



# SINCLAIR PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

Sinclair Road, Southampton, SO16 8GF  
Telephone 023 8073 6663 [www.sinclairlive.net](http://www.sinclairlive.net)  
[info@sinclairlive.net](mailto:info@sinclairlive.net)

Executive Headteacher: Mrs G. Montague, M.A.  
Co Executive Headteacher: Miss S Hendricks B.A. Ed. (Hons)

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to the March newsletter! As we transition into the vibrant months of Spring, we reflect on the remarkable dedication and hard work exhibited by our students and staff alike. Despite the changeable weather characteristic of this time of year, our school community continues to thrive. Within our dynamic curriculum, exciting activities abound, sparking curiosity and igniting passion in our students' hearts and minds. From immersive learning experiences to creative endeavours, there's no shortage of excitement within our classrooms. Behind every achievement and every moment of joy, lies the unwavering commitment of our dedicated staff, whose tireless efforts shape the educational journey of our students. Thank you for being part of our Sinclair family!

## Enrichment News:

### World Book Day 2024

On Thursday 7th March 2024 Sinclair Primary & Nursery School celebrated World Book Day with costumes and special lessons all linked to books and our love of reading. We held a special assembly in which the teachers read aloud extracts from some of their favourite books. Around school, there was a 'Where's Wally?' competition. The reading ambassadors also created some book cafés in some hallway spaces where children could sample some book recommendations. All the teachers had decorated their doors in the style of a book theme for the day which made the school look more exciting and interesting.



### Storytime with an Author (Y5)



Some keen readers from Y4 & Y5 gathered in the meeting room to join an online story time with author David Baddiel. He read part of his book called *The Parent Agency*. He had written a lot in his job as a comedian. He got the idea from his son. Staying in the world of a book for a few days or a week is brilliant for your imagination. He is a big football fan and co-wrote the song *Football's Coming Home*. His book was great- for the first time ever, he performed a song from his book about a world in which children are in charge!

## The Big Legal Lesson

If you could introduce one new law, what would it be and why? This is the question we have been asking children at Sinclair as part of our work in citizenship and understanding democracy. During the week of the 11<sup>th</sup> March the children had class assemblies to think about what new laws they would introduce if they could. Thinking about being Architects of a Better World helped us to discuss key issues and think about what could make a difference for the future.



What's the law got to do with me?

## Pi Day Maths 2024



On the 14th March, we joined the global celebration of Pi day. This included a fantastic model from Mr Walker showing how circumferences can be calculated when the radius (or diameter) of a circle is known. The children then had their own opportunity to practically work this out for their own circle using string and metre rulers. We also watched a recent world record attempt to break a long-standing record (set by the mathematician Shanks in 1873) to calculate pi to over 707 decimal places.

## Southampton Schools Cross-Country Competition

On Friday 15th March, pupils from year five and year six took part in a city-wide cross-country running competition. Over 150 competitors gathered at the start line and warmed themselves up with the support of teachers and Superstar Sports coaches. The course was an entire lap of the Southampton City Sports Centre: from the football pitch, past the biking track, around behind the artificial grass sports pitches, past the ski slope, up the hill past the cricket ovals and up to the top of the hill for the finish line. Our pupils did an amazing job against tough competition, and we are very proud of their success and well done to Mati for coming 15th out of over 150 competitors.



## Easter Disco



On the evening of the 21st of March, we had an amazing disco. We danced, we snacked on pom bears, had a drink and played some games. The best part of it was the Superstar Sports coaches and teachers leading the music, dance and games. The music was a mix of modern bangers and classic tunes and we all left happy and smiling as our parents came to pick us up. The teachers were particularly proud of the children's manners, behaviour and participation. Thank you to all of the children and staff who gave up their time to support this event.

## Ducklings in Year 2

Year two has been eggciting this week! We have had the arrival of duck eggs. The excitement peaked when we discovered that one had already hatched on the day of arrival! For the next 24 hours, this little duckling encouraged its yet-to-be-hatched companions, nestled safely in the warmth of the incubator. We eagerly watched as the eggs began to wiggle, signalling the imminent arrival of more ducklings. Miss White, also known as duck mummy, wasted no time in providing a cozy sanctuary for the newly hatched duckling.



