



**Southwold
Primary School**

HIGHLIGHTS

Friday 5th February 2021

In this issue: Welcome/Outdoor Maths/Parent Raffle/Southwold Cycling/The Power of Reading/Home-Learning/Coffee Mornings/Children's Mental Health

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you are all safe and well. As we finish the fifth week of lockdown, we would like to thank both children and parents for your continued efforts, energy and focus on home learning. We have seen many, many examples of excellent outcomes sent to our home learning email as well as through Google Classroom in KS2. Keep up the good work! Do follow our social media accounts for Twitter and Facebook detailed on the back of the newsletter to see live updates across the week.

Safer Internet Day takes place on the 9th February and the theme this year explores the topic of 'reliability'. The internet has an amazing range of information and opportunities, but knowing how to separate fact from fiction and understanding reliable information from harmful information is very important. The day will focus on knowing what to trust online and support children to challenge their understanding of different sources of information. Content is available on our home learning main page for those of you learning at home.

We have seen an excellent response to our Times Table Rockstar competition with many children improving their scores through repetition and practise. Knowing multiplication facts, or times tables, is a really important core skill for children to develop during their primary education. These facts, and the linked division facts, will help them to work out fractions, written calculations and, later, with work on algebra. Children are expected to know all of their multiplication tables by the end of Year 4 so make sure to plan in three minutes each day to rehearse as this will help develop instant recall.

As you will no doubt have seen the Government have announced that schools could reopen from 8th March at the earliest and that we will get two weeks' notice of any changes. We, like you, will be informed of what will be happening closer to the time. We do not get any prior information of the arrangements made or what the intended return will look like. As always, as soon as we have more information we will communicate this to you at the earliest opportunity.

Thank you for your continued support through this time.

Mr Stephen O'Brien
Headteacher

Ms Rachel Davie
Executive Headteacher

OUTDOOR MATHS



This week the children in the EYFS learning bubble have enjoyed using the large scale objects found in the outside area to compare weight. They were surprised to see that the bowling pin was heavier than the foam brick, even though the brick was bigger. This is because the plastic is heavier than foam!

PARENT RAFFLE



Thank you to all the parents that completed the parent survey and a big well done to the three families that won the M&S hampers! We are putting together an action plan to address areas we think we can do even better including how we make sure coffee mornings are available to even more parents!

SOUTHWOLD CYCLING



The children in the Year 5/6 learning bubble have carried on with weekly cycling lessons. The lessons give the children the opportunity to learn outside and support them in staying fit during this time. Did you know that cycling regularly improves posture and coordination, and decreases stress levels?

CHILDREN AGED 5 AND OVER SHOULD AIM FOR AN AVERAGE OF AT LEAST 60 MINUTES OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY A DAY ACROSS A WEEK. WHAT WILL YOU BE DOING TODAY?

THE POWER OF READING



During their PSHCE circle time this week, the Year 3/4 learning bubble read 'Oh the Places You'll Go' by Dr Seuss. The text is about the importance of seizing new opportunities, keeping an open-mind, and trying new things. As well as lifting the spirits of the children it encouraged them to think about what they might like to do in the future when normality returns.

HOME-LEARNING



Thank you to those of you that have been sending in pictures of your home-learning. It's great to see the hard work that you have been doing at home. This half term Year 1 are learning about toys and how they work. Arthur in year 1 created a robot from scrap modelling materials. What could you make at home from old cereal boxes and some sellotape?

COFFEE MORNINGS AND DROP INS

We hope you have been enjoying our coffee mornings this term. New content is added weekly to the website page and these can be watched anytime! We would love to hear any feedback you have so please do let us know through the school admin email if there is content you would like to see in the coming weeks!

Date	Focus
Friday 26 th February	Maths: What is fluency, reasoning and problem solving?
Friday 12 th March	Speech and Language: Using stories to develop Vocabulary.
Friday 26 th March	Homework: Strategies to support your child's homework routine

We are continuing to offer **parent drop** in timeslots to families virtually across the continued partial closure. From home learning to setting routines we are here to support you. Please call the school office if you would like to book an appointment!

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

This week (the 1st and 7th February) is Children's Mental Health Week. Unlocking Potential (our therapeutic support service) have provided some materials linked to the theme Here and Now which can be accessed through our home learning page of the website. As adults, there are ways we can support our children to give them the best chance to stay mentally healthy.



Be there to listen. Regularly ask how they're doing so they get used to talking about their feelings and know there's always someone to listen if they want it.

Take what they say seriously. Listening to and valuing what your child says, without judging their feelings, in turn makes them feel valued.

Build positive routines. We know it still may not be easy, but try to reintroduce structure around regular routines, healthy eating and exercise. A good night's sleep is also really important!

Key Dates

Spring Term 2021

Staff Training Day:

Monday 4th January

Children's Start Date:

Tuesday 5th January

Work & Enterprise Week: Week beginning 18th January

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 15th February – Friday 19th February

Children's Start Date:

Monday 22nd February

Science & Technology Day (with Science Fair): Friday 19th March

Parents Evening:

Thursday 25th March

End of Term Finish Date: Thursday 1st April at 2pm

Summer Term 2021

Children's Start Date:

Monday 19th April 2021

Families' Week:

Starts Monday 26th April 2021

Bank Holiday:

Monday 3rd May 2021

Half Term Holiday:

Monday 31 May 2021 – Friday 4 June 2021

Children Start Date:

Monday 7th June 2021

Staff Training Day:

Friday 25th June 2021

Keeping Healthy Week (including sports day):

Starts Monday 28th June 2021

Parents Evening:

Thursday 8th July 2021

End of Term Finish Date:

Thursday 22nd July at 2pm

Staff Training Day: Friday 23rd July 2021

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