



Dear parents,

Happy New Year! Despite the chilly start to the new year, lots of learning and fun is already taking place at SBS. It is great to see the children back and so keen to learn more! Sadly, the annual SBS marathon was postponed this week, as we felt the grounds were too slippery for a whole school run. We have explained this to all children and penciled in a new date of 31st January 2024.

Our Nursery is officially open – please spread the word. This is a very exciting development for our school and we cannot wait to welcome the children already on the waiting list through this year.

At the beginning of last term, the Governors wrote to all families sharing their annual focuses for SBS. Here is a little update:

**Area One: Safeguarding:** Strengthen our systems, emphasising online safety and clearly defining bullying. We also aim to support students in continuing to build strong friendships.

**Governor comment:** we have received updates regarding the new SBS Anti-Bullying Charter and pleased to hear it has helped to increase dialogue with children. We have visited school on several occasions and have been very impressed by the warm and nurturing environment. We will be continuing these visits, and discussing them in our Governor meetings.

**Area Two: Communication:** Introducing a Communication Charter to further enhance communication with parents.

**Governor comment:** we have received positive feedback regarding the school's continually improving communication systems. We are aware that work on a SBS Communication Charter is ongoing and we look forward to hearing more feedback from staff and parents this term regarding this Charter.

**Area 3: Attendance:** Encourage active school participation and highlighting the link between consistent attendance and student performance.

**Governor comment:** we continue to receive attendance updates from the SBS Leadership Team. We are aware that despite illness, SBS pupils are currently attending school more frequently than children nationally as our attendance rates are currently above the national figure. We know that the Leadership Team is working with parents to reduce term time holiday requests and we are maintaining a close eye on this.

**Area 4 Challenge:** Ensure all students, from all starting points, are continually enabled to grow both academically and personally.

**Governor comment:** this is an ongoing piece of work for the Governing Body. We are reviewing pupil data regularly and discussing patterns of achievement with the SBS Teaching Team. We have spoken to the children about their English lessons and were particularly impressed to hear how much many children love to read. Governors have attended staff meetings where they have joined teaching staff in discussing next steps for developing the learning provision and have been impressed by the high-level of professional dialogue.

**Area 5 SBS Learning Provision:**

Remaining a strong, individual school but enhancing our offerings, including the new SBS Nursery, outdoor activities, partnering with the Winchester University Creativity Project and providing some leadership opportunities within and support to other local schools, including William Gilpin.

**Governor comment:** Governors have received positive feedback about the work

Miss. Simkins is doing at William Gilpin; she has helped to develop phonics and assessment systems at the school. We continue to be delighted with the relationship SBS has with Winchester University and particularly the work related to the Creativity Project. Finally, like the SBS Staff Team, we are pleased to be opening a new Nursery provision.

Throughout all of this work, our Governing Body are committed to continually growing their understanding of their role and the positive impact they have on pupils' learning and development. With this in mind, the Governors have continued to complete their own training to maintain a robust understanding of the current educational issues relevant to SBS, locally and nationally.

We are still looking for another Parent Governor and would be delighted to discuss this important role further with parents interested in supporting the strategic development of the school.



16, 23 and 30.1.24 - Oakhaven Acorn Project, Year 2, afternoons  
31.1.24 - Postponed SBS Marathon  
12 - 16.2.24 - Half term  
**26.2.24 - Open classroom**  
13.3.24 - Parent consultations  
14.3.24 - Parent consultations

14.3.24 - Trailblazers  
27.3.24 - Last day of Spring term  
15.4.24 - First day of Summer term

INSET days 2023-24

28th March 2024  
3rd June 2024

Community Worship

12.1.24 - James, Rory, George  
19.1.24 - Mae and Isobel  
26.1.24 - Tilly L-S and Minnie  
9.2.24 Tilly Smith  
23.2.24 - Stan, Ed, Beau and Walter

# SBS MESSAGES AND REMINDERS

## Bus Drivers

We continue to be looking for additional bus drivers to join the SBS team. We need drivers to cover staff absences and help us to expand our current provision. Drivers need a clean driving license with D category. The hours are likely to be between 3-4pm, but some morning driving and school outing driving may also be required. Full training, Hampshire County Council pay and pension conditions are included with this role. Please do get in contact urgently if you would like to discuss this further.

## Well done and thank you!

The pupils' Christmas cards raised £103.83 this year. Wonderful - I hope that you enjoyed receiving some beautiful cards!

## School uniform

I have noticed that many children have returned to school with new trainers. Children may change into old, colourful trainers or wellies for breaktimes but they should not be wearing brightly coloured trainers during the school day. Please check the [uniform list](#) on our school website or get in contact with me if there are special circumstances that you would like me to consider.

## Friday Explorer Awards

### Gruffalo



#### Ella Handyside

For always being enthusiastic about her learning and trying her best.

### Paddington



#### Hugh Hoogewerf

For working hard in phonics and confidently moving up to the next group.

### Shadow



#### Ami Thomas

For always working hard and being a great role model

### Elmer



#### Bonnie Whittleton

For her creative writing in phonics this week and excellent use of adjectives to describe homes in her morning tasks.

### Tulane



#### Eloise Hoole

For her brilliant focus when publishing her story.

### Aslan



#### Sienna Hicks

For her fantastic work in her role as a worship ambassador.

# STRIVE AND BELIEVE TO SHINE

## Life Lab

Our Life Lab visit was a great success. The children discussed and deepened their understanding of how to stay safe, and how to look after their bodies and minds. The workshops were tailored to the pupils' ages and they all reported enjoying them very much. Thank you to the parents who took the time to attend the workshop relating to these workshops.



## Celebrating our learning

At the end of last term we sent out a whole school Autumn term review. Our intention was to celebrate the pupils' learning and to help you understand the shape and pattern of our bespoke curriculum.

I appreciate that this landed in your inboxes just before Christmas, so understandably may have been missed. Therefore, I am attaching again with this email as you may find it an interesting read. We hope to release another Curriculum Review towards the end of the Spring term.

**SBS Autumn Term 2023 Review**

Strive and Believe to Shine

### Resilience

We have all had an opportunity to build our resilience through different curriculum activities, our visitors and visits.

- Zoebe - Early years and Key Stage 1
- Woodhill - Key Stage 2
- Zoebe was amazing - I love nature! Teddy, Year 2
- I loved the way the water in the lake. Amy, Year 2

### Elmer and Paddington

What a great team of children we have in Key Stage 1! A particular highlight this term has been our Dinosaur Nativity - we really don't think we'll ever forget Sheep on the Move - yeah, yeah! We enjoyed our Smugglers topic and the trip to St Barbe Museum to find out who was involved in smuggling locally in the 18th Century (pretty much everyone...) We've had a great time exploring and making in our old toys topic - did you know, our KS1 children can make a very decent axle!

# Thought/question for the month

During worship this term we are thinking about what responsibility means.

We have started to think about some of these questions:

- What does it mean to have a responsibility?
- Do we all have the same responsibilities and can responsibilities change?
- Is it easy to have a Responsibility?