



Hello from Mrs Hunter

What a glorious week we have had – definitely great weather for the Year 5 Bikeability which has started! Although it is only the first week back we have hit the ground running and there has been much going on behind the scenes:

- We had our Senior Leadership Team ‘away day’ yesterday where we received the results of the staff well-being survey that we had commissioned. It made for really positive reading as well as giving us helpful suggestions for improvements.
- The ICT Suite is half way through its transformation. We still have a little way to go but it is looking very swish. The investment in pop-up desks means that we can hide the computers away when not in use to enable us to use the Suite as an additional classroom. A massive thank you goes to the amazing HSPTA who have funded this project. We will share some photographs with you when it is all finished.
- Some of you will be aware that the front door lock has not been on recently. This is because it broke twice and needed fixing. However, from this Monday you will need to be buzzed in again. Thank you for your patience with this.
- It was lovely to host pizza for the Lion King team last Sunday afternoon. We are so lucky to have such a great team who are willing to give up four hours on the last day of the Easter holidays to meet together to sort out the mammoth task that is a cast of 230! There are lots of updates regarding the production below. Thank you so much to everyone who is already working hard on this so that we can pull it together in two weeks in June.
- The governors have been very busy liaising with the local authority regarding the headteacher vacancy. The taster advert has already been out and the actual advert goes live soon.



Finally, I wanted to give you a staffing update. Our lovely Miss Hayes will be leaving us at the end of the school year. While she absolutely loves our school and would want to stay here for ever, she is moving back to Sussex and won't be able to commute every day! We have gone through the recruitment process and our loss of Miss Hayes will be made bearable by the fact that Mrs Paula Evans will be joining the teaching team. She has been away securing her full teacher status and we are very proud of her and excited to have her back.

Good luck to anyone involved in the Southampton marathon/half marathon/10K at the weekend. I feel I also need to say good luck to anyone who will be watching Saints on Sunday - COYR!

Mrs Hunter ☺

Cycling to/from school

As the good weather arrives, more children are cycling to/from school. We would like to remind all parents and children that, when cycling, children should wear cycle helmets at all times. Please can you also remind your children to be vigilant about their safety and to take extreme care when cycling on the roads.



Lion King update

It has been a busy Easter break for the Lion King team and here are a few key updates:



- On Tuesday of this week we handed out application forms for children not currently in the cast who were interested in applying to be involved with stage management, lighting or percussion. These forms need to be returned by **Monday 23rd April** to the school office. We will let children know if they have been successful over the course of the coming weeks.
- In celebration assembly today (Friday 20th) we shared a plan for cast members getting involved with fundraising. The cast have all taken a letter home to explain this.
- On **Monday 23rd April** all cast members will be taking home the relevant pages of the script and song words. On the same day, there will also be a letter to explain about costumes for each part.

Thank you for your continued support!

Lion King Singing Rehearsals



If your child will be singing during our Lion King performances, they will need to start rehearsing over some lunch times! Myself and Mrs Cheshire will be leading a timetable of rehearsals over the next half term, which will be displayed in classrooms. They will also get a copy of this timetable with any lines or song words that they need, which will be handed out on **Monday 23rd April**. Please do help them to remember if they have a rehearsal to attend. Once they've been through their song with me or Mrs Cheshire, they will be able to practise it at home! If there is a problem with attending on that particular day, e.g. a clash

with a pupil voice group, please do ask your child to discuss it with me.

Many thanks for your support,

Mrs Nurdin

Primary teacher training starting September 2018

We are delighted to be offering **primary teacher training placements across our alliance schools starting in September 2018**. If you, or anyone you know, is interested in training to teach, please pop into the office for a copy of our flyer or speak to Miss Chambers or Mrs Hunter to find out more about what the SCITT offers and for further information. We look forward to welcoming primary trainees onto our program in September 2018!

Train to TEACH here



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Music Reports

MUSIC REPORTS

The instrumental teachers have been busy writing their reports, and will be handing them out during music lessons next week. Do check your child's bag or instrument case if it doesn't appear! If you have any questions about these, please don't hesitate to contact your child's music teacher.

Mrs Nurdin

Sheldon Health Update March 2018

Sheldon is nearly 3 years old.

Sheldon visited the Southampton Reptile Shop over Easter and was given a complimentary health check. He had his back toenails trimmed and the man at the shop mentioned his back toenails are growing slightly splayed out. His front toe nails are fine and did not need trimming. He has a good shaped shell with no pyramiding and they commented on his lovely shell markings. His eyes, nose and mouth were all healthy and clear showing he is in good health. It was suggested a piece of slate would be good for Sheldon to eat off as this helps to keep tortoises beaks trimmed, so I purchased a piece. Sheldon thanked the man by pooping on his hand!



