



LITTLE SUTTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

DESIGNATED NATIONAL LEAD SCHOOL

FRIDAY 17TH MAY 2019

Dates for your Diary

MAY

23rd School Closed
24th Break up for half term

JUNE

3rd School reopens to children
5th Y3 SA Museum of Cannock Chase
6th Y3LB Museum of Cannock Chase
7th Y6 Residential Visit
19th Y1 Assembly
21st Midsummer Party
28th Sports Day
29th Family Day

JULY

5th Reserve Sports Day
7th Y6 Drayton Manor
19th Break up for summer

Closures

23rd June Elections
22nd July Training Day

Contact Us!

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Head Teacher

Mrs R Davis B.Ed (Hons)
National Leader of Education
Deputy Head
Mrs N Arkinstall BA (Hons)

Musician of the Month

Andrea Bocelli

Artist of the Month

Bridget Riley

Word of the Month

Inquisitive

Chair of Governors Spring Term Report



Last term we welcomed two new parent governors, Mrs Warren and Mrs Hussain. We very much look forward to working with them over their four year term of office. At the beginning of the Spring Term governors spent a day in school, observing lessons and talking to the children. This is part of our role as 'critical friends'. We must make sure that the school is ensuring all pupils make progress and enjoy their time in lessons. The feedback we received certainly confirmed that!

There is again considerable pressure on school finances, not just at Little Sutton, but all schools nationally. It has been necessary to approve a budget for next year that will considerably reduce our reserves. If it were to continue we could run out of reserves by the following year. If you could consider setting up a regular payment to FOLSS as per the recent letters it would help us to continue doing the extras that make the school so special, particularly around the facilities available for the children.

During the term there have been the normal committee meetings which allow smaller groups of governors to discuss specific areas of our responsibilities in more depth.

The Learning Trust for Excellence continues to develop and the schools in the Trust are all strengthened by this partnership. We are now looking at ways to deepen the partnership and see how the schools collectively can manage the challenges we face today. We are also looking outside of the Trust to learn from other organisations and ensure that our approach and outlook really is following best practice.

The Summer term is always a busy one and this year is no exception with our production of Mary Poppins, Sports Day and Family Day, just to name a few events. We look forward to seeing you in school over the coming term.

A Love of Reading

As you may be aware, we are now a designated English Hub, one of only 34 in the country providing expertise and training for the West Midlands. We have held 6 showcases to date, which have included learning walks and have been delighted to receive so many compliments on our teaching, the learning environment and wonderful learning behaviours of our children.

It is great to see the enthusiasm our children have for reading and I always enjoy presenting children with their reading challenge badges in school, following completing their year group challenge. We have some children who have received 6 badges (not yet beating last year's record of 8)! Reading is so important— by reading for 10 minutes every day a child can make an additional year's progress.

We have also been focusing on teaching the children academic vocabulary, with our word of the month, and specific class academic words. As a result the children's writing is really impressive with their choice of vocabulary. Every child who used the word of the month or their class words in their writing receives a raffle ticket and are entered into our monthly draw for a book. Our congratulations go to Zimo Y1 & Sophie Y5 for February and Maryam in Y2 & Heston Y4 for March. We also have lots of children putting their suggestions forward for the word of the month. Vocabulary not only impacts on reading and writing, but on other subject areas. Research tell us that "a child who is not at the expected standard in language at the age of five is eleven times less likely to achieve the expected level in maths at age 11." (DfE 2017)

Please encourage your child to read regularly at home and tell you about the vocabulary they have been learning—I am sure you will be impressed!

This Week's Headlines

Midsummer Party— We are very much looking forward to the Midsummer Party which takes place on 21st June 7pm at Aston Wood Golf Club priced £35 and are available by emailing folssenquiry@gmail.com. We would love to see you there.

Decking in KS1 Playground— We are aware that for some time the decking in KS1 playground has been looking a little tired. This week some repairs have been undertaken to bring it back into use. Our plans in the longer term are to remove the decking and replace this with some new equipment. We will be consulting the children as to what they would like to see in this area.

Y5 Botanical Gardens—Today our Y5 children are visiting the Botanical Gardens in Birmingham. We look forward to hearing about it in next week's newsletter.

