Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Southill Lower School Newsletter

Dear Parent and Carers,

Our value of the month is creativity and all around the school, there is an abundance of it. The weeks leading up to Christmas are almost the most magical in school but they can also be incredibly stressful. Routines are often disturbed and some children (and adults) can find this tricky. At these times in particular, kindness and patience is most definitely needed.

Highlight of the Week

On Monday, I had the pleasure of a learning wonder with one of our school governors, Mrs Izzard, focussing on our Early Years provision. As our EYFS governor, Mrs Izzard was most impressed by how calm and focussed the children were during a Big Reading session. The children listened so carefully to 'Pirate Stew' and when Mrs Crook questioned them about the story and characters, Martins confidently turned to their talk partners to discuss their responses. It was wonderful to see such independence from the children and we discussed the importance of routine and structure even for our youngest children.

Golden Ticket

This week, we have introduced a new reward for lunchtimes. Today our first ever 'Golden Ticket' was issued. This reward is a lunchtime pass which entitles the owner to get their lunch first, if they wish, for the whole of the following week. Children will receive this award by being polite, kind and helpful during lunchtimes. I am pleased to say that there were many children nominated today but eventually it was Reuben from Swallows class who received the 'Golden Ticket'. Well done Reuben and we look forward to seeing who will receive the reward next week.

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

FoSLS Christmas Fayre

This afternoon FoSLS held their Christmas Fayre in the school hall. There was Christmas crafts, a teddy bear grab and biscuit decorating to name but a few. Thank you to everyone who attended the Fayre and to all of the wonderful FoSLS parent helpers who supported with organising and running the fayre. We look forward to announcing what was raised in the next few days.

Christmas Toy Appeal

Our toy appeal is finally over and I cannot tell you how delighted the staff are with how well it has been received. You have all been so incredibly generous and together we have shown the true meaning of Christmas.

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Martins' Pirate Day

It was a delightful end of the week for Martins' class as they held their 'Pirate Day' today. This enrichment day was a wonderful addition to their topic this half term and it was lovely to see the children coming into school this morning dressed as pirates. They had an action packed day of pirate crafting, games and a treasure hunt and their pirate names gave me such a giggle. Thank you so much to the Martins' staff who organised and prepared such a special day for the children.

Sign of the Week

The sign of the week for next week is thirsty:

Flat hand make short downwards movements to your throat and back.

Word of the Week

Our **word of the week** continues this year across the federation and is shared by Mrs Rimmer. We make sure that they are up in every classroom and work on using them in our speaking and in our writing. Please do give these a try in sentences at home. For our word of the week next week is Bauble.

A ***bauble*** is a small, decorative ball-shaped / spherical ornament that is often hung on Christmas trees. ·

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Picture News

Through our **Picture News** this week, children were encouraged to think about what it means to feel included. This is in light of the Football Association (FA) laying out new plans aimed at raising awareness and increasing participation in disability football.

Santa Challenge

Well done to everyone that took part in our Santa Challenge. We put all of the names in a hat and announced the winner in assembly. As you can see from the photograph, Chloe was delighted with her scooter.

Nativity Front Cover Competition

As our whole school nativity draws nearer, we are holding our annual 'Programme Cover Competition'. The children should have brought home an entry form with them this evening. If your child would like to take part, then they need to draw their design (no text please) on the sheet given and then hand it in to their class teacher or the office no later than **Thursday 12th December 2024**. Good luck everyone.

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Christmas card Post-box

Finally, with only two weeks left to go until the end of term, our Christmas post-box will be making an appearance on Monday. Our Year 4 ambassadors will be in charge of sorting the mail and delivering any cards to classes. In order to help the ambassadors to do this, please can we ask that you ensure that the cards are clearly marked with the child's name and class. Also if there is more than one child with that name in the class then could you please make it clear which child it is.

