

# Newsletter

*Pride, Passion, Success*

I would first like to thank the staff of the school for all their efforts over the first half term of this academic year.

I would also like to thank the parents of the school who have taken time to attend the events that we have run over this first half term, including the meet the teacher sessions and Year 3 art learning.

It has been a tremendously busy Autumn so far. I hope that both staff and children are able to have some form of break over the half term.

**Tony Head**  
Headteacher

## Curriculum update.

### Nursery

Being able to remember and recite Nursery rhymes is the foundations of reading and communication, so we have been learning different rhymes in Nursery this month. We have focused on Humpty Dumpty, Incy Wincy Spider, Old Macdonald and 5 Little Ducks. As well as learning the rhymes and practising them every day we have made a wall for Humpty to sit on and we have fixed Humpty with plasters. We made Incy Wincy spider using playdough, making sure that he has 8 legs, and we flushed him down the waterspout.



### Year R

The Year R children have enjoyed learning various stories such as Elmer, Goldilocks and the Three Bears and Rosie's Walk. The children have developed their communication and language skills by learning story language in order to sequence each story. The children have learnt lots of their phase 2 sounds and are now learning how to blend words. We are super proud of each child taking home a guided reading book to develop their reading skills. In Maths, the children have been learning about prepositional language, shapes and representing small numbers.

In discovery time, they have enjoyed practising the skills taught from the morning sessions into their own child-initiated learning. What a fantastic first half term the Year R children have had. We are looking forward to our learning in Autumn 2 after a well-deserved rest!



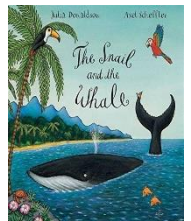
## Year 1

In art we have been learning about printing. We have been ensuring that we press down on the paper and print rather than using our fingers to paint. We explored different prints our hand and fingers can make and learnt about repeated patterns. We then used our skills to create our own imaginary bird. Finally, we printed a picture of an animal we wanted to create. We had lots of great ideas such as spiders, tigers, flamingos, monkeys, and butterflies. Have a look at some of our fantastic artwork!

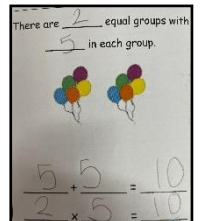
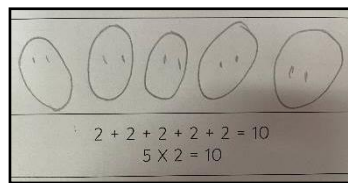
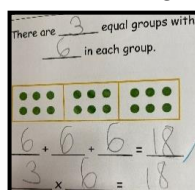


## Year 2

In English we have been reading *The Snail and the Whale* and learnt some new vocabulary. We have written a setting description, a character description of the snail and a postcard to the snail's family about the amazing adventure the snail had with the whale.



In maths, we learnt to partition numbers in different ways. Then we went on to multiplication and learnt about equal and non-equal groups, adding equal groups, repeated addition with multiplication and drawing arrays to represent a multiplication.



In science, we have been learning about living things and their habitats. First, we learnt what it means to be a living thing, then we sorted pictures of things into living and non-living. Next, we learnt about habitats and the animals and plants that live in those habitats.



Lastly, we learnt about microhabitats and the minibeasts that live in them. We went to the environmental area to investigate and find some minibeasts.





### Year 3

This month Year 3 have been reading the Rainbow Fish. The children have been able to recite the story and have been matching colours, feelings and textures to different parts of the story. We then spent some time looking at weaving, and we planned a piece of weaving based on the different feelings in the Rainbow Fish book. We had a fantastic art day on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> October where some parents came and helped us create our artwork! Thank you so much to those parents who came and supported Year 3! The children had fantastic resilience and were able to weave lots of different fabrics on their loom.



This month, Year 3 have also been learning formal written methods for addition and subtraction. They have worked extremely hard on their expanded column methods, and they are starting to apply these to written questions for both addition and subtraction.

