much about the writing and encourage them to give a reason for their answer. Or, you could listen out for any 'ambitious' or new words your child is using and praise them for their eloquence

Our Children as Leaders

We are thrilled to announce that some of our children are showing excellent leadership qualities as School Councillors, Sports Leaders and Eco Warriors. On Friday 22nd March the Year 6 children will take this one step further and 'takeover' the school. They will teach classes, run the school office and someone will need to take on the role of deputy and headteacher

Reminders and important info:

Parent-Teacher Consultations

We look forward to seeing you at our parent teacher consultations beginning the week of Monday 4th March . Each teacher has their own daytime appointments and all teachers will be holding after school appointments on Thursday 7th March (except Fuchsia Flamingos – Wednesday 6th March). Please sign up for a meeting with your child's class teacher (appointment lists will be on the picnic benches outside the infant entrance from 26th February). This time we will not be inviting the children in Key Stage 2 to attend with parents.

Field

We would like the children to use the field as much as possible at lunchtimes as they can have a more fulfilling playtime. However it is often muddy at this time of year so please could you send in an extra pair of shoes (e.g. trainers/ wellies) with your child so they can change when they go on the field. KS2 children should already have additional trainers in school for outside use. Thank you.



Easter Service

We will be repeating our very successful Key Stage 2 Easter celebration at St Michael's Church on **Thursday 4th April**. The children sing the Easter and spring songs they have been learning in music lessons, perform readings and recite prayers they have written and Neil Chisnell, the **Children and Families Minister at TRINITY Church** will give a short address. As the church is so small, we will only be taking the Key Stage 2 children. If any parents are available to help us walk to the church, please could you see your child's class teacher?

Clubs update

All clubs start back in the week beginning 25th February. Please see the website or ask at the office if you would like any information on the clubs available.

E-Safety – Keeping children safe online

The Internet is always changing, and being able to keep up to date with your children's use of technology can be a challenge. You may sometimes feel that your children have better technical skills than you do, however children and young people still need advice and protection when it comes to managing their lives online.

Please see the Parents page on our website for further details on how you can support your child to be safe on the internet.

Arrangements for collecting your children

Please could you let us know in the morning if your child is going to be collected by somebody else in the afternoon, either in the class or at the Office. We realise that there are sometimes unavoidable, **emergency** situations which mean there is a last minute change of plan. However, it can be difficult to ensure a message is delivered to your child if we get a call in the afternoon so we would be grateful if last minute changes are reserved for **emergencies** only. Thank you.

Assemblies for Parents in Term 4

We look forward to welcoming parents to our Friday Celebration Assemblies:

Friday 1st March: Gold Gibbons

Friday 8th March: Purple Polar Bears

Friday 15th March: Turquoise Tigers

Friday 22nd March: Turquoise Toucans

Further news from South Malling can be found in the Parish Pump section of the Sussex Express newspaper every week under the Malling heading.

DATES

SEE CLASS NEWSLETTERS FOR DETAILS OF CLASS EVENTS

March

Week beginning 4th– Parent Consultations

7th– After school consultations

8th - World Book Day (dress up)

14th- Year 3 performance @ 9.30 am.

15th - Comic Relief Day

28th– Year 5 show

April

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

1st– Year 5 trip to Southeast

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 6.00 pm.

22nd -Celebration event

23rd - Year 6 Leavers Assembly+ Tea

23rd - last day for children before summer holiday

