

## South Baddesley CE Primary School

February/March 2020

### Newsletter



Dear Parents,

As I write this newsletter, it is impossible not to reflect on the strange and difficult times we are currently living in. As a community we are clearly facing challenges that can lead to enormous worry, however, we do have a strong community and we are able to support each other so that we maintain a sense of calm and purpose. Our thoughts are particularly with the most vulnerable members of our communities who become ill and the medical staff who are already working extremely hard to support individuals who fall ill.

In my previous communications to you regarding the coronavirus, I have explained that as a school we are strictly following all guidance from Public Health England. This means that at the point of publishing this newsletter the guidance for schools is as follows:

- ✓ If your child has a high temperature or a continuous cough, please do not send them to school. You should keep your child at home for 7 days. Your child should not return after 7 days if they continue to have these symptoms.
- ✓ In school we are frequently reminding the pupils about the steps that they can take to maintain high levels of hygiene –

including regular handwashing and use of tissues.

- ✓ We are asking all visitors to school to use anti-bacterial gel as they enter the building.
- ✓ Anyone who has returned home from a category 1 specified area in the last 14 days, should self-isolate for 14 days.
- ✓ Anyone who has returned home from a category 2 specified area in the last 14 days should self-isolate if symptoms develop.

As you are all aware, schools in England are currently open. If the guidance changes and school are told to close, we will communicate with you via email and messages will appear on our school website.

If the school does close prior to the school holidays, daily activities for your child will be emailed to you. You should expect to receive an email with tasks for the following day between 3-6pm. This will only take place during term time. It is important that you let school know now, if you feel you will be unable to receive emails during this time, as we will prepare home-learning packs for your child.

In the meantime, we will be continuing will planned events but taking regular guidance and taking any necessary precautions. You should continue to call absences into school in the normal way, so that we can keep a track of all of our pupils.

**In other news.....**

## Musical performances

During the Spring term, we are aiming for as many children as possible to experience live music. This started with our fabulous school concert provided by the New Forest Big Band. This was an opportunity for children to listen to a genre of music that they may not regularly hear. It also gave them an opportunity to learn about new instruments and ensembles of instruments. The children and families who attended this event loved it! We are really grateful to the New Forest Big Band for visiting us and hope to see them again in the future.

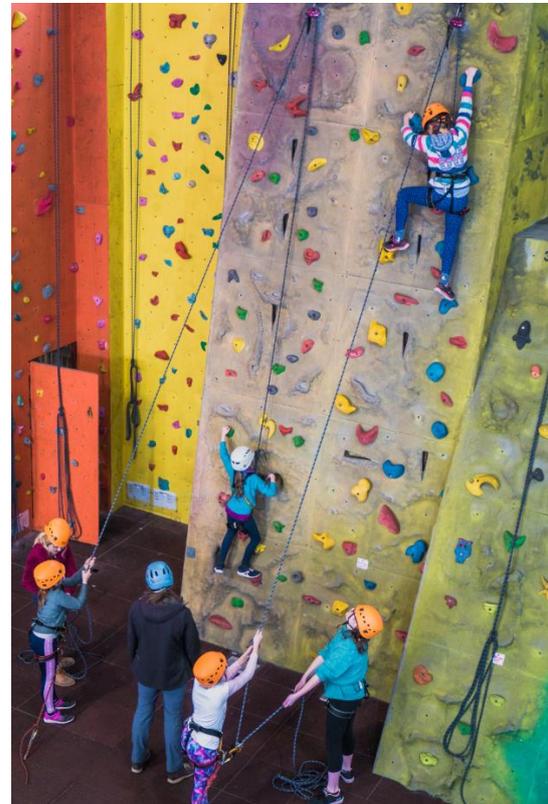


In addition our year 6 pupils took part in My Voice; Our Song in Basingstoke. For this we learnt uplifting songs to sing for our well-being. 'This was a powerful performance, listening to all our voices, choir and orchestra together' ~ Miss Scott

We are currently working with the Friends of SBS to improve the range of quality of our school instruments so that children can continue to develop the musical skills set out in the National Curriculum.

Year 6 were also lucky enough to be asked to participate in a photoshoot at Calshot Activities Centre. They had an epic morning trialling the amazing

facilities which they all loved. We would like to say a massive thank you to Ben Lidstone-Scott, one of our parents, for this opportunity.



## World Book Day

Following our visit from Bronnie and Bill from Bookwagon, we have continued to absorb ourselves in wonderful literature. There really is a true love of books at South Baddesley and this is just one of the reasons why our children read so well. We have been congratulated again by Hampshire County Council for our exceptional reading results, falling in the top 1% of the country for our 2019 results.

