



Dear Parents and Carers

We once again had really busy and fun half term with so much going on.

I really wanted to begin with how proud I am with the improved attendance so far this Spring Term. We appreciate that children do get sick and will be off to get better however we always do encourage you to send your child into school whenever possible. We are getting more and more classes with nearly 100% attendance weekly. Well done everyone.

INSET DAY

INSET DAYS: Just a reminder that we have an Inset Day on Monday 17th April. This is different to the infant school on this rare occasion. We also have our last Inset Day on Friday the 23rd June.

Bank Holidays : Just a reminder that we have two bank holidays coming up on Monday the 1st of May and Monday the 8th May. The second one is for the Coronation of King Charles III.

SCITT: We are very excited to announce that SJS will be used as the headquarters for School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT). This means that after the Easter Holidays, we will have students training to be teachers in our new training room and office.

Website: Please remember to take a good look at our website where we have a lot of supportive information. I would like to point out our [parents page](#) where you will find a page on [community support](#).

Rocksteady: Many children are taking part in the Friday lessons learning drums, guitar, piano or singing. It is great to hear them rock every Friday afternoon! Check out the Rocksteady [website](#) for more information.



NSPCC Number Day: We showed our support for the NSPCC by taking part in 'Number Day'. We are proud to say that we raised £110.85 which will help to fund vital services such as Childline. We spent the day dressed up as Rockstars and had a full day of exciting and challenging maths activities.

Year 6 Victorian Day: As part of their topic, Year 6 took part in a Victorian Day which gave them the chance to experience what a typical school day was like during the Victorian era.



Safer Internet Day: All the children took part in Safer Internet Day in February. They learnt about not sharing pictures online as well as the importance of passwords amongst many other things. Thinkuknow.co.uk is a great website for parents to support children's online activity. [Take a look.](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)



School Council: The school council have been planning their next fund raising project which will be a school tuck shop selling healthy snacks. They will be using the profits made to buy more stock and hopefully be able to sell on more days. A great life skill.

University of Portsmouth: Year 5 were visited by Dr Nic Bonne from the University of Portsmouth Cosmology department to take part in 2 workshops. Take a look at our [video](#) on our [YouTube](#) channel!

UTC: Our Year 4s had an exciting opportunity to get 'hands-on' for our Science topic, Sound with Dr Geary from UTC. UTC Portsmouth is a new type of college that provides a specialist STEM curriculum delivered by experts to meet the growing demands of employers across the region. Take a look at our [video](#) on our [YouTube](#) channel.



Zoolab: As part of their topic on the Rainforest, year 4 were visited by the 'Zoolab' who brought the rainforest to the classroom. They were able to handle a real snake and many other creatures of the forest. Awesome!

Curriculum Newsletters: SJS Spring 2 Curriculum Newsletters are now available on our website. Click the [link](#) to find out more about your child's topic and the skills that they will be focussing on in English and Maths as well as other subjects.

Portsmouth BookFest 2023 runs from 13th February to 5th March. This includes an exciting line-up of online and in person talks, workshops and activities for all ages. Click the link for the [School Library Service Newsletter](#)



Classroom assistants are needed in primary and secondary schools across Portsmouth. Watch short presentations and hear inspirational accounts from support staff. If you need to gain a specific qualification or want training, local providers will be on hand to talk all things apprenticeships as well as other routes into the classroom. Click on the [link](#) for more details.

Wall of fame: Take a look at our latest [Wall of Fame](#) winners on our YouTube channel.



PATCH (PTA): PATCH once again came up trumps organising a Valentines Disco. The children had a great time dancing to cheesy tunes with me, DJ Jones!

I would also like to thank them for their kind donation of 5 more go karts for the children to enjoy at playtimes. They are great!

LGB: Our joint Local Governing Body with the infant school continue to meet regularly where we are supported and challenged in areas such

as the curriculum and finances. Do contact our Chair, Sherri Bailey, through the school if you have any questions. See our LGB Page to see [who is who](#).

World Book Day: We will be celebrating World Book Day on Friday the 3rd March so children are welcome to dress up as a book character. (homemade ones are the best!) We will spend the whole day immersed in books and fun activities including 'decorate the classroom door' using a book title. Take a look at the website for some cheap dressing up ideas. Click [here](#)



Finally, thank you for your patience and understanding with the past and future strikes. Like I said in my letters, it is always a difficult decision for a member of staff to decide to strike and I will do my best to keep as many classrooms open as possible.

The unions have three further strike days planned for Thursday the 2nd March, Wednesday the 15th March and Thursday the 16th March.

As a precautionary measure, I would ask again that you look at alternative arrangements for childcare in case of class closures.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rob Jones
Headteacher



Our School Library is open until 3:30pm on Wednesdays for parents and families.

Come along and listen to your child read, change a book or help them complete an Accelerated Reader quiz!