### Year 4

We have continued to enjoy a busy but fun half term in Year 4. Our invasion has now taken place and we were able to conquer the staffroom to expand our empire! We have enjoyed discovering even more about the Roman Empire, including learning about who Boudicca was and writing persuasive speeches to rally her troops.

Our tennis skills are getting quite impressive in Games, and we have made up some brilliant team games too.

In art, we have produced fantastic class mosaics using our printing skills, inspired by Klimt. We were so proud of the resilience the children demonstrated when working on these.

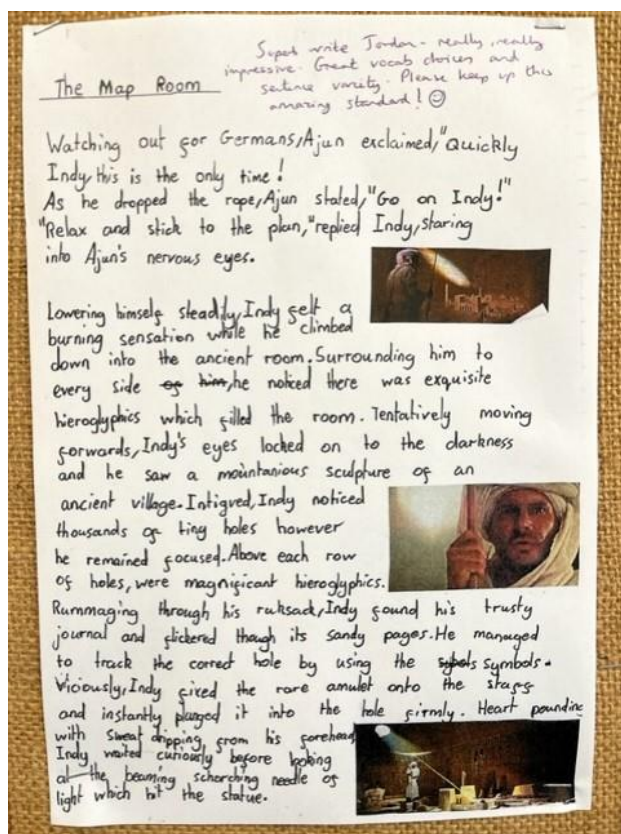
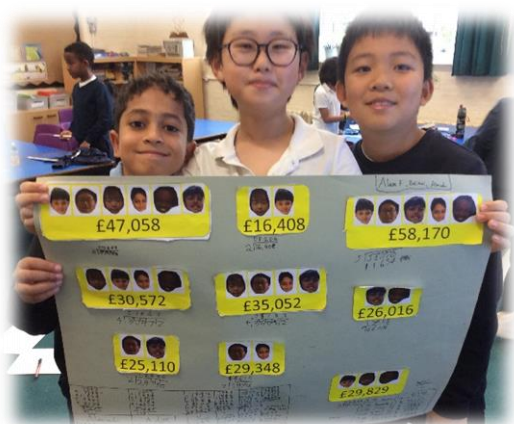
Our science learning has taken us outside to investigate the local environment to identify and classify plants and animals.

The children have also impressed us with calculation strategies in maths and we have worked hard to secure our formal written methods for addition, subtraction and multiplication.



## Year 5

Year 5 continue to impress us with their enthusiasm, knowledge and skills and we have all have been loving the curriculum! In science, we have continued our work on forces, considering friction, water resistance and air resistance. We have conducted some amazing fair tests. In history, we produced a book called, 'The Gift of the Nile', looking at the importance of the River Nile, and the numerous Gods and Goddesses, to the Ancient Egyptians. It has been enjoyable reasoning with multiplication and division in maths and writing amazing descriptive settings and characters in English.