World Book Day was just another opportunity to celebrate books. We had a fantastic, book-mad day on World Book Day with weird and wonderful characters

popping up all over! The kitchen made a lovely effort with some book-themed dishes and the children thoroughly enjoyed their cosy read in the afternoon.

Thank you for the donations for dressing up which will go towards funding well-pitched books to support our readers in school.

Alongside our other initiatives, the Share a Million Stories project has boosted the profile of reading even further. In school and at home, we have incredibly shared over 1300 stories so far! Share a Million Stories continues throughout March, so keep up the good reading. Don't forget to log any stories shared at home and pass them on to your teacher so that we can add them to our grand total.

The children's reading experiences, clearly support their progress in writing. Below are some extracts of writing from children across the school.

*Poetry - James McStay, Shadow Class*

*I am a rain forest river  
Under the ruby red sky  
My diamond and crystal clear water  
Is not frothy or crashing, it's calm*

*I am a rain forest river  
As beautiful and shallow as can be  
My banks have trees all very emerald  
green  
Which makes me happy*

*I am now a polluted river  
Because lots of tourists visit me  
Cans of coke and everything broke  
I am not very happy*

## **Parking at SBS**

Thank you so much to everyone who has followed the request on our new parking signs at the front of the school or who has started to use the church car park. In addition, I have written to Hampshire Highways to request urgent maintenance of the lanes around the school – I am very aware that they are in need of much repair!

## **KS2 Cross Country Event**

Congratulations to all of the children who participated in the annual cross-country event at Walhampton. As always, we thoroughly enjoyed ourselves! A special congratulations goes to Erin Dovey in year 6 for coming 2<sup>nd</sup> in the girls event – this is such an incredible achievement.

Don't forget, we run a running club before school on a Wednesday. Running is for everyone and there are clear benefits for health and learning for children when they take part in these sporting activities. For further information about any of our school clubs, please check our school website.

## **SBS Explorers of Learning**

Thank you so much to the children who provided the school with entries to the Explorers of Learning competition. The results of this competition will be launched during the summer term when we will be holding a special event to share our new vision and aspects of our curriculum with you.

Keep checking newsletters and other communications for news about this.

## **Staffing at SBS**

Our fantastic staff team continues to grow and develop. After the Easter holidays, we will welcome back Miss Becky Barna who has been on maternity leave. Miss Barna will work across our key stage 2 team and will lead on PE and Sport with the support of coaches from Superstars Sports.

In addition, I am delighted to share with you that Mrs Vicky McManus will be joining the SBS team as our new SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) from April. Vicky is currently the Deputy Head of Pre Prep at Durlston Court School and has qualified as an accredited SENCo. Vicky will be supporting children across the school as well as delivering some class teaching.

Vicky has been appointed in partnership with St. Luke's School, Sway. We have been working in close partnership with St. Luke's for the past 18 months, already sharing some admin, pastoral and site management staff. In December 2019, the two schools set up a joint Governing Body committee, enabling the two schools to further develop systems and strategies to benefit both school communities.

### **Baddesley Basics and Baddesley Bags**

Well done to all of the children who work so hard to learn their weekly sounds, spellings, number facts and times tables. It is very clear when children are working on these skills at home as well as school. It takes the staff a considerable amount of time to put these activities together for the children and we are delighted when it is well supported at home.

Please keep up the good work!

### **Christingle**

The Children' Society have now sent an official acknowledgement that the amount raised at the South Baddesley Christingle Service was £195.30. Their letter of appreciation states that 'over one million children in this country who are facing the darkest situation imaginable' have been helped by the money raised in churches and schools through Christingle Services.

### **Spirituality at SBS**

As we journey through Lent and towards our Easter service, we are reflecting on the theme of 'Forgiveness' during worship. In a world where God forgives so graciously, we explore what this might mean in our daily life. We will consider how forgiveness makes us feel and how true forgiveness can set us free. We will talk about what we need to do to be forgiven by others and how this can help us to feel proud of who we are – always seeking to be the best versions of ourselves.

Understanding forgiveness is essential at SBS and one of the reasons that we have 'Peace' as one of six Christian values. We live in a world where peace is needed so much every day; recognising peace in our school community is fundamental to well-being and happiness.

**As I close this newsletter, I return to the very serious message at the start of this letter. Whilst we are maintaining a sense of calm and normality in school, we recognise that this is a very serious**

**matter and we will maintain high levels of communication regarding this topic with you.**

**We are thinking of you all and your families.**

**Warmest regards**

**Anne Moir**