It is suspected that Sheldon may be female due to the shape of the tail and the flat underneath of the shell. Time will tell as to reliably say whether a tortoise is male or female it is best to wait until they are between 8 and 12 years old. Sheldon is 3 years old.

I am proposing that we acknowledge Sheldon's birthday on World Turtle Day May 23rd. The purpose of this day is to bring attention to, and increase knowledge of and respect for, turtles and tortoises, and encourage human action to help them survive and thrive.

If there are families who would like to take Sheldon home for the weekend who have not already done so then please do fill in a family application form.

Choir opportunity for years 4 and 5

Thornden Primary Choir is looking for new members! If your child is a keen singer and in year 4 or 5, they may have brought home a letter this week which includes all of the details and a reply slip. The choir is led by Hannalie Bekker, who is the Thornden Vocal Director, and will be rehearsing and performing a range of exciting and challenging music. If your child would like a letter and hasn't yet collected one, please ask them to see me.



Mrs Nurdin

The Eco Agents' Poster Competition

Thank you so much for the fantastic response to our poster competition last month. We were very impressed with *all* of the entries promoting the message of anti-littering, as well as our school's Eco Code. It was a very tough choice, but the Eco Agent team have cast their votes and we would like to announce the following winners:

Charlotte W 3O
Megan-Rae C 4R
Abigail B 4S
Claudia G 5CH
Ffion M 5B
Gemma M 6W



The posters belonging to the winners will be displayed around school in the next few weeks to remind us to look after our planet!

We Care Certificates this week



Tia J (5H) Passion for Learning
Edward Z (4R) Riveting Recorder Rendition



Philippa P (4S) Deceptive Stable Security



Max J (4P) Pushing Himself Further
Oliver J (5B) Bikeability Brilliance
Alice W (5CH) Consistently conscientious
Emily M (6B) Giving her all
Adam L (6C) Positive Steps Forward



Becca H (3P) Reflects to improve
Lily M (3O) A sponge for advice



Nadia W (6W) Helpful Hints in Maths
Marissa G (3DN) Getting more involved :-)

Communications this week (copies of these letters can be found on our website)

Group	Content	Date of Event/Deadline
Specific Group	Lion King Fundraising Letter	On-going
Year 3	Roman Play in a day/ Hillier's Visit	24 th May/14 th June

Dates for Next Week

23 rd April	4R Sharing Assembly 14:30 R&R Athletics Whole School 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room
24 th April	
25 th April	R&R Cricket Lower School 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room
26 th April	R&R Cricket Upper School 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room
27 th April	R&R Tennis Whole School 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room Street Dance Whole School 15:30 – 16:30 collect from the music room

Coffee Morning

Friday 11th May, Infant School Staff Room, 9-10am

Following the success of last terms Coffee Morning we are pleased to announce that we've arranged for another one this term. This is open to all parents and careers of Infant School children. Come along for a slice of cake and a cup of tea/coffee.

School Discos

Friday 18th May, Junior School Hall - Yr1/2 16:45-18:00,
Juniors 18:30-19:45

The school discos are back! Tickets are on sale now from our website www.pta-events.co.uk/hspta at the early bird price of £3.50 until the 11th May. Tickets include a snack and a drink and will not be available for purchase on the night.

Volunteers are needed for both discos, including first aiders. Please sign up via www.pta-events.co.uk/hspta or contact us at info@hspta.co.uk.

Summer Fair

Friday 8th June, Junior School Field 15:30-17:30

Plans are well and truly underway for the Summer Fair on the 8th June. The event is looking like it will be amazing! Attractions include bouncy castles, an inflatable obstacle course, Longdown Mobile Farm, Ampfield Riding School, R&R Sports speed cage, Pimms & Prosecco, Strawberries and Cream as well as tradition fair games. In order for the fair to be a success we need volunteers to help on the day. Please sign up for an hour on our website www.pta-events.co.uk/hspta or contact us at info@hspta.co.uk.

HELP REQUIRED NOW - we really need someone to come forward to organise the BBQ in the run up to the summer fair. Last years organisers are on hand to help but we need someone to take the lead. The BBQ is a very popular and integral part of the fair!

Other dates for your diary:

- * Wednesday 9th May - 3:30-4pm: Second hand uniform sale, Yr5 downstairs classroom
- * May - Car boot sale (date still being confirmed)
- * June - Quiz'n'Chips (date still being confirmed)

For any queries or questions about the events or anything HSPTA related please contact us at info@hspta.co.uk or see our Facebook group facebook.com/groups/hspta.

Helen (HSPTA Chair)

