



Slindon Church of England Primary School Newsletter Spring Term 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

With a shorter term and in the knowledge of imminent news to share, this term I have written one newsletter for the Spring Term. The Spring Term is naturally quieter than the Autumn and Summer in terms of whole-school events and much has already been communicated to you as necessary, through letters that have been emailed and sent home.

We had a wonderful end to the Autumn term, with the Infant Nativity, carol singing at Arundel Cathedral and Adam's spectacular Snow Storm at The Forge on the last day of term! Thank you so much from us all, for all your cards and gifts. But I'd like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for the generosity you showed in contributions to the Outdoor Classroom Project. Over the few weeks leading up to Christmas, you raised **£413.16!** Further opportunities to continue to raise funds this term are on page 8 of this newsletter.

The rest of this newsletter is filled with news and dates to take us up until Easter. I'm aware that Coronavirus may be a concern to you at the moment. Public Health and the DfE have released information for schools to share with parents/ guardians, which you can find on pages 6 and 7 of this newsletter. We will of course continue to keep you updated as necessary.

Finally, we would like to say a huge congratulations to Lexie who is the first child in the school to achieve a prestigious Gold Reading Certificate! Lexie has read over 100 times and is the proud wearer of the very special gold reading badge.

Well done Lexie!

Enjoy the half term holiday when we get there!

Lucy Cooper

Headteacher



Staffing News

We have a number of changes to staffing to share with you this term.

Jon Martin left us at the beginning of the term to continue his post at Ormiston Six Villages Academy. He had initially hoped to be able to continue to work at both schools, but was ultimately unable to do so. We have since appointed Mr Patrick Reeve who will join us after the February half-term holiday. He takes on the post as Premises Manager, but also as a Teaching Assistant with a focus on facilitating Learning Outside of the Classroom. We are looking forward to welcoming him into our school. We are incredibly grateful to Steven from 'Trust in Blue', who has been supporting us during our period without a Premises Manager and to Venessa, who many of you won't have seen, but who has kept our school beautifully clean!

It is with sadness that we will say goodbye to Mrs Preece at the end of the Spring Term. Mrs Preece has decided to move back to her home town of Andover with her husband, and is taking up a position in a larger school as a full-time SENCO. Whilst we will be sad to see her go, we are pleased for Rachel that she continues to progress in her career and we wish her all the very best.

To ensure that the stability of the children in Acorn class is our priority, we are making the following changes after the half-term holidays. Miss Jodie Heater will work alongside Mrs Preece for the remainder of the Spring Term, gradually taking over the class teacher role before she will then take over as class teacher for the Summer Term. The children in Acorn Class will continue to be supported in their learning each morning by Mrs Redman.

Mrs Bonney will continue in her role as teacher to Catkin class, with Mrs Mayne remaining in the class as Teaching Assistant. This ensures the continuity needed for our youngest children and we are in the process of finding a suitable temporary Teaching Assistant to further support the children's learning and development.

You may have seen Mrs Merrit in Catkin Class over the last term. Mrs Merrit is working with us on a temporary basis and has been an asset to our team.

For the meantime, I will continue to hold the role of SENCO and Designated Safeguarding Lead. Mrs Karen Cooper will take over the role of Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above, do come and see me. Your children are always at the heart of everything we do and we are so grateful for your continued support and engagement.



Curriculum Focus



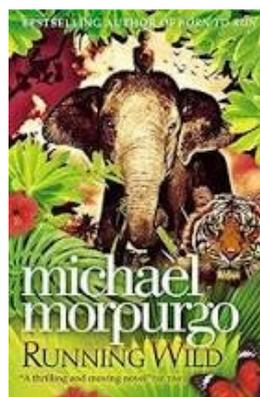
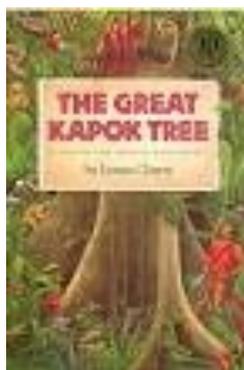
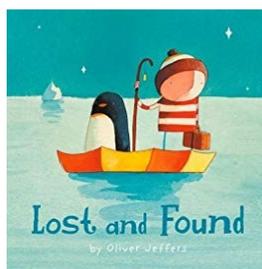
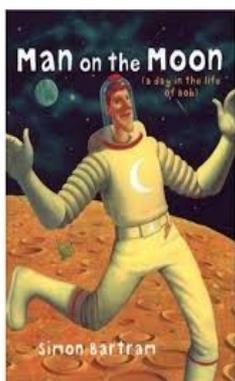
Invent, Explore, Discover!

Our whole-school learning for the Spring Term is around **inventing, exploring and discovering**. Each class has taken this in a different direction, so that we don't duplicate what the children learn as they go through the school, and to ensure that each year group's learning is tailored to cover and meet age related expectations within the National Curriculum.

This term is our second broad whole-school topic, to allow us more opportunities to all work together and we are thrilled with how it allows us to do so! We are excited to be working with the RSPB this term and with Petworth House as a whole school.

