

# Sparsholt C of E Primary School



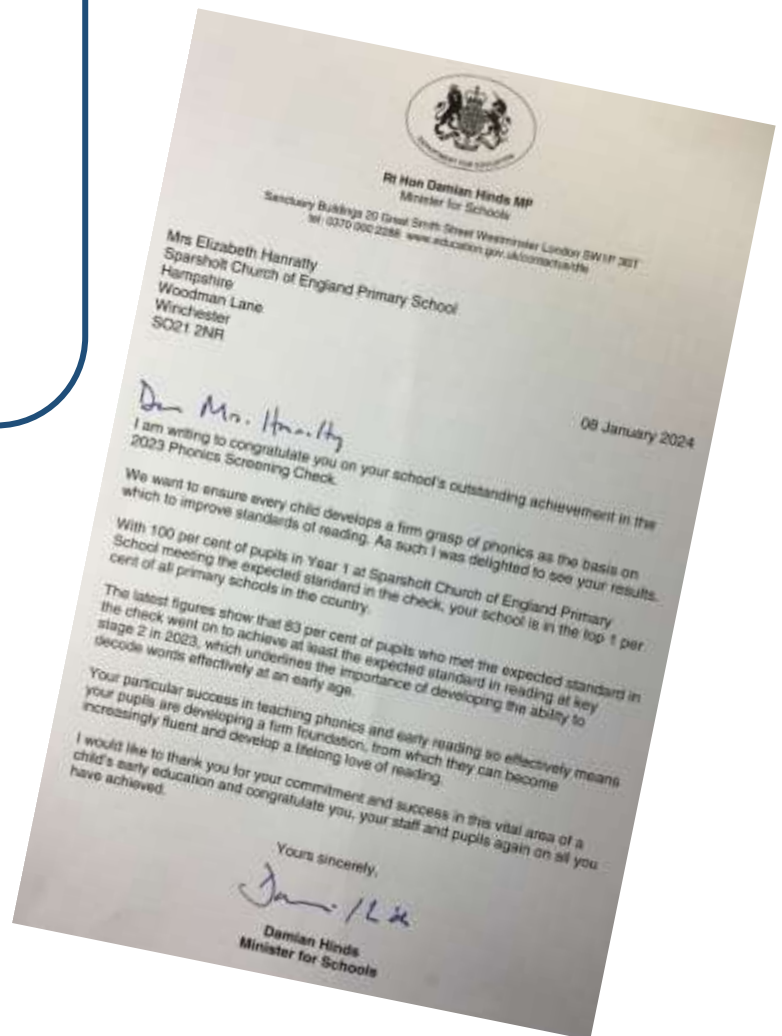
## Weekly Newsletter

9<sup>th</sup> February 2023

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

- ❖ Reminders for w/c 19<sup>th</sup> February
- ❖ Headteacher weekly update
- ❖ School Awards
- ❖ Dates for the Diary
- ❖ Important Notices
- ❖ FoSS Update
- ❖ Other Information

What an incredible achievement, with 100% of last year's Year 1s meeting the expected standard in their Phonics Screening check, putting the school in top 1% of all primary schools in the country!



### REMINDERS FOR W/C MONDAY 19<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024

- ✓ School-run clubs start back Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb
- ✓ Booking system for in-person Parents' Evenings opens – 4pm Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb
- ✓ Girl Guiding Uniform day – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb (see info under "Important Notices")

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a fabulous end to this half term! It has been amazing to see the children fully involved in all the activities that have been going on for Children's Mental Health Week and also learning strategies and approaches that they can use to support themselves going forward.

It was so lovely to start the week with the children bringing in their favourite soft toys and to hear from each of them why that particular soft toy was so important to them. The children undertook some wonderful activities from breathing and mediation to mindful colouring. On Tuesday, the wonderful Lily Venus, a wellbeing and therapeutic coach, came in for 'Tell Me Tuesday'. She spoke to the children all about mindfulness and relaxation and how important it is to find time for these things. The children had the opportunity to experience some activities including a 'sound bath' and were even shown how to give themselves a hug (which can help release endorphins), if they ever needed to self-soothe.

