



*Learning to encourage, aspire,
persevere and succeed.*

SINCLAIR PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to share with you the wonderful achievements and successes of our students as we also look forward to the second half of Spring term. It has been a fantastic period of learning and growth, and we couldn't be more proud of the dedication and hard work demonstrated by each and every child.



Our school has enthusiastically embraced the national campaign 'Eat Them to Defeat Them', and it's been heartening to see our students embracing healthy eating habits in our nutritious school dinners and within their own lunchboxes. Thank you for your continued support with this!

We are also filled with excitement for the upcoming events and opportunities that await us. We eagerly anticipate the celebration of World Book Day, where our students will immerse themselves in the joy of literature and creativity - **Thursday 7th March**. To add to the day's enjoyment, all children will have the opportunity to dress up if they wish as their favourite book character for the day. If your child chooses to dress up, please bear in mind that your child will be wearing their costume for the whole day, so costumes will need to be practical and comfortable. PE lessons will still go ahead so PE kits need to come into school as well.



Additionally, we are thrilled to announce our participation in the Big Legal Lesson 2024, themed around the children thinking about becoming Architects of a Better World through considering what new laws they would invent, fostering a sense of responsibility in shaping a brighter future.

Thank you to those who attended our first coffee morning of the Spring term. The next one will be on **Thursday 7th March** at 8:10am and will be a pop-up event outside the front of school (or in the hall if wet). We hope this will be another way to drop in and have an informal chat and cup of coffee or tea with a member of the senior team. We do have an open-door policy, but hope that this regular slot will enable more of our families to come in and share any positive or development items that you may have.... or just pop in to say hello!





Thank you to all those families who work hard to ensure their children are in school on time every day. Our school target is 97.6% and currently our attendance is at 94.2%.

Sadly, we still have a few children who are missing out on their education due to lateness or absence. Please ensure if your child is ill that you call school to let us know... we worry if our children do not attend.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



Year 6 are becoming very excited about the residential to Skern Lodge in July. Many parents are paying in regular instalments and I would like to thank you for ensuring these are up to date. Full payment needs to be made by 8th July to 12th July 2024, as Skern requires payment at this time.



School Disco:

Thursday 21st March.

Time: 3:30pm until 5:00pm

Tickets: £2.50

Children should bring their disco clothes to school in a labelled bag so that they can change at the end of the school day. Children will be provided a drink and a snack during the disco.

A letter will be sent out with further information on 7th March, make sure

to check your emails.

We thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education journey. Together, we are nurturing curious minds and empowering our students to make a positive impact on the world around them.

Online Payments

A reminder you can register online to make payments for dinners and school trips. Please check out our website (www.sinclairlive.net) on the Online payments link. A letter can be obtained from the school office to register online, which includes a step-by-step guide to sign in. We are unable to accept cash, debit or credit cards as a method of payment.

You will need a Scopay account to sign up for the upcoming parents' evenings. If you have not already got a Scopay account please see the office team for support setting one up.

Information about our curriculum can be found at

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

Curriculum and Enrichment

Year R

This month the children have loved playing in the Chinese New Year Role play area. They learnt all about dragons and we even saw one on the playground! We created our own dragons and labelled them with the key features. We also learnt about the story of Zog and started to write captions and sentences about him. In maths we have been learning about addition, subtraction, number bonds to 10, time and money. We had great fun using coins to pay for objects in our cafe and farmshop in our big top tent. We love having the time to practice our morning learning in our choosing time, during busy bee. We have learnt lots about castles and we even made our own using small worlds toys, the blocks and junk modelling.

We love Pip and Pap and during busy bee lots of the children decided to make their own puppets, masks, characters and posters. Next we will have a go at making our own stories. We learnt a lot about people that help us and we have a police station set up so that we can act in role and support others in our community. This half term we will be looking at the Gingerbread man, learning the story, doing science experiments and baking Gingerbread figures. We can't wait to eat them!

Year 1

Wow, we've done so much since the last newsletter and it has been a busy half term filled with hard work. The children have continued to show their tremendous knowledge and it has been fantastic.

At the end of the last half term we completed our work, in English, on the Gruffalo and our maths topic of subtraction. We are now confident when using numberlines to subtract. We looked further into the concept of becoming 'Architects of a Better World' through our R.E. unit on change: specifically about the life of Jesus. This half-term we have begun by reading the story of 'Norman the Slug with the Silly Shell' and we have been having fun by writing a setting description. In maths we are revisiting place value and learning to count from 20 to 50 and beyond for those who are up to the challenge.

Year 2

Year 2 have been studying Florence Nightingale, famously known as 'The Lady with the Lamp'. We have gained deep insights into how her pioneering efforts revolutionised the field of nursing. Her compassionate care and innovative practices during the Crimean War significantly reduced mortality rates among wounded soldiers. Beyond her wartime contributions, Nightingale's advocacy for public health initiatives and sanitation reforms left a lasting impact on healthcare systems worldwide. Her legacy continues to inspire generations of healthcare professionals, emphasizing the importance of compassion and evidence-based practice. Florence Nightingale's visionary leadership remains a beacon guiding excellence in nursing and healthcare delivery today.

