



# South Ascot Village School

## Newsletter

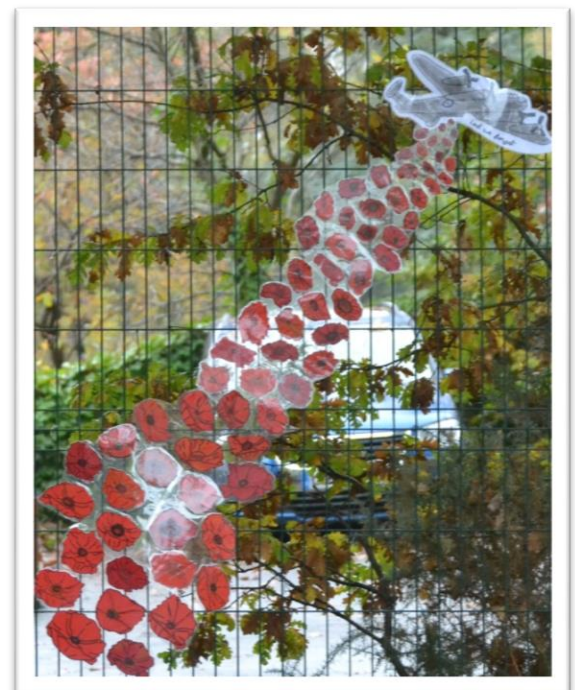
11<sup>th</sup> November 2022

### Dear Parents and Carers

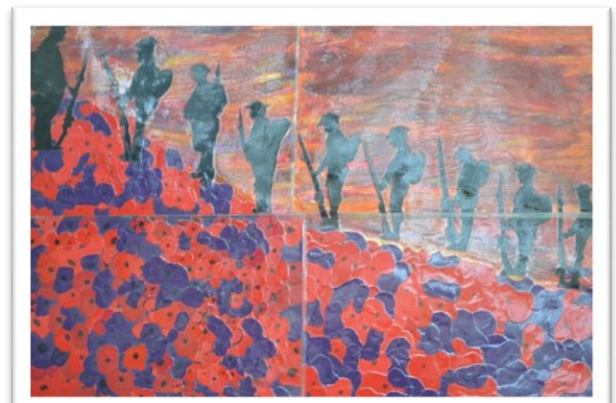
The nights are drawing in, but learning and special events don't stop at South Ascot Village School. This is just a few of the things that have been happening and a few dates for future events and festivities!

### Lest We Forget

No doubt you have seen our poppy display outside the school gate. I hope you have enjoyed seeing it and maybe have taken time to reflect, in remembrance of those who have fought in wars and conflicts over the years.

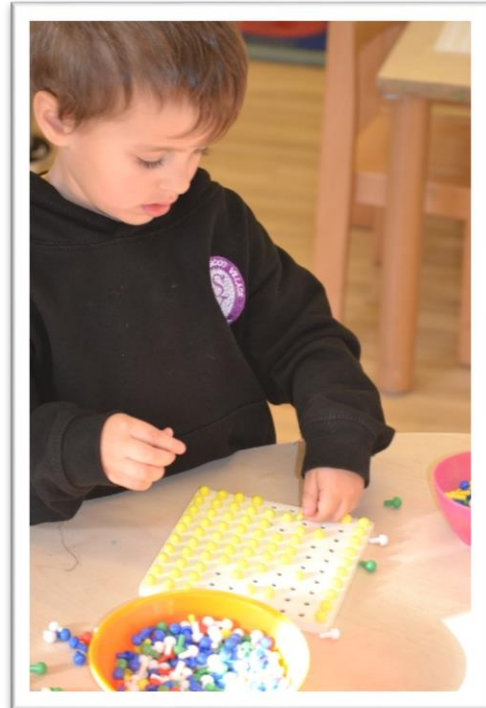


Have you spotted one child's contribution of a 'Peace Poppy'?



## The New Foundation Classroom

It has been great to welcome the Foundation Class into their new classroom. The teachers have worked incredibly hard to make a seamless transition and it has been very successful. The class have settled in very quickly and hit the ground running with hardly a look back! All the children have shown great resilience and have shown how they can adapt quickly to a new environment – in which I see them thriving.



## Parents' Evenings

Thank you to all those parents who attended the parents' evenings this week. I hope you found them to be informative.

If you didn't make an appointment or couldn't make it, please try and arrange a time to see your child(ren)'s teacher(s) soon, or take advantage of the future event below.

## Sharing Afternoon

Parents are invited into school on [Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2022 from 2pm](#) to visit your child(ren) in school. Come and spend some time in school, looking at their work and enjoying the environment together.

Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served in the hall. Caterlink may also provide a cake or too if we ask them nicely!

The Forest School will also be open for you to explore and enjoy. Numbers of people in the woods will be limited to 30 pairs of feet at any one time to protect the peace, fauna and flora. We are guests in the forest and always work to respect the environment..

## Panto 2022



**“We’re all looking forward to going to the pantomime at Theatre Royal Windsor on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2022.”**

**“Oh no you’re not!”**

**“OH YES WE ARE!”**

If you haven't secured your child's ticket, I suggest you do so today or your child may miss out on this great event.

Remember children will need to be collected from the Theatre after the performance at 4:00pm.

Please wait on the pavement opposite the theatre, where we will release them to you in a safe way!

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUB ON THIS DAY.**

## Forest School

Forest School can be soggy, really soggy!! The woods are a beautifully, different environment in the rain, it is so lovely to see our pupils exploring and investigating the raindrops dripping off the tarps, the muddy wet ground, the leaves sticking to their boots / wellies.



