



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

SINCLAIR PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

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April 2023 Newsletter

Dear Families,

What a positive start to our summer term! We hope the children had a lovely Easter break and we welcome them back, ready to learn.

Sun hats and sunscreen are essentials for safe outdoor play. Please may I remind you to send the children into school ready for the sunny weather with hats and sun-cream already applied. We provide plenty of fresh water in our classrooms and the lunch hall. It is always available and therefore water bottles are not required. Thank you for your support as always – it makes such a difference.

Curriculum and Enrichment:

Year R

In Year R, we have been learning about plants. First, we looked at lots of different plants we could find around us and learned the names of the parts; stem, leaves, roots, petals and flowers. Next, we explored different seeds and have set up an experiment to find out what conditions the seeds need to grow. After reading Jasper's Beanstalk, we wrote our own instructions for how to plant a seed.

In maths, we are learning about measuring with rulers so we can measure how tall the plants grow.

We are looking forward to The King's Coronation and will find out what we can do to celebrate and help out.

We are also learning about the environment and how we can help look after it.

Year 1

In writing, year 1 have been writing a Gruffalo story, using the writing stimulus 'The Gruffalo' by Julia Donaldson. We remembered to include our non-negotiables, including always using capital letters for the start of sentences and for proper nouns. We also introduced question marks and exclamation marks.

In maths, we continued embedding our knowledge of counting in 2s, 5s, and 10s in order for us to become fluent at using these in mathematical problems. We were also thinking about measurement. We have been measuring length, capacity and weight and started to record these using non-standard units of measurement.

We continue to practice our phonics daily in preparation for the phonics screening check in June. Alongside our phonic lessons we also practice in our Guided Reading lessons. We love reading Pip and Pap books!

Year 2

Year 2 had a wonderful trip to Marwell Zoo despite some adverse weather conditions. The children represented the school brilliantly and I was very proud of them.

We enjoyed looking at lots of different types of animals with the favourites being the giraffes, the lemurs and the tigers. Even the sloth made an appearance in the rainforest building for us. The children were very enthusiastic and asked lots of questions during the workshop. With the sun coming out in the afternoon the trip finished on a high note despite a few wet feet.

Year 3

We are learning all about Australia's magnificent Great Barrier Reef. This fascinating ecosystem will be explored in great detail throughout this term and the children will be given many opportunities to research and explore the creatures that call this special place their home. We will also be using our understanding of climate change from previous units of work to think analytically about the serious threats that the Great Barrier Reef currently faces. This knowledge aims to continue to empower the children to take action now in regards to saving our precious planet, near and far, one small step at a time.

In science, the children are continuing to deepen their learning about plants by exploring different plant adaptations. Over the course of this term, the children will also conduct an investigation to diagnose plants who have become 'poorly' and nurse them back to health by making sure the plant has all it needs in order to survive and thrive!

Our writing topic uses last term's class read – 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane' - as its stimulus. Here, the children are aiming to take the reader on a journey themselves and write descriptively about a new setting that Edward has found himself lost within. When the time comes, I know Year 3 will be so excited to show you all of their hard work from this term – it's set to be a jam packed full of fun, learning and celebrations!

Year 4

This term, a big focus for year 4 is our raising awareness for the current crisis facing refugees. We have been trying to be architects of a better world within our school and want to increase that influence to our community of family and friends. We have been researching online about refugees in the world and the United Kingdom's policy when receiving refugees and believe us when we tell you that we have something to say! We can't wait to share our findings with the rest of the school and the people around us. Changing the world one step at a time!

Year 5

In Year 5, we have been learning about the importance of the Amazon Rainforest. This week, we discussed the cause and effect of human geography in the Rainforest and we were surprised that cattle ranching has the largest impact.

In science, we are using our scientific knowledge to plan a festival. We had great fun measuring decibels to gauge the effect of distance on sound.

In writing, we have started our new unit on "Stormbreaker". We have been studying explanation texts in preparation for writing our own about a spy gadget that we will create. Move over Q!

Year 6

Year six have been continuing with their preparations for the upcoming national tests. In maths, this has involved looking at different mathematical techniques to apply to problems solving and, in English, this has involved reading a wide range of text from different times and cultures including fiction and non-fiction examples.

We are very pleased with how hard the children are working towards being the best they can be.

To find out more about our learning, please use our school website sinclairlive.net

Eco

The Eco Club is back! The Eco-heroes have been elected by their classmates and are ready to tackle all the different problems with creative thinking and teamwork! We have lots of ideas and will be putting them into practice throughout the rest of the year. We are currently thinking about Gardening Day next half term which will be an opportunity to revitalise our story garden area. For now though, our suggestions are being collated and shared, and we look forward to implementing all of our eco-ideas!

Tea, coffee and biscuits morning drop-in Thank you to those who have attended our coffee mornings. The next one will be on Thursday, 4th May and will be held in the hall.

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!



School Meals

Please check out the new Summer term menu from City Catering on the link below

<https://www.citycateringsouthampton.co.uk/summer-three-choice-gm-school-menu> that is now available.

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/>

Competition Winner



Across the partnership, we held a 'Pip and Pap' Design an Easter Egg Box competition for Years R to 2. We had so many entries - and some spectacular designs!

Congratulations to Eddie from Yr2 who was the winner at Sinclair Primary. David Tomkins, Pip and Pap series illustrator took his design and turned it into a real life Easter Egg box. We hope that Eddie enjoyed his chocolatey treat!

Look at our gallery of entries at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JxMEsJis00c>

The Pip and Pap Shop is now live – you can order decodable reading books for home use at www.pipandpapshop.co.uk. There is no obligation to buy; children will continue to borrow books in school as usual.

Dates for your Diary

- Monday, 1st May – May Day bank holiday
- Tuesday, 2nd May – Teachers strike day
- Wednesday, 3rd May – Reading Ambassadors trip to the library for the Big Help Out
- Thursday, 4th May – Coffee morning and Uniform Swap Shop
- Friday, 5th May – Coronation picnic in school
- 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 15th May – Skern Lodge residential meeting for year 5 parents after school
- Tuesday 16th May – Year 1 trip to the library in the afternoon
- Monday, 22nd May – Sports day and family picnic (16th June if rained off on 22nd May)
- Tuesday, 23rd May – Tempest Class photographs
- Tuesday 23rd May – Reading Ambassadors trip to the library for the Big Help Out
- Wednesday 24th May – Big Help Out day to support the local library
- 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



Gerida Montague
Executive Headteacher