

## Sparsholt C of E Primary School



### Weekly Newsletter

15<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Thanks to your  
amazing  
generosity, we  
have raised an  
incredible £150 for  
Comic Relief!

Here's what's in the newsletter this week!

- ❖ Reminders for w/c 18<sup>th</sup> March
- ❖ Headteacher weekly update
- ❖ *A special message from FoSS*
- ❖ School Awards
- ❖ Dates for the Diary
- ❖ Important Notices
- ❖ FoSS Update

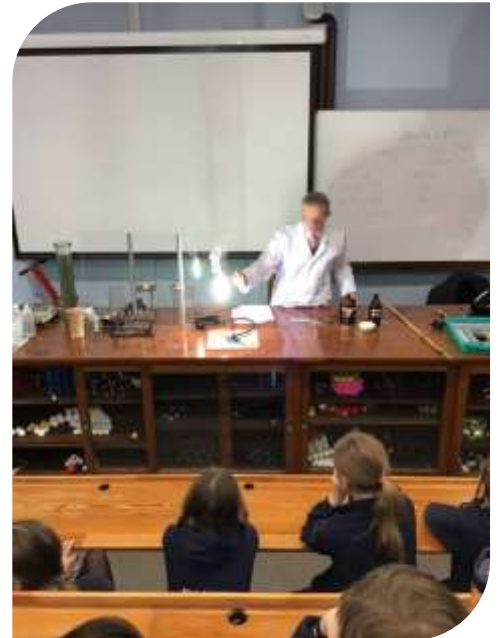
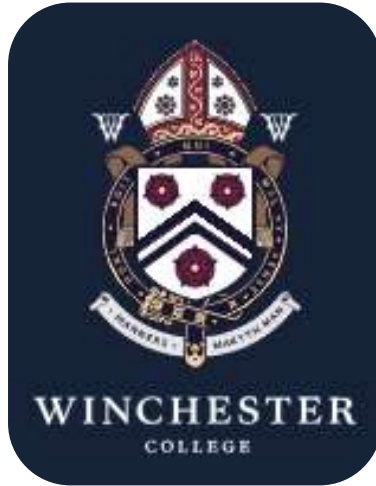


### REMINDERS FOR W/C MONDAY 18<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2024

- ✓ KS1 Maths Parent Workshop – 3:45pm Mon 18<sup>th</sup> Mar
- ✓ "Super Swimming" Tell Me Tuesday by Harriet Morey – 2:45pm Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Mar
- ✓ Netball Tournament at Kings School (selected team) – 3:30pm– 6:00pm Tues 19<sup>th</sup> Mar



What a fantastic opportunity for Year 5 and 6 – a fascinating Science Day at Winchester College to celebrate British Science Week 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, can I thank all of you who attended the Mothering Sunday Service at St Catherine's Church in Littleton on Sunday. The service was wonderful with the children doing a fantastic job of leading the service and sharing some really interesting and enlightening information about the origins of Mothering Sunday and where the gift giving element came from. I would also like to thank the FoSS team for their fundraising initiative last Friday and hope that all of you who were chosen as 'a special someone' enjoyed receiving your daffodils.

This week was sports focused with our football team doing an amazing job on Tuesday against Micheldever. Whilst our team did win 7 – 0, having spoken to the Head of Micheldever the next day, he said what a fantastic match it was and how polite, kind and sporting our children were and despite his team losing how much his children had also enjoyed the match. Tuesday should have also seen our netball team in action at a tournament at Kings School but sadly it had to be postponed due to the weather. The team should be in action this coming Tuesday and we wish them well in their winning endeavours.

On Wednesday, Year 5 and Year 6 spent the day at Winchester College in celebration of British Science Week. They had an amazing time and immersed themselves in physics, chemistry and biology. They attended two lectures/demonstrations on the respiratory and digestive systems and also investigated extracting DNA from a strawberry which they found both fascinating and awe-inspiring. Mrs Gwilliam commented that she thinks we have a whole generation of scientists in the making!

This week we had Julia, another of our amazing Year 6 pupils, present her 'Tell Me Tuesday' talk on ice skating. Staff and children commented on not only how informative and interesting the talk was but also on Julia's exceptional presentation skills. Please do try and attend our future 'Tell me Tuesday' events if you can as they are truly inspirational.

I also want to thank everyone for their generosity with our fundraising efforts for Red Nose Day. The children did us proud today with a sea of red appearing across the school and the children showing an excellent understanding of the difference the funds raised will make to others.

Finally, as some of you may know, on the 14<sup>th</sup> February, Olivia, mum to Sophie, Oscar (Oak Class) and Gus (Maple Class) sadly passed away from breast cancer. She was a shining light in our school community and was always there to help in any way that she could. She was very involved with FoSS and I would ask that everyone takes the time to read the very moving piece in the newsletter written by her friends in FoSS. She was truly a very special person who will be missed by everyone. Please also refer to the padlet on the school website under "advice and support for parent" for more information about supporting children with coping with grief.

Next week, we are very much looking forward to welcoming parents of children in both Willow and Beech classes into school for our KS1 Maths Parent Workshop which we hope you will find really informative and useful. Please can you make sure that you pick the children up as normal and then head back up to Reception where we will then take you to where the event is being held.