You can find out more about what your child's class is doing by keeping an eye on the 'Class Pages' tabs on our website.

Have a look at some of the exciting texts that will drive the learning throughout the school this term!



Curriculum Survey– Results

Last term we sent home a survey to seek your views about our curriculum. We were thrilled that 100% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the statements sent out. We sought your views on our greatest strengths and on ways in which we can improve. Here is how we are listening to you...

Better communication regarding behavior– Our revised behaviour policy has been sent out with new procedures for letting you know when your child has received a red card and equally as important, when they receive a platinum card.

More after school clubs related to sport– Our provision for sports clubs increases in the summer term, when we can use our school field.

More opportunities to see work in class– From the Summer Term we will be introducing half-termly opportunities to stay at drop-off and see the learning that is going on in each class– as it happens!

Many thanks to you all for your support and for engaging with us.



Get ready for a set of challenges during the week of Sports Relief from Monday 9th to Friday 13th March. Each day a member of staff will set the children a challenge as they come into school, with various more throughout the day. Therefore please ensure that children come to school dressed in warm leggings/ jogging bottoms to enable them to move freely every day. They should wear their normal school uniform on their top half. Be ready to join in at drop off each morning on the playground!

We will be raising money for Sport Relief through collecting donations on the playground throughout the week.

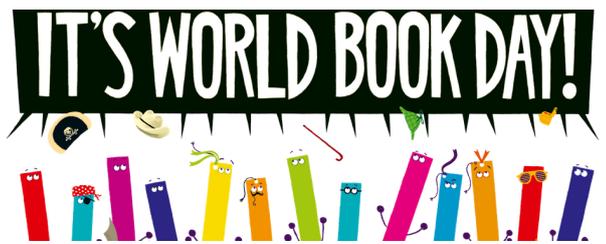
We pride ourselves on being an open and welcoming school and have not yet needed to usher any parents/carers out of the school in the morning– even during those heartbreaking early days when the children are new in Reception!

But we also have to manage the security of the site with regard to adults walking around the school in the mornings.

By the time children are in Acorn Class, in Years 3 and 4, we know that they are very capable of leaving you in the playground and coming into school with their teacher.

So I'd like to ask you to support us in developing this independence by allowing the children in Acorn class to come into school with the rest of their class. Please do not follow the children into school, particularly after the day has begun at 8.55am, as adults in the school should then be asked to sign in and wear a visitor badge.

Your support in this is greatly appreciated.



Slindon Church of England Primary School will be celebrating World Book Day a day earlier this year, to enable us to take the opportunity to work with Petworth House for a Creative Spring learning workshop on Thursday 5th March. Staff from Petworth House will be coming into school to work with all of the children and we are excited to be able to take part!

So please encourage your children to come to school on **Wednesday 4th March** as a character from their favourite book. This year, we would like children to be able to talk about their character, why they have chosen their book and what they love about the story or author.

I (Miss Cooper) will be having a minor operation on the 4th March and will be absent from school for two weeks.

The staff are of course more than capable of continuing as normal in my absence, but will be ably supported if needed by Phil Johnson, our Chair of Governors and by Mr Tom Moore, Headteacher at Bury Primary School.

I will be in contact and working slowly from home from the 6th March and hope to be back in school on Thursday 19th March.

Important Dates to Remember for the Spring Term

Remember you can keep an eye on the calendar on our school website by just googling it from your mobile phone– you don't need to log in to do this. Texts are sometimes sent out as a helpful reminder.

- **Tuesday 11th February 2020**– Safer Internet Day
- **Tuesday 11th February 2020**– Messy Church 3.30-5.00 in Catkin Class
- **Thursday 13th February 2020**– Valentines Cake Sale– after school in The Glade (leftover cakes will be sold the following day).
- **Friday 14th February 2020**– The Big Breakfast (Invite only)
- **Friday 14th February 2020**– Last day of Spring Term 1
- **Monday 24th February 2020**– First day back to school
- **Wednesday 26th February 2020**– Dance House Performance at Alexander Theatre
- **Wednesday 4th March 2020**– World Book Day (see page 4)
- **Thursday 5th March 2020**– Spring Creative Learning Day with Petworth House (whole school)
- **Monday 9th– Friday 13th March 2020**– Sports Relief Week (see page 4).
- **Wednesday 25th– Friday 27th March 2020**– Chestnut Class Residential
- **Tuesday 17th March 2020**- Messy Church 3.30-5.00pm in Catkin Class
- **Monday 30th & Tuesday 31st March 2020**– Parent/ Carer Consultation Evenings 3.30-6pm (see separate letter coming out after half-term)
- **Wednesday 1st April 2020**– Easter Service at St Mary's Church, Slindon from 2.15-3pm.
Everyone welcome, we hope to see you all there. Please let us know if you can help us to walk with the children to Church (we'll leave at approximately 1.45pm) and don't forget to collect your children from Church where possible.
- **Friday 3rd April 2020**- The Big Breakfast (Invite only)
- **Friday 3rd April 2020**– Easter Bonnet Competition (see page 8)
- **Friday 3rd April 2020**– Last day of term

Some important dates that we can let you know now for the Summer Term. Further details to follow:

- **Monday 20th April 2020**– First day back to school
- **Monday 11th-Friday 15th May 2020**– KS2 SATS Week (we usually also complete the KS1 papers during this week)
- **Thursday 25th June 2020 at 2pm**– Sports Day (see this date and the reserve dates on the school website calendar.
- **Friday 3rd July 3.30-6.30**– Summer Fayre 'This Great British Fete Off'- more details to follow.
- **Friday 10th July 1.30** in Coronation Hall- 'Slindon's Got Talent'- more details to follow.