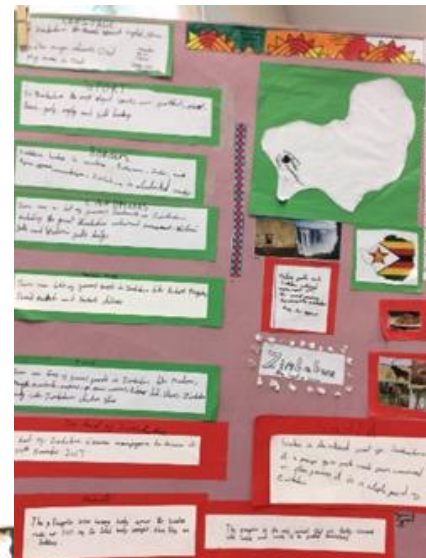




## Year 6

Last week saw some of Year 6 embark on their residential trip to Avon Tyrrell. The children were fantastic and were an absolute credit to you, the school and themselves. We were so proud of all of them. Please see the school Facebook page for all of our photos and updates for the week.

The Year 6 children at school enjoyed a very creative Africa week with lots of art, music and geography. We enjoyed using the Djembe drums to follow and repeat rhythms. We also loved using Garage Band on the iPads to create our own loops and patterns. In groups we researched the geography and interesting facts of some different African countries and presented our findings to each other. We also showed our artistic talents by making African masks and some beautiful silhouette landscapes. Well done, Year 6, for creating such a memorable week!





## Sports Roundup

What a fantastic first half term back for our sports teams! I have been so impressed with the enthusiasm from the children and the improvements they have all made each week in cross country and football.

Cross country has come to a close for this half term; we had some brilliant runners with our top three results coming from Isla (2nd), Yuxin (9th) and Lorenzo (17th). All the staff were incredibly impressed with the effort the children put in to every run and the way they supported each other. We cannot wait for the next round to begin in the new year, and we hope to see even more children taking on the challenge!

The girls football league has come to a close for this term. Having watched every game, I can only say how incredibly proud I am of each and every player that represented Portswood in the matches. They encouraged each other in every game and the improvements from our first match to our last were noticed by all. A special mention to the girls who stepped in to represent Portswood when many of our players were away in Avon Tyrrell too, you did an outstanding job with some incredible saves and even a goal!



The boys football league for Year 6 begins this week and I look forward to sharing with you the news from their matches.



## Book Fair

This November, we are running a Scholastic Book Fair. The fair will run from 3:30pm until 4:00pm in the infant hall on 15, 16, 17 and 20 of November. We will be sending you out a letter shortly explaining how books can be purchased - please keep an eye out for this!

### HELP EARN FREE BOOKS

Scholastic is one of the largest providers of free books to schools via our Reward scheme which helps to ensure that as many children as possible have access to books that support reading for pleasure. Every time you buy from the Book Fair, you help to make a difference by supporting literacy in your child's setting. Last year, with your help, we gave over £5.3M worth of free books to schools nationwide, which stocked school libraries and classrooms.



## Reminders

### Year 6 Parents

#### Secondary school applications

A reminder to all Year 6 parents that the deadline for applying for a place at secondary school for your child to begin in Year 7 is Tuesday 31 October 2023.

Applications must be made online parents/carers and all information can be found by following this link:

<https://www.southampton.gov.uk/schools-learning/find-school/apply-school/>

### Year 1 & 2 Parents

#### Morning drop off.

A reminder to all Year 1&2 parents that your child should be going into the infant building independently in the morning, we ask that parents do not escort them into the infant building. If you have any queries you can speak to someone in the office.

## Parking

Please can we ask you to be mindful of residents and other parents when parking around the school.

We have had several complaints regarding the way parents are parking on Upper Grosvenor Road.

Please park a little further from the school and walk the rest of the way where possible.

