



SINCLAIR PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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Co Executive Headteacher: Miss S Hendricks B.A. Ed. (Hons)

Dear Parents

Spring is truly here at Sinclair school. There are daffodils and crocuses on the school grounds and the sound of new life filling the corridors with the 3 ducklings that have successfully hatched in Year 2.

Curriculum and Enrichment

Year R

This term, Year R have enjoyed reading and retelling 'The Gingerbread Man'. We enjoyed telling our own versions with different animals. In Science, we investigated dissolving to find out if the Gingerbread was telling the truth about not being able to swim! Then, we designed and built boats to help him next time.

For Understanding the World, we have compared Past and Present through looking at kitchens and cars. We have also started thinking about the signs of new life and seasonal changes in springtime. To develop our maths skills, we have explored estimating, halving and doubling.

Year 1

This half term, there has been a Gruffalo on the loose in Sinclair! First we wrote a wanted poster describing his looks and personality and now we are writing a story where he goes on a journey in a different setting. Does he go underwater? Does he go into the jungle?

In History, we have been learning about the heroic actions of Grace Darling and her sea rescue, we have been thinking about artefacts, the story of the rescue and why she is considered significant.

Year 2

Year 2 have had a wonderful half term. We have been writing about mythical creatures and are currently about to write the start of an exciting, adventure story.

Last week, our duck eggs were delivered and 3 hatched on Thursday 23rd March. We were excited to learn about the hatching process but also to name our new arrivals. In history, we are learning about Florence Nightingale and the impact she has had on our National Health Service.

Year 3

Year 3 have had a fantastic half term. In writing, we have been writing an invitation based on the book, *Guess Who is Coming for Dinner?*, where the evil Dr Hunter is trying to entice Horace and Glenda to stay at his mansion. We have been exploring powerful vocabulary to create the desired effect on the reader.

In guided reading, we have been looking at the book *Song of a Dolphin Boy* and making links to climate change and how dolphins are being affected by plastic pollution. In geography, we have been learning all about climate change and how it is impacting on the polar regions in particular.

Year 4

It has been an exciting and busy half term in Year 4! In our writing we have been linking our learning to the David Walliams book *Billionaire Boy*. We have been creating an effect of intimidation and worry for when our reader enters a new school for the first time. In Maths, we have begun our investigations into measurement and perimeter, working carefully to convert between different units of measurements and apply it to real life circumstances.

In Geography and Science, our focus has been rivers and the water cycle. We noticed that water has many different stages and how ready we are for a flood depends very much on how many resources the country has. We learn about these things to prepare us for our future and helps us to be ready to become architects of a better world!

Year 5

In Year 5, we have been learning about World War I in order to help us with our writing. We are writing a flashback of life in the trenches. We have used some of our Guided Reading lessons to gain further insight into WWI using both fiction and non fiction texts to help us understand how the soldiers felt. We have then explored a variety of writing techniques to help us convey our emotions. Science has been fun as we have had the opportunity to undertake several tests during our topic 'Forces'. These have really helped us with our understanding.

Year 6

Year six have been having a fantastic half term. In English we have been reading a book called, 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. We are writing our own adventure survival story based on the characters that have crash landed in the Amazonian rainforest. In mathematics, we have completed our topics on ratio and proportion and learned how to apply scale factors to amounts or draw tables with sequences of scaled numbers to find answers to questions. We have designed motorised vehicles to race once we have built them and also in computing we have learned about e-safety.

More information about our curriculum can be found at

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

Postcard Heroes

After Easter, we will be recognising children who have demonstrated the key attributes of being an architect of a better world, with a celebration postcard delivered direct to their door every Saturday morning. Different children will be selected for their efforts each week. We will then celebrate the arrival of these postcards in our school assembly the following week. Please look out for these arriving after Easter.