## NSPCC Workshop



Years 2, 5, and 6 had the valuable opportunity to participate in the NSPCC's 'Speak out. Stay safe.' workshop. Tailored for children aged 5 to 11, this program is committed to equipping children with crucial knowledge, including: Identifying various forms of abuse and understanding the associated signs. Instilling in children the understanding that abuse is never their fault, emphasising their entitlement to safety. Educating children on where to seek

help and the available resources, such as the Childline service. During the workshop, we were accompanied by Buddy, a speech bubble, to emphasise the importance of speaking out if any worries arise.

## Y6 S.P.A.G. Games Day

On 25th March, year six pupils planned, created and managed their own Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar themed day of games. Year five pupils were invited to come and have a go! **Pronoun Alley** - Knock down the correct type of pronoun. **Splat the Rat Claws/Clause** – main or subordinate clauses. **Shoot the Shark** – recognise active and passive verbs. **Sentence Type Ring-toss** – identify statements, questions, commands or exclamations. **Verb Tense Jenga** – know how to create simple, perfect and progressive verbs. **Hook a Conjunction (Duck)** – use conjunctions to join clauses. **SPAG Skittles** – finding word classes in a book



## Poetry by Heart Class Winners

Class winners of the School Poetry by Heart competition will be entered into the online National competition by video. We wish them all the best of luck for their excellent performance poetry. Charlie and Maria (Y1), Farah and Frank (Y2), Sarah and Samuel (Y3), Finley and Nour (Y4), Isabella and Dexter (Y5), Dany, Jessica, Ava, Muhammad (Y6)



## **Curriculum News:**

### **Year R**

This term in Year R has been filled with engaging tales and hands-on learning adventures. Our little ones have been actively involved in creative activities, constructing houses for the Three Little Pigs using small world resources and bringing stories to life through mask and puppet play. Exploring the wonders of farms, we've examined aerial maps to discover their layout and features. In Understanding the World, we've embarked on a journey through time, comparing past and present through the lens of kitchens and cars. Additionally, we've embraced the signs of new life and seasonal changes in springtime, fostering a deeper connection to the world around us. And in maths, our young learners have delved into estimation, halving, and doubling, laying the foundation for future mathematical adventures.

### **Year 1**

In Year 1, the spotlight shines on Norman the Slug, sparking imaginative tales of his whimsical shell and playful adventures. Alongside storytelling, budding journalists have crafted newspaper reports on extraordinary events, sharpening their writing skills with each headline. In maths, the thrill of discovery fills the classroom as students delve into measurement, exploring concepts of length and mass through hands-on activities. And amidst it all, the captivating tale of Grace Darling in history class continues to inspire, teaching lessons of bravery and compassion from the past. Each day brings new adventures and discoveries, fostering a love for learning in our vibrant Year 1 community.

### **Year 2**

Year 2 has enjoyed an enchanting half term of creativity and discovery. Our young writers have delved into the world of mythical creatures, crafting thrilling beginnings to adventure stories that spark the imagination. One particularly exciting morning, we were thrilled to find our classroom abuzz with the arrival of ducklings, marking a special moment of new life and wonder. In history, we've immersed ourselves in the dramatic tale of Florence Nightingale, gaining insight into her pivotal role in shaping modern healthcare. Meanwhile, in maths, we've honed our measurement skills, becoming more accurate in our estimations with the help of new weigh scales and mastering millilitres for liquid measurements.

### **Year 3**

In Year three, it's been a delightful term brimming with exploration and discovery. In writing we have continued with our topic of Edward Tulane, where we've woven imaginative tales of his journey back to Abilene, fostering a deeper connection with literature. Alongside, we've embraced the whimsical charm of poetry through 'Please Mrs. Butler', finding joy in the playful verses that tickle our funny bones. In Maths, the excitement of fractions has captivated our minds, as we've immersed ourselves in hands-on learning with multicoloured liquids in clear plastic cups, visualising fractions of amounts with creativity and flair. Meanwhile, our scientific explorations have centred around captivating lifecycles, sparking a newfound passion for conservation, particularly in our mission to protect the vital role of bees as essential pollinators.