## Dates / Activities

Date	Activity
Monday 23 - Friday 27 October 2023	Half term
Monday 30 October 2023	Children back to school.
Monday 30 October – Friday 3 November 2023	Year 4 Roman Week – Wear a Roman tunic.
Tuesday 31 October 2023	Year 6 Macbeth dress up day.
Thursday 9 November 2023	Year 4 trip to Butser Ancient Farm
Monday 20 – Friday 24 November 2023	No teacher led clubs this week
Friday 17 November 2023	Children in Need – Get spotacular
Tuesday 21 November 2023	Parents' evening
Thursday 23 November 2023	Parents' evening



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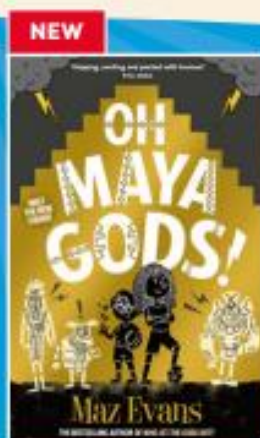


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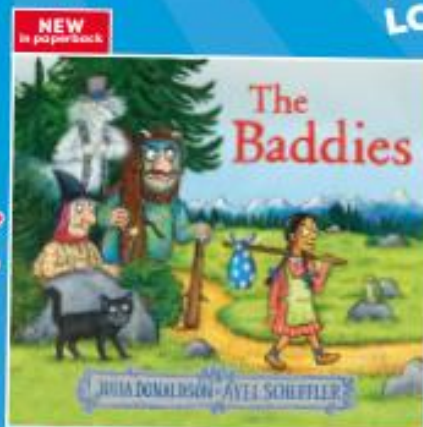
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# WHAT'S ON

**OCTOBER HALF-TERM AND CHRISTMAS**

Tudor House, SeaCity Museum & Southampton City Art Gallery

To book and for detailed information on any of our activities visit

[www.wegotickets.com/southamptonculture](http://www.wegotickets.com/southamptonculture)

## ART FOR ALL: Watercolour and Wax Autumn Paintings (5yrs+)

Mon 23 Oct / 10am, 11.30am or 1.30pm / Art Gallery / £7  
Join us in amongst the paintings at the gallery to create a beautiful mixed media autumn picture using wax crayons, watercolours and collage.



## HANDS ON HISTORY:

### Frankenstein's Clay Creations (6yrs+)

Mon 23 Oct / 10.30am, 1pm / Tudor House / £8  
Venture into Dr Frankenstein's lair and mould your own hideous clay creation to take away with you. The session will also take a look at some other nasty ways people used to ward off ghosts in the past.

### ART FOR ALL: Clay Owls (5yrs+)

Tues 24 Oct / 10am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm / Art Gallery / £8  
Twit twoo! Twit twoo! Enjoy a relaxing hour and a half, playing with clay to create a seasonal owl sculpture and at this fun and friendly workshop.

### ART SCHOOL: Zombies sculptures (7yrs+)

Wed 25 Oct / 10am-3pm / Art Gallery / £28  
Be inspired by the sculptures on display in the gallery to create a macquette from wire before coating with layers of clay to create a spooky sculpture of your choice and a surrounding scene.



## TOUR FOR ALL: Scary and Spooky Southampton

### Walking Tour (6yrs+)

Wed 25 Oct / 11am, 2pm / Tudor House  
£7 per person, £24 family ticket  
Join guide Andy Skinner in exploring the hidden histories of Southampton by venturing into vaults and scale the town's ancient walls. Discover tales of war, plague, villainy and ghosts! Bring a torch and wear sensible shoes.

## SCC CULTURE CLUB

### Southampton Culture Club for Kids (6'-12yrs)

Mon, Tues, Wed: 9am-4pm  
(drop off from 8.45am) SeaCity Museum  
£35 per day (£90 for 3 days)  
Days of investigation, imagination and discovery for children aged 6' to 12yrs who love being creative and learning through fun activities. Led by the experienced cultural services learning team, at Kids' Club children will explore the past, experience the museum and gallery and make really cool things!

## Halloween

### Mon 23 Oct: SPOOKY SHIPS AND HAUNTED HOUSES

Get spooky making your own ghostly ship and haunted house using range of arty techniques  
**Tuesday 24 Oct: 2D MONSTER MASH UP!**  
Try your hand at art techniques and create some gruesome pictures of amazing monster from your mind.