Lordshill Library

This month, Years 2 and 5 have thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Lordshill Library. The librarian shared a story with the children. She also explained how to join the library so that they can borrow the wide range of books available there. We have also been proud to showcase our artwork at the library. Please go down and enjoy it if you haven't already. Over the coming months we are excited to be working more closely with the library and looking forward to seeing how we can help them. We will also be looking to renovate our own story garden area to develop our reading spaces in school as well. Please let us know if you are able to help with this project in any way!



World Book Day

The children and staff all enjoyed World Book Day, as they do every year. A great chance for them all to dress as their favourite characters and for the teachers to decorate their classroom doors based on a book they are reading in class. Our "Bookface" competition was a huge success again this year, with the children merging themselves into the covers of their favourite books.

We also had a very exciting competition for Year R and KS1 to design a new 'Pip and Pap' alien character. The winning designs will be turned into a book character!

School Council update

In school council this term, we have been thinking of ways to improve wet play times. We asked for donations of old games that children may not play with anymore and we held a non-school uniform day to raise funds to buy new games. We have games and puzzles in classrooms now that we love playing with when we cannot go outside.



Attendance

Thank you to all those families who work hard to ensure their children are in school every day. Our school target is 97.6% and currently our attendance is at **94.3%**. If your child is too ill to attend school please contact the school office each morning that they are away from school so that we can correctly record the reason and so that we don't worry. Any absence from school without an explanation will be recorded as an unauthorised absence and will be investigated.

Uniform

Please ensure all uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name so that we are able to return any lost property to your child as and when it is found.

Uniform 'Swap Shop'

Don't forget we will be running our first 'Swap Shop' on Thursday 4th May at 8:30am alongside our Coffee

and Catch-up. If you have any unwanted uniform, in good condition and clean, that you would like to donate please bring into school before the 31st March.

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.

Due to parent feedback, we will now be alternating the days of our coffee mornings. We hope this will support more families in being able to attend. Dates for June and July coffee mornings will be shared shortly.



School meals

Please check out the new Summer term menu from City Catering that will be available after the Easter break.

<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/62fdf4da171129493b93a7eb/t/6411ba7be2af0531af0b377a/1678883453021/Sinclair+School+%28three+page%29.pdf>

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/>

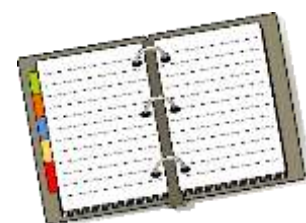
Parking

We are sadly still getting occasional reports from local residents of inconsiderate parking or dangerous driving at school drop off and pick up times. Please be mindful if you need to use your car for the school run. As the weather improves it is a good opportunity to enjoy a lovely walk to and from school. Local residents are advised to contact the Civil Enforcement Officers or the police if they have concerns.



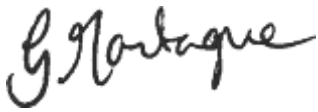
Dates for your Diary

- 3rd April – 14th April – Easter holidays
- Wednesday, 19th April – Yr 1 Phonics Screening Workshop at 3:40pm
- Friday, 21st April – Year 2 trip to Marwell
- Monday, 24th April – Year 1 Library trip
- Monday, 1st May – May Day bank holiday
- Thursday, 4th May – Coffee morning and Uniform Swap Shop
- Monday, 8th May – King's Coronation – extra bank holiday
- Tuesday, 9th May – Friday, 12th May – Year 6 SATS Week
- Week beginning 15th May – Year 5 and 6 Bikeability



- Monday, 22nd May – Sports day and family picnic (16th June if rained off on 22nd May)
- Tuesday, 23rd May – Tempest Class photographs
- Thursday, 25th May – Inset Day
- Friday, 26th May – Inset Day
- 29th May – 2nd June – half term
- Friday, 21st July – break up for the Summer Term
- Monday, 4th September – Inset Day
- Tuesday, 5th September – Pupils return to school

Have a wonderful Easter break.



Gerida Montague
Executive Headteacher



Sarah Hendricks
Co Executive Headteacher