On Wednesday, the focus was on the importance of physical exercise and connecting with others. The children had the opportunity to undertake a wellbeing walk with their teachers and classmates and it was so wonderful to see the children enjoying a walk whilst immersed in conversation with friends. On Thursday, the children undertook a scavenger hunt and thoroughly enjoyed the challenge of finding answers to clues whilst working collaboratively.

Thank you so much to all of you who participated in 'Tech Free Thursday' and to those of you who sent in pictures of what you had been up to. It really is important for children, and us as adults, to take some time away from devices and try to do something different.

As you know, today has been 'Dress to Express' with the children coming in in outfits that they feel represent them. The variety of outfits was amazing and thank you so much to everyone who has so generously donated to our chosen charity 'The Winchester Hospice' for which we have so far raised almost £200. If you still wish to donate please do feel free to bring your donation in on the first Monday back after half-term.

This week we have also celebrated Internet Safety Day with the children focusing on how to be safe online and using the internet responsibly which is such an important thing to be able to do.

As you know, we have Parents Evenings coming up on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> March which will be in-person. We will be sending out some information on the first Monday back as to how to book appointments through the Parent Portal or app on Arbor.

And of course I couldn't finish without talking all about today's celebrity guest 'Dino the Dog' who wowed with his ability to improve wellbeing by just being in the room! Yet again he was the model visitor and made everyone smile – including me!

I really hope you all have a wonderful half term and look forward to welcoming everyone back on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hanratty

**Mindful Me Monday**  
Soft toy buddies take over the school!



**Take Notice Tuesday**  
Bubble breathing with Lily Venus!



**Wellbeing Wednesday**  
Wellbeing walk around the grounds!



**Thoughtful Thursday**  
Whole school scavenger hunt!



**Fido Friday**  
**V.I.P. Dino, visits school**



Thank you so much for all of your donations for this amazing cause.



## 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> | Ezra           | Enid              | Willow            |
| <b>Beech</b>  | Beni           | Evie              | Florrie           |
| <b>Maple</b>  | Gus            | Scarlett          | Evie              |
| <b>Rowan</b>  | Isaac          | Jack              | Hannah            |
| <b>Oak</b>    | Julia          | Oliver            | Abel              |



### 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:

**GOLD:**

**SILVER:**

**BRONZE: Tabatha, Fallon,  
Scout, Neve, Gregory,  
Phoebe, Olive, Peter, Enid**



## Dates for the diary

| Spring Term 2 2024         |  |                  |  |            |
|----------------------------|--|------------------|--|------------|
| Mon 26 <sup>th</sup> Feb   | <b>Marvellous Monday - Maple, Rowan &amp; Oak</b><br>Invitation for parents to come in with your child and view their work | 3:35pm to 4:15pm | Yes<br>Maple, Rowan & Oak Parents only | <b>Yes</b> |
| Thurs 29 <sup>th</sup> Feb | <b>Thrilling Thursday - Willow &amp; Beech</b><br>Invitation for parents to come in with your child and view their work    | 3:35pm to 4:15pm | Yes<br>Willow & Beech Parents only     | <b>Yes</b> |
| Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Mar   | <b>Parents' evening</b>  | 4:00pm to 7:00pm | Yes                                    | <b>Yes</b> |
| Thurs 7 <sup>th</sup> Mar  | <b>Parents' evening</b>  | 4:00pm to 7:00pm | Yes                                    | <b>Yes</b> |
| Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> Mar    | <b>World Book Day Celebration</b>  | All day          |  | <b>Yes</b> |
| Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> Mar   | <b>St Catherine's Church, Littleton, Mothering Sunday Service</b>  |                  | Yes                                    | <b>Yes</b> |
| Mon 18 <sup>th</sup> Mar   | <b>KS1 Maths Parent Workshop</b>   | 3:45pm           | Yes<br>Willow & Beech Parents only     | <b>Yes</b> |
| Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar | <b>Whole school Easter Presentation</b>  | 2:15pm           | Yes                                    | <b>Yes</b> |
| Thurs 28 <sup>th</sup> Mar | <b>Last day of term - 3:30pm finish</b>  | 3:30pm           |  | <b>Yes</b> |

## Important Notices

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### Arbor Update

#### 1. Breakfast Club

Bookings for Breakfast Club have now moved onto Arbor. You are now able to book single or multiple Breakfast Club sessions for the period Monday 19<sup>th</sup> Feb to Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July on the Arbor App / Parent Portal. There are limited spaces available at Breakfast Club and so please book your sessions early to avoid disappointment.