However, the rain also brings challenges- everything and everyone does get wet, grubby and muddy. Rainy days mean waterproofs, spare clothes and washing for parents when the gear gets home!!! Rainy days are not for climbing trees, crafting and using tools but for survival and keeping dry.

In Forest School at South Ascot Village School we don't "team, time or task". Let me explain, the children choose how many of them work together - maybe on their own, in twos or in sixteens!! There is no time frame - an idea can take a minute or two hours sometimes two sessions. More importantly the children choose what they do, what games we play, what challenges they want to overcome- This is the true Forest School Ethos.

The simplistic, back to basics, playing in and with nature is what Forest School is ALL about! We can plan "activities" and we can put things out to inspire play, but the TRUE beauty of Forest School is seeing children playing freely, devising their own games in nature, incorporating the natural world in their play, adapting to the environment they find themselves in! LOTS of muddy boots and smiling faces!

Last week a school governor came in to take part in a Year 4 Forest school session. After two hours I asked him if it was what he expected.

"No" was the reply "...it was amazing - I never imagined so many children working together and communicating with different groups". He felt great afterwards and commented that it really helped with his well-being and mental health and that he felt completely refreshed!



**Today, Year 4 created this wonderful poppy and took part in the 2 minutes' silence for Remembrance in the woods.**

## Stone Age Day!



To kick off their topic this term, on Monday Year 3 and 4 had a Stone Age Day in school. The children came into school in fancy dress as cavemen and women showcasing an array of leopard print dresses, ripped clothing, jewellery made from 'bones' and fancy hair pieces - they all looked great!

Throughout the day the children took part in various activities such as carving ornaments and creating stone age tools and weapons using sticks from the woods, string, conkers and much more. A great day was had by all!

## Photo Consent

If you haven't already done so, can you please return your Parental Consent Form stating whether your child(ren) are able to have their photograph used for social media, external agencies and publications.

**It is really important that we get a form back from you so we can add it to our records. Please don't assume we know your wishes due to previously signed consents – we need fresh consent for this academic year – 2022/23.**



## Science and Design Technology in Year 2

Year 2 have been recreating the lifecycle of a butterfly in a 3D, moving, model form! This is part of their Science and Design Technology Curriculum.

I am only sorry you can't see these models moving in reality. They are extremely effective in their action and design.



"The Very Hungry Caterpillar story is about hope. You, like the caterpillar, will grow up, unfold your wings, and fly off into the future."

- ERIC CARLE  
(1929 - 2021)



## Anti-Bullying Ambassadors

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November, seven of our Year 6 pupils took part in an Anti-Bullying training day The Marist in Sunninghill.



### Our Proud Ambassadors

*“Supported by HRH The Prince of Wales, The Diana Award Anti-Bullying Campaign engages young people, parents and teachers to change the attitudes, behaviour and culture of bullying by building skills and confidence to address different situations, both online and offline.”*

Following an intensive day’s training, we now have seven young people who have received their Anti-bullying Ambassador badge. Their aim, over the next year, is to support and educate every member of the SAVS community in respect, community action, wellbeing and online safety. As ambassadors, they will:

- be someone that all children feel safe to approach if they need support or help
- work closely with the senior leadership team, teachers and teaching assistants
- through fun activities and projects, create a fun, effective and long-term campaign that will help to prevent and tackle bullying behaviour in our school and in our community

One of their first tasks will be to support the senior leadership team, to re-write the school anti-bullying policy in child-friendly language, along with a new charter that will be displayed around school and on our website. They will also meet monthly to work on imaginative whole-school activities and projects, to help us all focus on areas like diversity, inclusivity and equality.

Our seven young people are incredibly excited and enthusiastic for the tasks ahead and I know that they are going to be wonderful ambassadors for our school.

## Terrible Traffic!

I have had reports of poor parental behaviour outside the school gates regarding their vehicles and their parking practices.



### PLEASE DO NOT:

- Double park
- Make roads impassable
- Block driveways
- Keep your engines idling
- Park on the school Zig Zags
- Drive down into Fennel Close (disabled access only).



## Uniform

Suitable clothing, including footwear, is needed, every day.

Please make sure, as winter is approaching that children have a waterproof coat – we do try to get children outside whenever possible.

Also, can we ask that children have an indoor and outdoor pair of shoes each day. Traditionally, we ask children to have a pair of 'field shoes' that stay in school to wear outside and wear their smart school shoes with their uniform. We do accept however that forest school and PE may need specialist footwear too.





## Reading Reminder

Children are expected to read (at their level) every evening at home.

We ask you support them and us with this and with the daily signing of their reading record, to confirm that this has happened.

Reading is so important as it opens doors to countless opportunities. It serves as a basic building block for learning, regardless of the school subject, be it language, arts or even mathematics.

In daily life, the need to read things such as street signs or prescriptions proves that reading is also an important life skill.

**Reading strengthens the brain and improves memory.**

A recent study shows that reading books with your young child does more than help them learn words and develop language skills. **Reading helps children learn to pay attention, set goals and control themselves.**

## And finally... Christmas Carol Concert 2022



2022 brings the return of our 'live' Christmas performance. Over the coming week the children will be learning their songs and readings. This will all culminate in a performance on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

We hope to offer a matinee and evening performance but more details will follow when we have confirmed timings.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'K. Rimell'.

Miss Kate Rimell

Headteacher

