



## Headteacher Newsletter



***Believe in yourself, Value others, Be proud of your achievements, Smile, Shine, Be happy.***



Welcome to the February Newsletter Spring Term 2019. Happy Chinese New Year as we enter the Year of the Pig.



We have been lucky this year with a good winter so far which has enabled us to be outside for sports, playtimes and lunchtimes. The children have been bringing some fabulous home learning in to school such as the amazing robots in year 2. I spent time looking at projects with the children who enthusiastically showed me their efforts, I thought the home learning projects have been brilliant and quite rightly the children felt very proud to show them off.

We came back very early in January so we have already achieved a lot as we move into February. I would like to spend a little time reflecting on January and sharing the highlights with you. We entered the Peterborough writing challenge with our team and made it to the finals. We also took part in many sporting events.

We as a school value the contribution that visits and residential make to the education of our pupils. We invest time in planning and staffing residential visits from year 2 to year 6 in each year group. As well as this we have planned a KS2 Skiing Trip to France. We have hosted many information meetings for parents to inform them of these visits and trips. Please see the website for more information about these opportunities we offer to the children. The pupils are fortunate as many schools do not offer the wide range of trips and visits but staff and I feel they are a very important part of our pupils' education. Payment plans, Pupil Premium reductions and opportunities to pay over prolonged time scales ensure all pupils have the opportunity to take part.

Clubs have been well attended and the Club lead Miss Nicholls will be collecting and updating the website this month to show you some of the amazing opportunities your child has taken part in so far this year.

We will be hosting a Quiz for families after half term and four pupils are currently working on this event as Quiz Masters thank you to Charlie, Henry, Seren and Tiegan for all of your hard work.

We have continued to offer access to the Computer suite from 8am every morning and breakfast for year 5 and 6 to have access to online learning and support. This has been well attended and children have shown amazing independent learning as well as having a free breakfast.

The year 3 had a wonderful time at Flag Fen and returned after going back in history to become stone age people for the day and learning about life at the time.

The year 4 have planned their Morphus and Nonsense Days around the Harry Potter books and are bringing this to life with many different activities including a day a Harry Potter world.

Year 6 had a growth mindset day with motivational workshops which they thoroughly engaged in and are applying to their school attitudes to learning. They have also been evacuated as part of their topic this term on WW2 to answer the big question – was it better to be evacuated or stay in the city? What do you think?

Year 5 have a wonderful day planned at the Jorvik center and this has been planned to enhance their topic work this term.

Year 5 and 6 Swimming team will also take part in the swimming Gala this half term more information to follow in the Sports newsletter where you can see pictures and a report on this event.

### Highlights from the past few weeks

Home-learning really improves with some amazing projects coming in to school from home

English Competition invites us to the finals well done children in the English Team

Ski Trip is all set to go ☺

Clubs are well attended thank you staff for giving up your own time to support the clubs within school the pupils love them ☺

Children enjoy a visit to Flag Fen going back in time to Stone Age Britain

Children in year 6 enjoy the motivational day and are now applying growth mindset into all of their learning

Parents attend many meetings relating to trips and visits thank you to staff for giving up their evenings to inspire parents about the trips and visits

Parent Representatives meet with the school on their next projects

A big thank you for your continued support and encouragement Parents

Year 2 are getting packed this month ready for their first residential visit to Stibbington a local Eco center which promotes healthy outdoor living. Later this month the children will also visit the Peterborough museum as part of their topic.

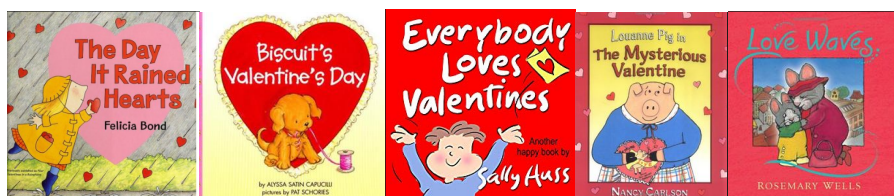
Year 1 have had a multi skills festival as part of our sports funding projects to improve health and fitness with our pupils. This will be reported in more detail in the sports newsletter. Early Years will visit Sacrewell farm later this half term more information will follow.