Have an amazing weekend

Kind regards,

Read

Mrs. Read and the Leadership team

Our Value of the month is CREATIVITY

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Southill Lower School Safeguarding
safeguarding@southhillschool.co.uk

Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Samantha Barlow
Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Sonya Read and Mrs Rimmer
Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Sarah Tuckwell

Do you have any safeguarding concerns regarding a child? If so, please feel free to contact any of the above in confidence via the email address at the top. This email is accessible by the above members of staff only.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.
Sam Barlow
Executive Headteacher

Other key bits of information

• Please ensure pupils have the correct school uniform and PE kit. We do have quite a stock of second hand uniform if required – please ask at the school office about this.

• School lunches continue to be provided by AIP. Please use the school Food United app to order all meals by 9am on the day otherwise the meal of jacket potato and beans will be served.

• All Medication prescribed by a doctor must be handed into school with all the original packaging and labels giving the information needed.

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

December

Thursday 12th December	Barnwell Christmas Concert 3.45
Tuesday 17th December	Southill Nativity at church 2pm start
Wednesday 18th December	Christmas Jumper and Christmas Dinner day
Thursday 19th December	We have a very special visitor due in!
Friday 20th December	Last Day of Term. No After School club today.

Why not look at the full calendar on the school website (https://southillschool.greenhousecms.co.uk/Calendar/). Here you will find what we have planned for the 2024/2025 Academic Year.

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Southill Weekly Awards

STAR OF THE WEEK

Martins Class – Tommy

Swallows Class – George

Swifts Class – Lillie

Head Teachers Award

Martins Class –

William and Emily

Swallows Class –

Aowyn

Swifts Class –

Lillie, Tom, Sam, Isabella and Ethan

Class Dojo Champions

Martins Class –

Quinn and Jessica

Swallows Class –

Amber and Reuben

Swifts Class –

Anna and Sam

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Notices for Parents

What's on at your local Children's Centre

CHRISTMAS SESSIONS

Shefford, Stotfold, Arlesey & Villages

Central Bedfordshire

For families and children 0-12 years

Christmas open hours – Monday to Thursday 8.15 to 4.30pm Friday 8.15 to 4pm
Except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

0-19 Health Hub 0300 300 0606
Midwifery Community Hub Stotfold 0300 300 8185
Worried about a child call Children's Services on 0300 300 8585

Sessions are back starting Tuesday 7th January 2025

SEND Stay & Play in your own way

Monday 2nd and 16th December 10-11.30
@ Shefford CC SG17 5XA.
A SEND stay and play session for children under 5 with their parents. Parents welcome without children to attend for support and advice from our Early Years SEND team.

SEND Active play

Tuesday 31st December 10-11.30am @ Arlesey Youth Centre SG15 6SN
An active play session for children 0-12 years with additional needs and disabilities. Siblings welcome.

Christmas Messy Play

Tuesday 3rd December 9.30-11 @ Arlesey Youth Centre SG15 6SN
Ideal for children 1-5 years. Older home educated children welcome.
Christmas crafts and messy trays. Your child can choose what to play with, mix it about and create play experiences in their own way. Old clothes advisable.

Christmas Crafts

Monday 23rd December 9.30am -11.00 @ Shefford CC SG17 5XA
Ideal for children 2-12 years. A free craft session, activities for children to create and make. No booking required.

NHS Children's vaccination clinic -

Monday 23rd December 12.30-3 @ Shefford CC SG17 5XA For Children 0-5 yrs who have missed vaccinations. No need to book, pop in.

Breakfast Club

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday 8.15-9.15
@ Shefford Children's Centre SG17 5XA

Start your day the right way!
All ages welcome. Come along for a cuppa with play activities for your child and if you like join us for breakfast too. **It's free!**

Ideal for Families with children 0-12yrs
Join us before or after school drop off.

Membership form

Feedback

Donation bucket at all sessions
Food & craft items also welcome

Request for support

Issue No: 13
Friday 6th December 2024

Parish News

CRIB service
24th December at 2pm at All saints Church, Southill.

CHRISTMAS DAY service 9.30am 25th December