SCHOOL WILL BE CLOSED FOR ELECTIONS ON THURSDAY 23RD MAY



Menu for Next Week

In addition, there is a salad / fruit bar and crusty bread available. Please note that the choices may vary slightly due to circumstances beyond our control. Every week we add taster pots and additional items to the menu to encourage children to try different foods.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Chicken curry Haddock grill Fish fingers Pizza Jacket potato * Peas Sweetcorn Baked beans * Rice New potatoes * Flapjack Yoghurt Fresh fruit	Chicken pie Chicken fillets Fish fingers Cheese pasta Baguettes / wraps Jacket potato * Carrots Sweetcorn Baked beans * New potatoes Pasta * Iced sponge Yoghurt Fresh fruit	Bolognaise Veg bolognaise Chicken fillets Fish fingers Jacket potato * Sweetcorn Mixed veg Baked beans * Spaghetti Garlic bread * Chocolate hedgehogs Yoghurt Fresh fruit	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR ELECTIONS	Hot dogs Veg sausage Haddock grill Fish fingers Jacket potato * Sweetcorn Peas Baked beans * Pasta Chips * Rice pudding Yoghurt Fresh fruit

Your Opinion Matters!

Each year we produce a School Improvement Plan with Key Objectives to focus on for the academic year. The Schools in the Learning Trust for Excellence work on the same plan and where possible have joint training. This enables us to attract high calibre trainers. In preparation for the plan we would be grateful if you could complete the proforma sent home with your child last week. This asks you to identify three strengths of our school and any areas for improvement. We really value the views of our parents and will take into account your feedback when formulating the plan. Thank you for the responses we have received so far.



Sports Report

On Wednesday, Mr Viollet took a team of four Year 4 children to a tennis tournament held at Sutton Coldfield Tennis Club. The children have benefited from tennis coaching during their PE sessions and this clearly showed as they went all the way to the final, achieving a silver medal. We are very proud of their fantastic skill and determination to succeed. Thank you to Mr Viollet for his hard work and well done to Year 4!

E-Safety Tip of the Week

The NHS recommends that children should have no longer than 2 hours screen time per day. Set a strict time limit with your child and give your child a 5-10 minute warning when time is nearly up.

Walk to School Week

Next week we will be taking part in the National Walk to School Week. We will be encouraging children to walk, cycle, scoot or park and stride to school as often as possible next week. Pupils who walk to school next week will receive an additional WOW badge to add to their collection.



Y6 SATs

Year 6 have worked very hard for their SATs this week. Each day got off to a relaxed start with toast and hot chocolate served in the hall and a chat with their friends. This was followed by a few breathing exercises and the children were ready to go! They really tried their best, showing great maturity throughout the week. Our thanks go to Mrs Gallier and her team in the kitchen for making the refreshments. Well done Year 6, we are really proud of you! They have lots of lovely events to look forward to in their last term including the production of Mary Poppins, the residential visit to Whitemoor Lakes and a day out at Drayton Manor, all providing super memories to look back on in years to come.

Solar Panels

Little Sutton continues to be committed to helping to save our planet. We thought you would be interested to know that, since their installation in September, our solar panels have saved 9,224kg of CO2 emissions. We have therefore planted the equivalent of 31 trees. They have also cut our electricity bill by over £1000!



Year 2 History

Year 2 have really enjoyed their recent topic on Queen Victoria. It is incredible how much the children have learned about this important period of history. They began the topic using their skills of inference and observation ordering a series of pictures of Queen Victoria to create a time line of her life. The children noticed that the pictures increasingly became photographs and inferred why she was dressed differently as time went on. They then researched her family and were fascinated to find out about her children and the different roles they took. Following this there was a focus on unknown artefacts, with the children developing their skills as historians, examining carefully and then creating questions to deepen their knowledge. This led to some fascinating research with the children creating top trump cards of Victorian inventions. They were delighted to discover that both jelly babies and Easter eggs were invented in this period! After a game of 'pass the fact' the children used their computer skills to explore inside a Victorian house before comparing the kitchen to a modern day kitchen. In the near future they will be game designers creating a Victorian board game to share their knowledge. We really hope you will enjoy playing these with the children at home! It has been lovely to see how many of the children are reading books about the Victorian to further and deepen their understanding, in addition to drawing on their experiences of our trip to the Black Country Museum too. Well done Year 2.