I really hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hanratty



## A special message from FoSS and the Sparsholt Community

*Many of us love Sparsholt School for its warm and welcoming community, the school and the parents are small in number but you truly feel like you belong.*

*FoSS is a big part of that and we were so very sorry to lose our friend Olivia Merritt, mum to Oscar (Oak), Gus (Maple) and Sophie (aged 12) on 14<sup>th</sup> of February as the result of secondary breast cancer. She spent the last few months under the care of Winchester Hospice and her family and friends are extremely grateful for support they and she received.*

*Olivia (also fondly known as Widge) was an extremely active member of our school community since Sophie joined in 2015. Every year she volunteered herself to be a class rep and she was a constant, reliable member of our team. She's cooked sausages, packed raffle prizes, helped at film nights (even bringing her own pizza maker), manned stalls... one of her favourite was the welly wanging at the Easter Fayre! Olivia has helped sell raffle tickets, mince pies, cupcakes and tea towels. In lockdown, she had the fabulous idea of a Halloween light trail walk at Ham Green, so that local children had something to replace the cancelled trick or treating traditions. The following year this became our annual Christmas light trail (which she always helped to create).*

*Many of these events have been accompanied by a glass of wine or two and lots of giggles. The most recent adventure enjoyed by many was our walk in the Brecon Beacons where 20 of us mums had fun whilst raising money for the school.*

*Widge was one of us, a proud mum to three gorgeous children, a dear friend and a loyal supporter of FoSS. We will all miss her. Thank you for being there for us. Xxx*

**Hannah, a close friend of Olivia's and mum to Rory (Rowan) is joining hospice nurses and volunteers to trek for 6 days across the Sahara desert, walking in Olivia's memory to raise money for Winchester Hospice so that as many other people as possible can benefit from their care and support at the time they need it most. Please find the link below if you would like to sponsor Hannah:**

[Trek for Widge](#)

## School Awards

### Core Christian Value Awards

We were very proud to commend our Core Christian Value Award recipients in Celebration Worship today. Children from each class are nominated weekly for each of our Core Values: Courage, Compassion and Creativity.

	<b>Courage</b>	<b>Compassion</b>	<b>Creativity</b>
<b>Willow</b>	Enid	Zachary	Damien
<b>Beech</b>	Cami	Louis	Reuben
<b>Maple</b>	Edi	Felix	Aanika
<b>Rowan</b>	Zevon	Elise	Henry C
<b>Oak</b>	Julia	Seb	Annabel



## House Point “Scolosaurus” Awards

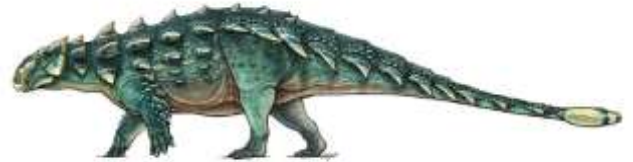
Following on from last year’s owl awards, this year the children who achieve the required number of house points (see below), will come home with a lovely dinosaur “scolosaurus” badge.

Bronze “scolosaurus” awards are given out to children who have earned 100 house points.

Silver “scolosaurus” awards are given out to children who have earned 200 house points.

Gold “scolosaurus” awards are given out to children who have earned 300 house points.

This week we were delighted to present the following award:



## Dates for the diary

Spring Term 2 2024				
Date	Event	Time	Parents invited	New event?
Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>KS1 Maths Parent Workshop</b>	3:45pm	Yes Willow & Beech Parents only	
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>Whole school Easter Presentation</b>	2:15pm	Yes	
Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar	<b>Last day of term - 3:30pm finish</b>	3:30pm		

## Important Notices

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### Tell Me Tuesday

We invite all parents and our community to join pupils and staff to 'Tell Me Tuesday' events, so please do make a note in your diary and join us for next two talks of the Spring term (details below).

- **Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March - 'Super Swimming' by Harriet Morey (Year 6)**
  - **Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> March - Air Ambulance Talk - Mr Sawyer**
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### Head lice

Please could we ask that all parents check their child's hair over the weekend for head lice. We have had cases reported this week and it would be great to have a determined effort to clear them over the break from school.

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## FoSS Update

Upcoming events	
<b>FoSS Easter Eggstravaganza!!</b> – Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> March, 3.30-4.45pm	<p>Following the school's Easter presentation, come and join us for fun on the field. We will send a sign-up sheet around next week but we are looking for parents/carers who are willing to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• bake</li><li>• man a stall (likely each class will be responsible for one)</li><li>• help with set up/pack down</li><li>• help us with some more creative/artistic design features...</li><li>• coordinate some competitive races / tug-of-war style activities</li></ul> <p>If you can help or want to be involved in any way, email <a href="mailto:friendsofparsholtschool@gmail.com">friendsofparsholtschool@gmail.com</a> or contact Kelly George or Miriam Sawyer</p>
<b>Parent Yoga – Wed 24<sup>th</sup> April</b> 9-10am	Save the date! Tickets on sale soon.
<b>Bags2School clothes collection</b>	Date to be confirmed



We are on the lookout for parents/guardians who can support FoSS with:

- Maintaining our website content
- Fulfilling 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform orders
- Advice on policies etc

If you can help with the above please email the committee at [friendsofparsholtschool@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofparsholtschool@gmail.com)