### Wednesday 25 Oct: 3D MONSTER MASH UP!

Get creative and invent your own monster using recycled toys. A fun sculpture day full of making.



## Halloween at Tudor House

Family Fun Day Thurs 26 Oct  
Museum admission FREE!

Friendly spirits in the Banqueting Hall and take part in loads of spooky, fun activities throughout the day! There'll be creepy crafts, gruesome games, face painting and a haunting trail! Join one of our famous spooky ghost tours to discover the stories hidden in the house.

\*Charges apply for some drop-in activities.  
Tours are pre-book.



## LETS GET FESTIVE

### TOUR FOR ALL: Christmas Lantern Tour

Sat 16 Dec / 5pm / Tudor House  
£7 per person, £24 family ticket

### ART FOR ALL: Winter Watercolours (8yrs+)

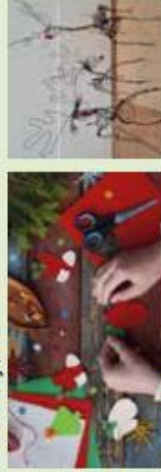
Mon 18 Dec / 10am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm  
Art Gallery / £8

### ART FOR ALL: Brilliant Birds (5yrs+)

Tues 19 Dec / 10am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm  
Art Gallery / £8

### ART FOR ALL: Print your own Wrapping Paper (4yrs+)

Wed 20 Dec / 10am, 12.30pm or 2.30pm  
Art Gallery / £8



### LETS MAKE A: Christmas at Hogwarts (6yrs+)

Tues 19 or Wed 20 Dec / 10.30am or 1pm  
Tudor House / £8

### ART FOR ALL: Wire Reindeer (12yrs+)

Tues 19 Dec / 11am-1pm / Art Gallery / £22

### ART FOR ALL: Wire Christmas Decorations (12yrs+)

Wed 20 Dec / 11am-1pm / Art Gallery / £22

### SCC CULTURE CLUB

### Southampton Culture Club for Kids (6'-12yrs)

Mon, Tues, Wed: 9am-4pm  
(drop off from 8.45am) / SeaCity Museum  
£35 per day (£90 for 3 days)

## Christmas Holidays

### Monday 18 Dec: CHRISTMAS CHARACTERS

### Tuesday 19 Dec: CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

### Wednesday 20 Dec: ALL WRAPPED UP!



## Birthday Parties for kids



If you've got a history fan or art enthusiast at home then why not throw them a birthday to remember at one of our unique venues?

Create a special day for your child full of hands-on activities. From £10 per child. Email [museums.education@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:museums.education@southampton.gov.uk)



## Father Christmas & Christmas Crafts at Tudor House (all ages)

Sat 9, Sun 10, Sat 16, Sun 17, Mon 18 Dec  
£15 per child

Discover the magic of a Tudor House Christmas with your family this year. Enjoy a festive visit to Father Christmas in beautiful surroundings, complete with a traditional gift and a craft activity where you can make a decoration to take home.

Ticket includes entry to the house, where you can enjoy our super cute Christmas Tudor House Mouse trail.



Why not add a festive afternoon tea at our café where the whole family can enjoy a range of tasty seasonal sweet and savoury treats while overlooking our beautiful garden. Book in advance  
Adults £17.50 Children £10.50





# Free Half Term Activities

## with the Ranger Team

### Spooky Species Fun!

#### The Hawthorns

Spooky species trail  
around the Hawthorns  
grounds

Sunday 22  
&  
Sunday 29  
October  
10am-3pm

#### The Common

Find us on the Common  
near the play park

Spooky Species trail,  
facts and fun!

Wednesday 25  
October  
10am-2pm

#### Portswood Rec

Bug Hotel building  
with  
Friends of Portswood Rec

Spooky Species trail,  
facts and fun!

Tuesday 24  
October  
10-12pm

**Family fun for all ages**  
No booking necessary



Natural Environment Team  
[hawthorns@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:hawthorns@southampton.gov.uk)

