

Whole-school newsletter. Week beginning 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

#### Message from the Head of School:

Last week was another great week in school. Pupils are working hard in their lessons, collaborating well and enjoying structured play during lunchtimes too. We are so proud of them all for making such a positive start to the new academic year.

We have been pleased to see an increase in the number of parents and carers joining us for our parent workshops this year. (Dates for all of these can be found on the bottom of your annual calendar dates letter.) These workshops are designed to give parents insight into the aims, curriculum content and approaches being used in your child's current year group. Alongside the year group curriculum overviews published on our website and shared on Dojo at the start of the year, these will equip you in supporting your child's learning at home. Thank you for making the time to attend them. Partnership between school and home is an essential part of your child's education, working together we can achieve so much more!

This week is the final week of swimming for Y5 before Y3 take their turn in our on-site pool. Y5 have been amazing! The confidence they have shown, the skills they have grown... it has been wonderful to see their swimming develop in this intensive 3-week block of lessons. Thank you to our parents and carers for supporting this, and to our teachers for being flexible with their timetables to ensure all pupils had this opportunity whilst also accessing their usual curriculum. It's not easy to sort this logistically but it is absolutely worth it when we see the progress the pupils have made.

It continues to be a great pleasure to lead school and to see the immense progress made from our starting point four years ago. Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Middleton

#### **Working in partnership with our PCSO:**

Last week saw the start of a new working relationship with the newly-appointed Sutton Schools PCSO. PCSO Zoe Bishop will work closely with school on matters of importance and community engagement. Our first meeting last week was extremely productive and we are pleased to have a school contact for Police services.

The Junior PCSO scheme will be launching this week with 10 of our Y6 pupils. This will increase their awareness of community issues, such as parking, and give pupils a voice in working to make things better.

There will also be visits to school to support our curriculum learning on 'people who help us' in EYFS and uniformed services further up school.

Zoe will also be completing parking patrols in her role and has been proactive in getting this started. After years of trying to raise awareness of this via newsletters and gate duties, we are extremely grateful for this escalation of authority. She has the authority to issue on the spot fines to vehicles parked illegally so please ensure you park appropriately to avoid any nasty financial surprises. In doing this you'll also be doing your part to keep our pupils safe.





#### **Meet the new CEO:**

You are all aware that Sajid Gulzar (our founding CEO) left for a new role in Dubai in the summer. From September, Phillipa Sherlock-Lewis has been our CEO and is currently visiting each of our PACT schools for a 'meet the school community' event. A letter was shared last week inviting all at Sutton Park to this on Wednesday 18th October at 9am. We hope to see lots of you there.

- BELIEVE - INSPIRE - ACHIEVE -

#### **Celebration Assemblies:**

Every Thursday Reception to Y6 come together to celebrate in our 'Best Seat in The House' assembly. Teachers choose up to 2 pupils each week to celebrate and certificates are awarded. This is always the highlight of our week, and we love shining spotlights on pupil achievements in this way.

Family members of star award recipients are welcome to join us! Please sign in at the main school office.



	Star 1	Star 2
Reception	Sophie	Louis
1D	Eshal	Amelia
1P	Caelan	Toby
<b>2</b> P	Pippa	Joven
2T	Sienna	McKoi
3W	Rania	Thomas
3B	Jack	Daya
4WS	Trenton	Lylah
50	Mustafa	Olivia
5D	Zarha Dar	Kai
6K	Bradley	Bobbi
6B	Angelina	Oscar.S

#### Attendance:

Attendance to school is a legal requirement and so important to ensure all of our pupils thrive! Being in school every day and on time is proven to improve pupil outcomes. All classes are aiming for at least 95% attendance across the academic year.

Our overall school attendance for the year to date is 94.3%, so a little below target. Please play your part in helping us reach our goal!

Registration Form	Class %	
RMS	94.8	
1D	91.2	
1P	95.3	
2T	92.9	
2P	86.8	
3B	98.1	ہ
3W	91.2	$^{\prime}$
4WS	96.4	
5D	95.0	
5O	93.5	
6B	97.7	
6K	95.6	



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@SuttonParkPri

# **Dates for your diary:**

A paper copy of our annual calendar dates came out to all families last week.