HM Government



CORONAVIRUS: PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Government and NHS are well prepared to deal with this virus.

You can help too.

Germs can live on some surfaces for hours.

To protect yourself and others:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze.
- Bin the tissue and, to kill the germs, wash your hands with soap and water, or use a sanitiser gel.

This is the best way to slow the spread of almost any germs, including Coronavirus.

If you have arrived back from China or specified countries within the last 14 days, follow the returning traveller advice.

Check the list of countries and find out more at [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

Here is advice from Public Health England that we have been asked to share with you :

What is the coronavirus?

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus has been spreading since it was first reported in December 2019.

Symptoms include fever and respiratory symptoms including coughing and shortness of breath. Generally, coronavirus can cause more severe symptoms in people with weakened immune systems, older people, and those with long term conditions like diabetes, cancer and chronic lung disease.

If you develop these symptoms and have recently travelled to an area where the coronavirus is being widely reported or believe you may have come in contact with the virus then you should stay indoors and call NHS 111 informing them of the details linking you to the virus.

A case of coronavirus has been confirmed in Brighton & Hove?

One individual from Brighton & Hove tested positive on Thursday 6 February and is in a London hospital where they are being well cared for.

The new case is a known contact of a previously confirmed UK case, and the virus was passed on in France. Where this person lives has not been confirmed by the Chief Medical Officer.

Public Health England is the lead organisation responding to the situation. Public Health England is working with partner organisations to take measures to prevent any possible further spread of the virus.

Anyone who may have been in contact with the virus is currently being identified and will be contacted directly by Public Health England.

What should I do?

If you do feel unwell having travelled to the UK from mainland China, Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia or Macau in the last 14 days, then you should stay indoors and call NHS 111, even if symptoms are mild.

If you have travelled from Wuhan or Hubei province in the last 14 days then you should stay indoors and avoid contact with others as you would with flu, and call NHS 111 informing them of your symptoms and inform them of your recent travel to the city.

Everyone is being reminded to follow Public Health England advice to:

- Always carry tissues with you and use them to catch your cough or sneeze. Then bin the tissue, and wash your hands, or use a sanitiser gel.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after using public transport. Use a sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.
- You can find the latest information and advice from Public Health England at www.gov.uk/coronavirus

If you are feeling unwell and have not been contacted by Public Health England, then there is no need for concern.

You should continue to treat your symptoms as usual for seasonal flu or a common cold. If you feel unwell and do not know what you should do, then call NHS 111.

Where can I find more information?

Information for the public: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-information-for-the-public>

- Blog and frequently asked questions: <https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>
- Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Valentine Cake Sale



Thursday 13th February 2020 at 3.30pm in The Glade. Leftover cakes will be sold the next day during break times (if Miss Cooper doesn't eat them all).

Please bring donations of cake and money to spend!

EASTER BONNET COMPETITION

£2

Easter Bonnet Competition – Friday 3rd April 2020 £2 to enter

Bonnets MUST be made and decorated with recycled/ reused/ sustainable materials

Please make your Easter Bonnets at home and bring into school on Friday 3rd April for judging. Prizes for first place and runners up!

Good luck!

Please kindly cut any grapes in half, that are sent in, in your child's packed lunch.

Please remember that book bags should be in school every day.

Please make sure all school uniform is named.

Attendance

We continue to strive to raise our attendance levels which remain below national averages.

Please remember that if your child is absent from school and we haven't received a message from you, then we start to worry that all is not well. You will receive a text reminding you to contact us (we know what it's like when you've been up all night looking after a poorly child!) But we will begin calling you and your 2nd and 3rd priority numbers if we still have not heard from you.

We need to know which code to use in the register but more importantly we need to know that you and your family are safe and well.

Please remember to keep your child off school for 48 hours after sickness or diarrhoea.

Along with the wider community in Slindon, this month, we are collecting toiletries for Stone Pillow, so please add any extra to your shopping if you are



able to, and pop it in the green bucket at the front of the school.

Anything else is always gratefully received.

SLINDON
CHURCH
OF
ENGLAND
PRIMARY
SCHOOL



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Headteacher: Miss Lucy Cooper

Not sure what's going on at school?



Keep an eye on our school website, including the school calendar where you can find all the information you need.

www.slindonprimary.co.uk

Make sure we have your correct email addresses and telephone numbers so that we can communicate with you as necessary.