



Well it has been another hugely exciting and action packed half term for us all. School trips, class assemblies, music and singing concerts, sporting events, art and writing competitions, Science Week, World Book Day, Shakespeare Week , the Spring Trail and Spring Prom have kept us all busy since February and our children have been wonderful ambassadors for the school at all of the events. Infant and Junior children have also delighted us with performances at the Farnham Festival and we are looking forward to Farnhamme's Got Talent. Mrs David has returned from maternity leave whilst Mrs Hall leaves us at Easter; we wish her well in her new role.



Spring Prom 2018

Following auditions and plenty of rehearsal (much in garages and living rooms) the children once again rose to the challenge and performed a variety of songs, dances, poetry, comedy and musical numbers in our annual Spring Prom. Performers



from across the school celebrated their talents in this fantastic showcase with a varied and exciting line-up. The theme of the evening was 'The Time Tunnel' and

the children performed an eclectic programme incorporating a huge variety of musical instruments and dance styles, solo/group voice, drama, comedy and the choir amongst the acts. In addition the backdrop was made completely of the children's art work. The audience was also able to see our fantastic stage lighting and sound system in operation as well as the first ever performance from Rock Band. It was a delight to see the children so passionate about every aspect of the performing arts and excel-

ling in their chosen discipline.

Well done to all who performed and helped to organise such a wonderful and celebratory evening!



Sporting Achievements!



We have had a busy and exciting half term of sports, and as always our children have been wonderful ambassadors for South Farnham School in all of the events that they have participated in.

Year 6 took part in an inter-school competition for the South Farnham Cup. Pupils created their own netball or football team and competed for the cup in a series of matches. Each team represented themselves and the school brilliantly with all participants demonstrating fantastic team work and determination. Huge congratulations to the winners: Mad Mangoes in the netball and 6E United in the football.

Miss Lovelock's determined football coaching also paid dividends with South Farnham crowned winners of the Borelli Cup. The children have won every tournament they have played in and are undefeated all season. An absolutely fantastic achievement. Well done to all the children who have participated in sporting activities this term.

Please see our Twitter feed and website for updates and results for all our sporting adventures.



As part of this term's History topic Year 1 participated in an educational visit to Milestones Museum, Basingstoke. By means of specially designed activities, children were encouraged to discover the Museum's toy collections by handling, observing and asking questions.



The PFA (Juniors) and PTA (Infants)

The Infants and Juniors have enjoyed a range of hugely successful events including a children's Film Night, the Infant Spring Trail, the Junior Ball. Thank you to parents who contributed to the 'Bags 2 Schools' event earlier this term. Every bag was collected together and the amount collected is then weighed. Schools receive funds based on the weight of the collection...watch this space for the grand total.

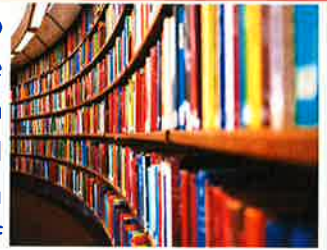
Don't forget, we are always delighted to welcome new members to join our PFA and PTA! At the Juniors we are in desperate need of additional support, especially for the Summer Fair. These valuable teams do so much good for the children but some of our events are in danger of being cancelled if we can not galvanise additional support from our wonderful parents. Please volunteer; even just a small amount of your time could make a huge difference.



This item belongs to:

Please ensure that everything your child brings to school is clearly labelled so that in the event of losing items of clothing or other possessions, they can be returned to their owners more easily.

We are very fortunate to have so many wonderful libraries at the school and the children delight in the opportunities they have to read a wide variety of fiction and non fiction. Currently we have lots of over due books showing. Please could you take a few moments over the holidays to check for any library books that your child may have brought home that need to be returned to school so that other children have the opportunity to enjoy them.



Community Involvement The school has been working with charities and the local community in many ways this half term. In addition to donations to Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice we have also made donations to the Air Ambulance and Sport Relief. We continue to make regular donations of books we no longer use at school to charities who redistribute them around the world.

We were thrilled to be asked to visit Waverley Grange Care Home to speak some French with the residents. The children rose to the challenge and performed three French stories with enthusiasm. The children had a wonderful time and the residents loved it; they even enjoyed a waltz! There are now plans to continue with the *French Connection Community Project*, with future performances and conversations in French, so watch this space!



We were delighted to support Sport Relief this half term and would like to thank you all for your generous contributions to this important cause. The children bought their wrist bands with enthusiasm and enjoyed participating in a variety of sports related activities at both sites.

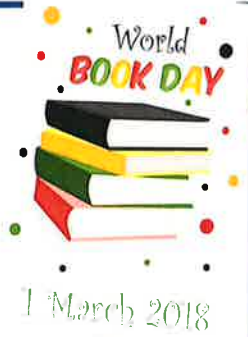


The Infant children had fun completing a range of exhausting indoor and outdoor activities.

At the Juniors the children had a wonderful time participating in the fun run at lunch time! Each child donated £1 to complete as many laps of the astro pitch as possible. Many children opted for straight forward running whilst others used more creative methods, such as hopping, jumping or walking backwards. Teachers were seen skipping and tied together for a three-legged race.



The children were delighted to celebrate World Book Day with special whole school assemblies and class assemblies at both sites. One of the highlights of the week at the Juniors was the return of the Travelling Book Fair. Exciting new books for all ages were available to purchase and the children enjoyed visiting the fair with their parents / carers and spending their special £1 vouchers. Any commission we make is used to buy more books for the library which is an excellent boost to our resources. In addition to this the teachers all read extracts from their favourite books, Year 6



children read with Year 4 children, Year 3 welcomed an author visit and Year 5 participated in an online book show.