We will share reminders via our newsletter each week. You can also find an electronic copy here:

http://suttonparkprimary.co. uk/images/foryou/Calendar\_ dates\_for\_parents\_2023-24.pdf

Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> September	National Teaching Assistants Day	National 'thank a teaching assistant' day – celebrating the hard work and efforts of our support staff. If you have a message you'd like to share, please send it into school with your child and we will add it to our TA appreciation board in the staffroom.
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> October-Tuesday 31 <sup>st</sup> October	Black History Month	During this month our collective worship will focus on celebrating the outstanding contributions that black people have made to British Society. We will be learning about inspirational black people such as Martin Luther King Jr, Mae Jemison, Barack Obama and Marcus Rashford.
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October	Census day – non-uniform for all pupils	No charge to pupils. Non-uniform for all.
Tuesday 10th October	World Mental Health Day	In our whole-school assembly, we will hear the story of 'The Colour Monster' by Anna Llenas. We will be exploring ways to keep our mind and body healthy, learning about the importance of mental and physical health.  Pupils can wear YELLOW to support the #HelloYellow campaign for youngminds.org.uk
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> October Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> October	EYFS – Y3 Y4-Y6	Parents' evenings this week.

#### School uniform:

A reminder that **only black tracksuits** should be worn for school PE days please. We are seeing a wide range of combinations and colours which are not in line with our uniform policy. All pupils should wear a maroon PE sports top (school logo preferred) with black tracksuit bottoms or shorts, and a plain black hoody. Now that every uniform support request has been granted and issued, class teachers/leaders will speak to the parents of children who are still being sent in in the incorrect clothing. Thank you for your cooperation.

#### After-school clubs:

Our after-school offer is expanding to include three new, non-sporting clubs:

- -Book club
- -Art & Craft club
- -Lego & board games club

A letter came home with all pupils on Friday so please sign up quickly to avoid disappointment!









## **Curriculum overviews:**

A reminder that you can access a complete overview of learning in every year group for each academic term by following the links below. If you ever ask your child what they've been up to at school and get a short answer or "I can't remember." these are a great resource to ask more questions and dig a little deeper into their learning!

http://suttonparkprimary.co.uk/index
.php?option=com\_sppagebuilder&view
=page&id=21

\*For those who would prefer a paper copy, please request one from your child's teacher on Parents' Evening in October.

# - BELIEVE - INSPIRE - ACHIEVE

#### Christmas Fayre - Thursday 14th December 2023:

We are beginning to make plans for our first whole-school community event of the year: our Christmas Fayre. If there are any parents who are able to support with this event, please email enquiry@suttonparkprimary.co.uk to let us know. If you know of any local business who would like a table at the event, please inform them of the event details and ask them to email too.

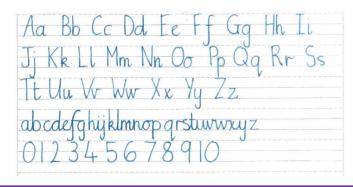
Non-uniform dates leading up to the Fayre are known as donation days and help us to provide items for the popular tombolas, as well as other pupil-created items for stalls they have chosen.

Please get these dates in your diary (Friday 1st Dec, Friday 8th Dec and Friday 15th Dec) and support us in this annual community event.



## New handwriting exercise books:

We have made a change to the exercise books being used in school for pupils' work this year to further improve curriculum outcomes. Pupil books now contain supportive lines to ensure their letters are formed correctly, with clear sizing and ascenders/descenders. Handwriting and presentation of pupil work is extremely important. Once confident with consistent letter sizing, pupils will move into normal lined workbooks. Your child's teacher may send home some additional practice pages to help them perfect their formation. Please encourage and support your child with this.







# Do **SMARTIES** have the fundraising answer?

For many, finances have never been more challenging and sadly, this is also the case for schools. We are exploring different ways of raising funds to continue school enhancements such as our school library catalogue, wow experiences/visitors in school and enrichment too.

One of the things we would love to do is invite RockKidz back into school for one of their epic, live concert workshops.

To help us to achieve this enrichment goal, we will be sending all pupils home with a tube of smarties before half term. This will signal the start of our Sutton Park Smarties Challenge! Once the smarties have been eaten (which we imagine won't take long!) please keep the tube and fill it with 20p coins.

Once full, please tape the lid shut and write your child's name and class along the label on the side of the tube. Return it to school during the week commencing 11th December where they will be collected and counted. Our final Smarties total will be shared in our final newsletter before Christmas!

Why not use this as a way of giving your child some responsibilities or tasks? Examples could include: tidying their bedroom, making the bed, organising their toys, clearing the table after dinner.

We thank you in advance for your support... start saving those 20ps!

