

# WELCOME TO TERM 3



## Happy New Year!

Welcome back and a happy New Year! I hope you had an enjoyable and peaceful holiday, and that Father Christmas found his way to you all!

As we start 2019 lots of us will, I'm sure, be making New Year resolutions many of which will centre around improving ourselves, our health and our lifestyles. At South Malling we are no exception! As you may know, all state schools receive a pot of funding to promote healthy and active lifestyles in children. This is given on the back of Government concern about increasing rates of childhood obesity and associated illnesses and concern about young people's mental health and wellbeing as well as recognition that children are generally less active now than in the past.

We are continuing to use this money to support our children in learning about healthy lifestyle choices and to develop and increase the amount of sport and PE provision in school. In September, after training the staff, we introduced an exciting new PE curriculum to increase physical activity. We have also seen how outdoor learning has a huge benefit on our children's physical and emotional wellbeing so we are really keen to develop this provision through our 'Space to Learn, Space to Grow' project. You can find details of how these initiatives are going further on in this newsletter. The School Council are continuing their work on healthy eating and will be focusing on lunchtimes this term. If you would like to know more about these initiatives or have any concerns please come and speak to us.

With very best wishes for a healthy and active 2019!



### Fund raising news

This year we raised a fantastic amount of money for Children in Need. Thank you to all of you who supported the event and helped us make a massive £1,000 The children did a fantastic job with all their inventive sales ideas and should be very proud of themselves.

### School Admissions

Don't forget that the closing date for applications for children aged 4 who want to start school next September is Monday 14th January 2019. Any late applications are only considered at a later date and so may not get their school of choice.

If you need any help completing the form electronically please see Mrs Cable or Mrs Moorey in the office.

## LOOKING BACK AT THE EVENTS OF TERM 2

All present and on time!

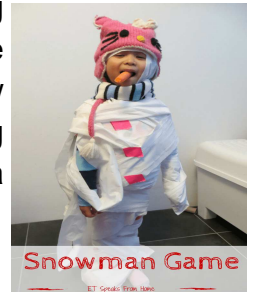
We are delighted that 7 out of our 9 classes achieved an attendance rate of 96% or more between September and Christmas—what a result! The prize for the best attendance goes to the Red Rabbits and Orange Otters who both managed 97%. Well done!

Children who arrive late for school often miss important information, the chance to recap on previous learning and to socialise with friends and settle in to the school day so we want to encourage all children to arrive on time. Last term we were really pleased that there were fewer children than ever who were late for school. Great news! We hope that by the end of 2019 **all** our children will be at school to enjoy the start of the day.

### South Malling's Got Talent

On the last day of term we were treated to our annual Talent Show. The acts wowed us all and showed us what a talented bunch of children we have at South Malling. The children also showed great support and encouragement for each other. Congratulations go to all the entrants and to our 2019 winners: Tap dancer Herbie from the Gibbons, singers Gracie (FF) and Ceyce (PPB) and the multi skilled Olive, Gabriella, Lucy and Georgie from the Otters.

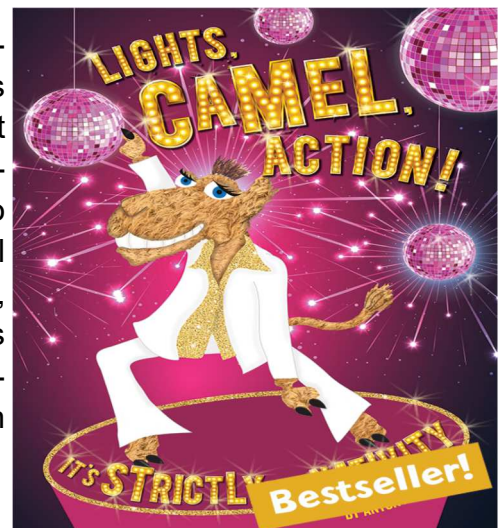
Once again the amazing staff also entertained the children during the show with their South Malling version of 'Dress a Snowman'!



### Memories of a Musical Malling!

Last term was jam-packed with music and drama for all the children across the school. Once again, the children from the Nursery joined the Reception classes to perform their own Nativity story. A group of children from the Fuchsia Flamingos supported them by narrating and singing clearly and confidently and the Red Rabbits and Lilac Lamb children sang beautifully and performed actions to the songs. The Gold Gibbons and Turquoise Tigers and Toucans also took to the stage with a dazzling performance of 'Lights, Camel, Action', a nativity play with a dash of Strictly Come Dancing!. The Gibbons sparkled beautifully as villagers, sheep and shepherds; and the Tigers and Toucans acted out their speaking roles with great expression and eloquence.

