

SOPLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn Newsletter - Issue 4

News and Events App

You may have already seen our new website, which is in the process of being populated with lots of school information. You now have the option to download an app which will notify you of any calendar events added to the website. You will find instructions on how to download the app under the heading "News and Events" on the school website.

Unauthorised Absence During Term Time & Penalty Notices

School attendance is subject to various education laws and is very important that you make sure your child attends regularly. For each child to reach their full educational achievement a high level of school attendance is essential.

Statistics show a direct link between underachievement and absence below 95%. For our children to take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered it is vital your child is at school, on time, every day the school is open unless absence is unavoidable.

If a child fails to attend school regularly we have the authority to issue penalty notices.

A penalty notice can be issued when a pupil has had 10 or more half-day sessions (equivalent to 5 school days) of unauthorised absence in any 10 school week period.

Penalty notices are £60 if paid within 21 days or £120.00 if after this date.

Shortly after the half term break we will be issuing warning letters to parents of those children who have a high number of unauthorised absences and are approaching the penalty notice threshold.

Free School Meals

As a school we get additional funding for every child registered for free school meals.

This funding is **HUGELY** important to us as a small school.

Free School Meals (FSM) is **NOT** Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM).

If your child is in Year R, 1 or 2 your child will receive a free hot lunch as part of a government funding scheme. The school **DOES NOT** receive any benefit or income via this funding so it is very important that even if your child is in the lower school and having UIFSM that you still register for FSM.

The additional funding we receive under the FSM scheme amounts to a least £1,300.00 per child per year. While we are unable to spend this money directly on the child themselves we are able to fund additional resources etc for the whole school using this money which benefit every child.

To check your eligibility please register online at <https://www.cloudforedu.org.uk/ofsm/hants> or contact the school office who can run a check on your behalf.

Pumpkin Carving Competition

Well done to everyone who entered the FSS Pumpkin Carving Competition!

1st Place – Isabella Year 6

2nd Place – Olivia Year 3

3rd Place – Bianca Year 1

Secondary School Applications

A reminder that the closing date for secondary application is midnight on the 31st October 2019

Bags2School

In the week after half term bags2school will be coming home with each child. We have previously raised quite a bit of money for the school by taking part which is of great benefit to our children. Filled bags won't need to be back to school until the morning of 2nd December and being collected on the morning of 4th December.

Celebration

The following children have received Gold Awards over the past two weeks. Earning a gold award is not easy. To receive this, children have needed to demonstrate that they clearly understand and respect the school values and have demonstrated outstanding learning behaviours. Please help us celebrate their wonderful achievement.

Rabbits Gold Awards – Archie, Cherry, Edgar, Ethan, Jenson, Maisie, Nathaniel, Phoebe and Ralph W

Owls Gold Awards – Oscar, Sigrid, Jamie, Joe, Florrie, Jude, Johnny, Teddy, Caleb, Sophia, Winter and Poppy

Hedgehogs Gold Awards – Borys, Conan, Oliver, Evren, Kenzie, Hetty, Joe and Charlie

Badgers Gold Awards – Charlie, Arthur, Isaac, Alex, Ronnie, Elliemay, Maria, Jake, Dani, Felicity and Isabella

School Nurse

The nurse will be in school on Thursday 5th November to measure the height and weight of all Yr 6 children (unless we have received a written request for your child to be excluded).

Depending on time, some of the Yr R children will also be tested on their vision and hearing.

Poppy Appeal

We will again be selling poppies on behalf of the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal to raise money and commemorate military personnel who have died in war.

Along with the standard paper poppies the following items (and suggested donations) will be on sale at break and lunch times from 4th – 8th November.

Zip Pull – 50p Poppy Reflector – 50p Silicon Wristband - £1 Snap Band - £1.50

Thank you

You (or your children) may have noticed that we have lots of lovely new things around the school! This is all thanks to our wonderful FSS and our parents and your amazing fund raising campaigns. Staff, and children alike thank you all for your brilliant efforts! Some of the things we have been able to buy are:-

Over £500.00 worth of PE equipment, including basket ball stands, cheerleading sets, various ball and creative movement sets.

Over £750.00 on a brilliant Dance Combo PA system.

£400.00 on 2 visualisers for the classrooms.

Over £1,000.00 on kitting out our new Ocean Zone with games, a den, glitter tubes, beads, lights, furniture, bean bags, kinetic sand, storage units and much , much more!

We are also in the fantastic position to be able to shortly order £2,000.00 worth of curriculum resources for our teachers and children!

So a great but THANK YOU to the Friends of Sopley School! You are AMAZING!

DATES for the diary

Saturday 26th to Sunday 3rd October – HALF TERM HOLIDAY

Thursday 7th November – Shoebox Appeal Deadline, shoeboxes to be brought into school

Tuesday 12th November – Parents Evening (3.30pm – 5.30pm)

Thursday 14th November - Parents Evening (4pm – 7pm)

Thursday 21st November - Flu Immunisations

Friday 20th December - INSET DAY (school closed)

Saturday 21st December to Sunday 5th January – CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY

Helen Morris and Nanette Allies