At the Infants an author visited to read her story and talk to the children about how she came up with ideas, illustrations and publishing followed by a Q&A session. Teachers visited a different year group class sharing their favourite story with the children and Cherry class completed their class assembly on World Book Day.

If you would be interested in joining our team of talented Teaching Assistants please contact the office.



Please could you ensure that products containing nuts are avoided for school packed lunches and snacks. Although we strive to be 'nut-free' in school, it is impossible to provide an absolute guarantee that no nuts will be brought onto the premises, so extra care in this respect would be greatly appreciated. Could you also remind your child that they should not share packed lunches or snacks with other children. Thank you.



Thank you for your support of our introduction of Mathletics and Spellodrome; the feedback from parents and children has been overwhelmingly positive.

The teachers are monitoring the impact on children's learning and are already noticing improvements in the children's weekly spelling and times tables tests with one teacher calling this 'phenomenal'!

We are aware that a few families have experienced technical difficulties when a child has been using Mathletics and Spellodrome. If this is the case for you, please contact your child's class teacher who can arrange for your child to complete it on a Monday lunchtime in the computing suite with Miss Wray.

Road Safety We regularly talk to the children about keeping themselves safe, especially when crossing roads and walking to and from school. We would ask that you reinforce this message at home. In addition, South Farnham is a thriving community and Menin Way / School Lane can be an extremely busy areas with our own schools, The Abbey School, Phyllis Tuckwell Hospice and local residents. We do appreciate the difficulties in parking but request that you refrain from parking on the yellow zigzags, paths / pavements / grass verges and parking across driveways and entrances.

This would enhance the children's safety and help to promote the positive relationships that exist with our neighbours.





We were delighted to welcome Reverend David Uffindell, Rector of Farnham, to deliver another wonderful assembly to the whole school on Lent and the joy of random acts of kindness - let's all see if we can complete at least one over the Easter holiday.

9-18 March
**British
Science
Week
2018**

Earlier this term, the whole school took part in British Science Week - a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering and maths, run by the British Science Association featuring entertaining and engaging events and activities across the UK for people of all ages. This year's theme was 'Exploration and Discovery' and pupils had the opportunity to enter the BSA poster competition in the hope of winning some spectacular science prizes. There were also exciting experiments in assemblies and hands on investigations in class.

The Year 6 children were joined by Dr Nick Morant (a previous SFS pupil) as part of their Science Week celebrations. He spoke to them about DNA and even had them testing the DNA within cat food, which had some very surprising results!

The week's activities certainly seem to have inspired some future scientists!



Thank you to parents for attending the recent Internet Safety Workshop. This was a highly valuable event for us all and the children benefited from assemblies of their own during this half term. We will continue to ensure that school and home are working together on this vital issue and are sure that you will be closely monitoring your children's use of the internet and social media. In this way our children can benefit from a happy and healthy experience when using technology.

The Surrey South Farnham SCITT (School Centred Initial Teacher Training) goes from strength to strength and is graded as an 'Outstanding' Provider of Initial Teacher Training by Ofsted. We are now training over 100 graduate teachers working throughout Surrey. If you would like to inspire local children to fulfil their potential and realise their ambitions then we want to hear from you! We are looking for applications from talented individuals who have the capacity to train to become outstanding teachers through the Surrey South Farnham SCITT programme.

If you are already a Qualified Teacher wanting to return to the classroom please contact us about our Returning To Primary Teaching Programme.

Please call the school office and see the school website for further information.



As part of their India topic, Year Three children were treated to a 'Banging Bhangra' workshop earlier this term. The colourful and talented instructor swayed around Studio One, demonstrating 'Shoulder Shrugs', 'Cutting the Wheat' and 'Chaffe', her bangles and bells adding to the atmospheric Punjabi music. The children (and teachers) were enthused by, and participated, in lively class routines based on Indian Gods such as Ganesh, Rama and Sita, which would often be performed at family celebrations. The entire year group relished the chance to share in this traditional form of dance and music and left with a new found appreciation for the culture and art of Bhangra.



Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Marwell Zoo. The children explored the various animals as part of an adaption trial linked to their Science topic this term. Each class also got to handle a range of creatures (including a rat, cockroach and stick insect) in an adaption workshop – a real highlight of the day.



The children and teachers had immense fun in the snow. Many thanks to all the parents who helped to clear paths on cold mornings and even drove members of staff to and from school in well equipped vehicles. Your help is much appreciated!



Penalty Notices for unauthorised absence

Please be aware that The Education (Pupil Registration)(England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. The Headteacher should determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if leave is granted.

In accordance with the above Regulations, requests for leave of absence are treated sympathetically, but only in exceptional circumstances can they be approved. The policy of the Government to which this school has agreed, states that parents who take their child out of school for five days or more during term time, without the authority of the Headteacher, will each be liable to receive a penalty notice. Penalty Notices will be issued by the Local Authority. The penalty is £60 if paid within 21 days of receipt of the notice, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days of receipt of the notice. If the penalty is not paid in full by the end of the 28-day period the Local Authority must prosecute the recipient for failing to ensure regular school attendance under section 444 Education Act 1996. Please be aware that **each** parent is liable to receive a Penalty Notice for **each** child who incurs unauthorised absences, for example, if there are two parents and one child, each parent will receive one Penalty Notice. If there are two parents and two children incurring unauthorised absences, each parent will receive two Penalty Notices, which in this case would amount to £120 each if paid within 21days.