Finally, the children in Years Three to Six wowed the audience with their professional performance of various carols and Christmas songs at the Key Stage Two Carol Concert which included some songs in French, German and Spanish as well as references to the World Wars. Well done to everyone for all their hard work and a BIG thank you to all the staff who helped to make this Christmas such a special, and musical, one. We would particularly like to thank Miss O'Neill for all her musical support; her expertise, high expectations and professionalism give our performances an amazing quality and enable all children to shine.



## LOOKING FORWARDS TO TERM 3

RealPE is a unique, child-centred approach that transforms how we teach PE to engage and challenge **EVERY** child in our school. It focuses on the development of agility, balance and coordination, healthy competition and co-operative learning giving every child the physical literacy, emotional and thinking skills to achieve in PE, Sport and life.

The new programme is based around cogs which underpin the lessons and promotes skill development. Each term, classes will focus on a different cog. The six cogs are: Social, Physical, Personal, Health & Fitness, Cognitive, Creative.

Having reviewed the implementation, we are pleased to report that the children are thoroughly enjoying the new programme, are more focused

and engaged and their enthusiasm for PE has increased.

*"Real PE is good because you focus on only one thing and can get better at it. The cogs help change your behaviour towards others. Sometimes it can mean you are more active and learning new skills can help."* **Lila**

*"I think it is more fun and we go into specific skills instead of the basic ones. We learn more, we have cogs and personal bests. I see the class having so much fun!"* **Molly**

*"If we forget our trainers we don't have to sit out and I love PE because it's really active and fun as we get new tasks every single week!"* **Caitlin**



### Character Strengths for Term 3

Children demonstrating **grit** will:

Show improvements in their behaviour over time, Persevere whilst model-making etc; adapt work where needed. Try and try again; make mistakes; take some risks; not allow disappointment to curb enthusiasm; enjoy challenges; view mistakes as a step for learning; stay on task. Not give up, will cross out and not rub out mistakes; know the difference between draft and best, Have courage to admit and learn from mistakes; try new things and be resilient when facing a challenge; keep focussed.



### Come to school to watch a maths lesson !

Parents / carers are invited to come and watch their child in a maths lesson. Parents often say they are unsure about how we teach calculations these days so please see your child's newsletter for dates and come and see how we teach maths and what your child learns in a maths lesson.

### What's on this term?

Our school Learning Journey — 'Curious Creations'— is an enterprise theme focusing on maths, design technology and financial capability. We will end the topic with an Enterprise Open Afternoons (see individual class newsletters for dates and times) where parents can come and buy some of the products and share their children's work.

Red Rabbits: **What's Your Job?**

Gold Gibbons: **The Three Billy Goats Gruff** (Who can design and create a strong bridge for the goats? )

Turquoise Tigers and Toucans: **The Little Red Riding Hood** (making and selling bread)

Fuchsia Flamingos: **The Iron Man** (a performance of the story by Ted Hughes)

Orange Otters : **Where will your Wardrobe Take You?** (a performance of the Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe)

Emerald Eagles : **Are we alone in the universe?** (art exhibition based on work on the universe)

Purple Polar Bears: **How much gold can you generate for the class?** (making and selling a Scratch computer game).

Our **assembly themes** this term continue to be on our values and our character strengths. Our focus in Term 3 is on Grit and Perseverance. We will be looking at these in a variety of ways including through the lives of significant people in history and sport.

We are thrilled to announce that South Malling School's outdoor project 'Space to Learn, Space to Grow' has been selected for the Tesco Bags of Help public vote during January and February 2019. Run in partnership with environmental charity Groundwork, Bags of Help uses the money raised from carrier bag sales to fund local projects. The project that receives the most votes in its area will receive a grant of up to £4,000, second place receiving up to £2,000 and third place up to £1,000.

## The Project

Our 'Space to Learn, Space to Grow' project will transform outdoor learning activities at South Malling School. We will build raised beds for growing fruit, vegetables and flowers, and create a fire pit and den areas on the school field. Our project will encourage mini-beast habitats, birds, bees and butterflies.

## How you can help

- ◆ **Please vote for us!** Tesco customers vote in-store for a local project, using the blue token given to them at the checkout. You will receive one blue token per transaction (please ask for a token if you are not given one!) Then pop your token in the South Malling voting box.
- ◆ You can vote for us in any of the following stores: Tesco Superstore Lewes and the Tesco Express stores at Peacehaven, Seaford and Rottingdean.
- ◆ Please encourage your friends, family and colleagues to vote for our project when they shop too.