In our writing, we're currently honing our skills in crafting non-chronological reports, focusing on the intriguing topic of mythical creatures. Throughout our lessons, we've delved into fascinating accounts of legendary beings such as unicorns, griffins, and centaurs, among others. Drawing inspiration from these mythical entities, we've embarked on the creative journey of designing our very own mythical beasts. Through this process, we've engaged in thoughtful consideration regarding how we can vividly describe these fantastical creatures, exploring their unique characteristics, behaviours, and habitats.

Year 3

Since returning from the half-term break, year 3 has been learning all about Edward Tulane, a pretentious, fragile and delicate china rabbit, who is loved dearly by their owner, Abilene Tulane. Year 3 are excited to find out more about the precious china rabbit; they can't wait to write a diary entry in the role of Edward.

"The future of humanity and indeed all life on Earth depends on us." - David Attenborough. Year 3 believes that these words speak volumes. They care about our planet, our community and our school. They want to make a difference. This term, we are learning about climate change. In order to do this, we have retrieved information about climates and the Equator from Year 2, so that we can learn more about the world around us. Will you make a difference too?

Year 4

Year 4 have conducted an experiment to test what materials absorb sounds for an imaginary project to design some ear defenders. In design and technology we completed our topic on board games. In the process we explored different design options and developed one through to manufacture.

In recent weeks we have looked at our creative writing toolkits with relation to different poems that link with nature. We have really enjoyed what makes nature remarkable and now understand more about how nature inspires a sense of awe and wonder. Our most recent work in maths has been all about fractions and fractions greater than one whole.

We have started a Geography topic on River and are looking forward to finding out more as we go through the unit of work. Any research at home linked to rivers would be a tremendous help.

Year 5

This term has been a roller coaster of experiences. In English, we have been tapping into the concept of memory, and how it comes from a variety of triggers such as our senses or a specific object. Memories create a variety of strong emotions, so we have been looking into the feelings of sorrow and regret as we will be empathising with an older character remembering his youth and past. In maths, we are moving on to area and perimeter, using a variety of concrete resources such as shapes and blocks to explore how we can manipulate rectilinear shapes to change the perimeter and area. We will be recalling our knowledge of multiplication and division when working out lengths and area. In reading, we have been enjoying a variety of poems, from solemn classics such as Dulce Et Decorum Est to beautiful and peaceful Haikus. This term is set to be our best one yet and we cannot wait to Lucy Learn more!

Year 6

The first half of Spring Term was a fantastic half-term for year six. During our writing unit, we showed scenes of tension, mystery and betrayal in our Macbeth unit. Our first writing outcome was a story retelling of a section of the story and combined dramatic action, rich description and examples of dialogue between characters. Certain children focused around the fateful meeting with the witches whilst others retold an action packed battle scene. Following this, we wrote monologues in the role of Macbeth to show the agony of his decision over what to do about King Duncan. We are very much looking forward to writing an adventure story during spring 2 based on Katherine Rundell's Explorer.

Our ability to solve mathematical problems continues to improve with a clear focus on fractions. This included using our arithmetic skills to multiply, divide, add and subtract them- by different denominators. Our problem solving focused around finding a range of different solutions to open problems. In spring 2 we will revisit vital concepts on shape, space and measures (amongst a host of others) to ensure we deepen our learning and ability to solve complex problems involving them.

Nursery

During our Lunar new year week, we had great fun at a special cafe where we used our chopsticks to eat a variety of regular cafe snacks. We really tried hard with our fine motor development to use the chopsticks as tweezers and control them to reach our mouths. We explored Lunar new year story books, listened to the story about the Chinese New Year and the animals of the Zodiac, created our own dragon faces and used red and yellow to create marks. We have also enjoyed our friendship week where we were looking at how to be a kind friend? Identifying those friends who make us feel happy and loved. We have read the 'Go away bird' by Julia Donaldson and Catherine Rayner, as well as 'Pip and Posy - The new friend' by Axel Scheffler. These stories have been really helpful and the children have been able to identify why the characters are sad and respond to questions such as, 'What could you do to help them become happy?' In our provision we have created our very own 'kindness cafe' with fancy tea party resources. We have also been talking about our special people at home. It has been lovely to listen to the children discussing their families with their friends. Also, a little reminder to label all your child's clothing pretty please!

Dates for your Diary



- Thursday, 7th March – World Book Day
- Thursday, 7th March – Coffee Morning & Loved Uniform Swap Shop
- Monday, 11th March – Year 2 duckling kits arriving
- Thursday, 14th March – Pip & Pap Phonics Workshop (2:45pm)
- Friday, 15th March – School Reports sent home
- Tuesday, 19th March – Y1 Phonics Screening Workshop
- Thursday, 21st March – School Disco (Y1-Y6)
- Friday, 22nd March – Inset Day
- Wednesday, 27th March – Poetry by Heart performance afternoon
- Thursday, 28th March – 28th Pip & Pap Phonics Workshop (2:45pm)
- Friday, 29th March – Good Friday (school closed)
- 1st April – 12th April – Easter holidays
- Monday, 15th April – First day back into school
- Monday, 6th May – May Day Bank Holiday
- Tuesday, 13th May – Friday, 12th May – Year 6 SATS Week
- 27th May – 31st May – half term
- Monday, 3rd June & Tuesday 4th June – Inset Days
- Wednesday 5th June – First day back into school.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gerida Montague". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gerida Montague
Executive Headteacher

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Hendricks". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sarah Hendricks
Co Executive Headteacher