In order to book your child's Breakfast Club sessions, you will either have to:

- a) Top-up your Breakfast Club balance in advance to ensure you have enough funds to pay for the club sessions you are requesting
- b) Inform the school that you will be paying using childcare vouchers / Tax Free Childcare. The school can then adjust your setting on Arbor which will allow you to book sessions without making payment, and then you can make the payment using your usual voucher system.

#### 2. Google Pay / Apple Pay

Payments at school have just got even easier! You can now use Google and Apple Pay to make payments for school meals / breakfast club / clubs / trips.

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### Parents Evening (in-Person) - Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March and Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March - 4:00pm – 7:00pm

Bookings open on Arbor at 4:00pm on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February. Please look out for information coming out on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February explaining how you can book a slot with your child's teacher.

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### School Uniform – Direct4Logos

The Romsey Shop will be CLOSED on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2024.

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### Girl Guiding Uniform

For any girl guides in school, we will be supporting the Girlguiding movement and you can wear your Girl Guides uniform into school on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February.



Thinking Day 2024

Thursday 22nd February

Wear your uniform to school day  
To celebrate the Girlguiding movement


For more information on Girlguiding in your local area  
Please visit [www.girlguiding.org.uk](http://www.girlguiding.org.uk)  
Or contact: [comm\\_winchester@gghw.org.uk](mailto:comm_winchester@gghw.org.uk)



## FoSS Update

### Key Dates

#### Spring term:

| Date and Time   | Event  | Information   |
|---|--|---|
| Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb<br><br>3:30pm and 4:30pm    | Bake Sale<br><br>                       | Thank you Maple class for providing the baked goods   |
| Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February<br><br>6:00pm - 8:00pm | Kid's Film Night<br><br>                | <u>Only 7 tickets left!!</u><br><br>Thank you to all who have volunteered. We now have all the volunteers we need and we will be in touch with you shortly... |
| Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March<br><br>3:30pm - 5:00pm  | The FoSS Easter Eggstravaganza<br><br> | This will follow straight on from the school's Easter Presentation. More information to come.   |

#### Summer term:

**Wednesday 24th April** 9:00am -10:00am – Iyengar Yoga for parents and carers in the Memorial Hall. Save the date!! More info coming soon.

### FoSS Survey

Thank you to those who took time to complete the FoSS survey and share your comments. We found your responses helpful and have been through them all. To give you an idea of the feedback, this is what we heard:

- Generally, parents prefer the larger whole school/community events and would like to see more of these and less of the smaller events
- Whilst smaller events were less popular, parents seem to appreciate them more when tagged on to a school event e.g. tea/coffee with the Christmas/Easter presentations
- Just over 80% felt the number and frequency of events was about right
- It was noted that there is a higher concentration of events around key holidays and that it would be good to spread these out
- Over 86% of respondents are willing to volunteer at events (thank you!)
- Over 76% of respondents would be interested in a FoSS social

There were some great ideas put forward, really positive comments and some useful feedback on communication with parents so thank you all very much! We will do our best to take your feedback on board and whilst we won't ever get it 100% right, we will do our best as we run events and raise much needed funds to benefit our school community and enhance our children's education. Have a good weekend!

The FoSS team



## Other Information

### Hampshire County Youth Orchestra OPEN DAY



Supported using public funding by  
Department for Education | ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



ENJOY  
PERFORMING

WANT TO IMPROVE



Saturday 23 March 2024, 10.15am - 2.30pm

Thornden Hall – Chandler's Ford

- Thinking of joining the Hampshire County Youth Orchestra?
- Come along to join in and see what it's all about!
- Play alongside current members, meet other players, and take part in a short, informal performance for parents at 2.00pm.
- Orchestral musicians welcome- including harps and percussion.
- If you are unable to come along, but would like to audition later this term, do get in touch
- The day is aimed at String players grades 4 + and Brass/Wind/Percussion/Harp players grades 6 +

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*Youth*  
ORCHESTRA



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