Voting will take place between **1<sup>st</sup> January and 28<sup>th</sup> February 2019.**

Thank you for your support

### Getting started with Grant success!!

Last term our '**Space to Learn, Space to Grow**' outdoor learning project was awarded **£5,000** by the **Southover Manor Trust!** This means that we can make a start on our plans to develop our outdoor learning area in order to provide more opportunities for practical, 'hands on' activities and experiences for children across the school.

We hope to build several raised beds to grow seasonal vegetables, herbs, fruit and flowers to help establish an eco-friendly, low maintenance garden that will encourage mini-beast habitats, birds, bees, butterflies and wildlife. We will enclose part of this area with fencing and gates to ensure wildlife conservation by reducing footfall, at the same time providing a safe place to have campfires with small groups, a table with benches for outdoor lessons, meetings and picnics and areas to explore and use to extend a variety of curriculum areas.

As wonderful as this grant is we will need more funds to do everything we need to so don't forget to vote for us this January and February at **Tesco Bags for Help** scheme!!

Thank you, Maxine Hunt, Outdoor learning coordinator

## Additional Information

### Parking Problems

During the last term the school has received several complaints about the parking situation from other parents, local residents and passers– by.

The parking situation around the school is, like in so many other urban schools, extremely challenging. This has got worse in the last year by the increase in the numbers of employees at the Police Headquarters on Church Lane. I have had several conversations with local councillors to try and improve the situation but do not, so far, have a way forwards.

However, it now appears that a few of our parents are parking in ways that could potentially endanger children's lives (e.g. too close to the corner of a road) and that lacks consideration for our neighbours (e.g. on grass verges, blocking front entrances).

Whilst we understand the frustrations that parking can cause **please, please** make sure you park safely and with respect for all others using the roadways.



### Building works

At the end of last term you probably noticed that the builders had moved in!

During the holidays they have worked tirelessly installing a much needed new lighting system across the whole school. The upgrade in the corridor has required a completely new ceiling to be fitted, plastered and decorated. The result is quite dramatic and we now realise how dark the old lights were! The works have not been without their troubles– a flood in one classroom, plaster dust across the school, displays dismantled and the alarm systems crashing on Christmas Eve.

Mrs Warren and Mr Vinall have been real heroes; sorting out the problems, cleaning up and opening the school up early in the morning and locking up late at night every-day except for Christmas and Boxing Days. We are really lucky to have such committed and caring people on our staff team who go the extra mile for our school. I really hope they can know how much we appreciate and value what they do for us all.

### Attendance matters

'Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world' Nelson Mandela

Arm yourself with the most powerful weapon. Attend school EVERYDAY!

### Clubs update

All clubs (except After School and Breakfast clubs) start back in the week beginning 14th January. Please see the website or ask at the office if you would like any information on the clubs available.

### Have you checked if your child could receive additional funding and support

You may be missing out on this important benefit if not. Even if your child doesn't want to eat a school lunch or is in the Infants so doesn't pay for their lunch, the school receives additional funding for any child registered for the Pupil Premium Grant . This money can be used to pay for their lunches (KS2), to support your child with after school clubs, trips out, additional learning support amongst other things. Pop into the office if you think your child might be entitled to this important additional support.

This year we will also be receiving additional funding for children who are, or have been, adopted. If this could apply to your child please let Mrs O'Donoghue know.

# DATES

**Please check dates in case any have needed to be changed since Newsletter 1 2018**

## January

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

## February

7th-Year 4 show @2.15 pm.  
**Week beginning 11th** - Enterprise Fair: Open afternoon in the classes– see class newsletters. All welcome  
15th- last day before half term  
25th- children return to school after half term

## 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 Southease  
**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

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

## Contact Details:

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## Friends

A huge thank you to the Friends of South Malling for all their hard work in helping to raise much needed funds for our school. The Christmas Fair was a wonderful event

The next Committee meeting is on 17th **January at 7.30 pm** at the Dorsett. All welcome.

Other events this term include:

**9th Feb-** Race night (£2 ticket in advance, £2.50 on door).

**15th Feb-** Valentines disco (include decorated hearts by children).

## Safer Internet Day

Safer internet day this year is on **5th February**. The children will be involved in a range of different activities to help them understand how to use the internet in the safest possible way.

An Online Safety newsletter will be sent out to parents during the week of 5th February. If you have any specific concerns you would like to discuss please feel free to make a time to see Miss Schulte, our online Safety Leader.