## **Year 4**

It's been an eventful and enriching half term in Year 4! Our writing adventures have transported us into the enchanting world of Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone, where we've crafted vivid diary entries from Hagrid's perspective, sharing the excitement of Harry's wizarding journey and his invitation to Hogwarts. In Maths, we've explored equivalent fractions and embraced the challenge of converting them into decimals, adding depth to our numerical understanding. Meanwhile, our studies in Geography and Science have focused on rivers and the water cycle, offering valuable insights into the complexities of water management, highlighted by the Boscastle flood case study. Through these experiences, we're not just learning about the world; we're preparing ourselves to contribute meaningfully as future architects of a better world.

## **Year 5**

In Year 5, our exploration of World War I has enriched our writing journey as we delve into the poignant realities of life in the trenches through flashback narratives. Guided Reading sessions have provided invaluable insights, immersing us in both fictional and non-fictional accounts to deepen our understanding of the soldiers' experiences. We've honed our writing skills by experimenting with various techniques to convey emotions authentically. In Science, the topic of Forces has sparked excitement as we engage in hands-on experiments, conducting tests that enhance our comprehension and appreciation of fundamental scientific principles. These immersive experiences across subjects have not only broadened our knowledge but also fostered a deeper understanding of history and science, enriching our learning journey in Year 5.

## **Year 6**

Year six has enjoyed an exhilarating half term filled with immersive learning experiences. In English, we've embarked on an enthralling journey through 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell, drawing inspiration to craft our own gripping adventure survival stories set in the Amazonian rainforest. Meanwhile, in mathematics, we've delved into the complexities of ratio and proportion, mastering the application of scale factors to solve problems and create tables with sequences of scaled numbers. These engaging explorations have not only broadened our literary and mathematical horizons but also nurtured our creativity and problem-solving skills, preparing us for the challenges ahead and the national tests being held in May.

More information about our curriculum can be found at

<https://www.sinclairlive.net/curriculum>



## Notices:

### Coffee mornings

Many thanks to the parents who have been able to attend our coffee mornings so far. The feedback and ideas shared during these sessions have helped shape our thoughts going forward.



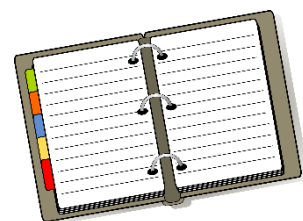
### School meals

School meals are £2.90 per day. Year R, 1 and 2 are all entitled to Universal free school meals. If you think your child may be eligible for free school meals due to your personal financial circumstances please use the below link to run an eligibility check.

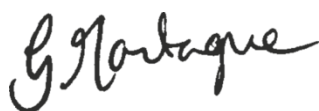
<https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/southampton/>

### Dates for your Diary

- 15<sup>th</sup> April – First day back from Easter holidays
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April – Year 2 trip to Marwell Zoo
- Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> May – May Day bank holiday
- Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May – Coffee morning and Uniform Swap Shop
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May – Year 6 SATs Week
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Y6 visiting Lordshill Library
- Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Tempest Class photographs
- Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May – Sports day and family picnic (16<sup>th</sup> June backup date)
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May – Y5 visiting Lordshill Library
- Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> May – Y4 visiting Lordshill Library
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Y3 visiting Lordshill Library
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May – Where's Wally Funrun
- 27<sup>th</sup> May – 31<sup>st</sup> May – Half term
- Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June & Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> June – Inset Days
- Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> June – First day back into school
- Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June – City Athletics event @ Sports Centre
- Friday 5<sup>th</sup> July – School Summer Fayre (£5 challenge)
- Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> July – Last day of Summer Term



Have a wonderful Easter break.



**Gerida Montague**  
Executive Headteacher



**Sarah Hendricks**  
Co Executive Headteacher