Sadly we continue to have a number of residents asking us to help them with issues linked to parents irresponsible parking. We ask all parents and adults picking children up and dropping off to park responsibly. We are so lucky to have such good access and street parking around the school as well as designated areas, please do not park on pavements, on grassed areas, on double yellow lines or zig zags or over residents drive ways. The local police are going to help us with this by doing a number visits at key times of the day and they will fine parents.

I would however like to say a big thank you to parents who park sensibly every day and make the short walk to school. I know this is the majority of parents with only a few ignoring the safety of pupils and upsetting local residents.

Thank you to the PTA, Governors and to all of the Parents who come into school to help us on a regular basis. I would also like to say thank you to a number of parents who have donated paper, card, games and prizes as well as other useful resources to the school – Thank you this is very kind of you and makes such a difference to the pupils and teachers.

## Valentine's Day



We will be hosting a Valentines disco for the pupils to fund raise for the school. If any parents would like to help the staff and PTA please could you let your class teacher know as we need additional help to make the evening very special for the children. We will also be selling valentine biscuits and a letter has been sent home for you to purchase your own iced biscuits. The children feel very special when these are delivered to the classroom.



What is the story of St Valentines day and where did it come from?



### St. Valentine's Story

Let me introduce myself. My name is Valentine. I lived in Rome during the third century. That was long, long ago! At that time, Rome was ruled by an emperor named Claudius. I didn't like Emperor Claudius, and I wasn't the only one! A lot of people shared my feelings. Claudius wanted to have a big army. He expected men to volunteer to join. Many men just did not want to fight in wars. They did not want to leave their wives and families. As you might have guessed, not many men signed up. This made Claudius furious. So what happened? He had a crazy idea. He thought that if men were not married, they would not mind joining the army. So Claudius decided not to allow any more marriages. Young people thought his new law was cruel. I thought it was preposterous! I certainly wasn't going to support that law! Did I mention that I was a priest? One of my favourite activities was to marry couples. Even after Emperor Claudius passed his law, I kept on performing marriage ceremonies -- secretly, of course. It was really quite exciting. Imagine a small candlelit room with only the bride and groom and myself. We would whisper the words of the ceremony, listening all the while for the steps of soldiers. One night, we did hear footsteps. It was scary! Thank goodness the couple I was marrying escaped in time. I was caught. (Not quite as light on my feet as I used to be, I guess.) I was thrown in jail and told that my punishment was death. I tried to stay cheerful. And do you know what? Wonderful things happened. Many young people came to the jail to visit me. They threw flowers and notes up to my window. They wanted me to know that they, too, believed in love. One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard. Her father allowed her to visit me in the cell. Sometimes we would sit and talk for hours. She helped me to keep my spirits up. She agreed that I did the right thing by ignoring the Emperor and going ahead with the secret marriages. On the day I was to die, I left my friend a little note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. I signed it, "Love from your Valentine."

I believe that note started the custom of exchanging love messages on Valentine's Day. It was written on the day I died, February 14, 269 A.D. Now, every year on this day, people remember. But most importantly, they think about love and friendship. And when they think of Emperor Claudius, they remember how he tried to stand in the way of love, and they laugh -- because they know that love can't be beaten!

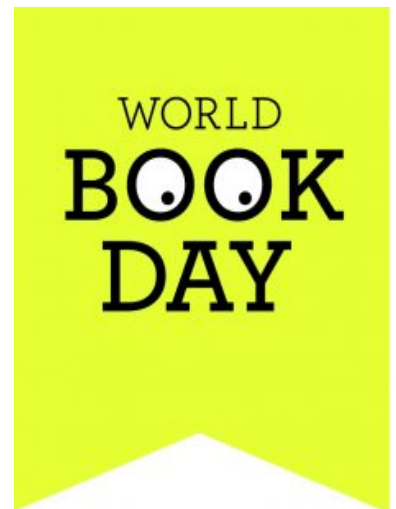
# World Book Day

3<sup>rd</sup> March 2019

Once again we will be celebrating World Book Day. All of the teachers will hold a special assembly to read you extracts from books they loved as children. We will have a book day menu as well as Characters joining us for lunch on the day – keep your eyes peeled I wonder who you will find in our school. We will ask the children to dress up as a character from a book and bring along their favourite book to read during the afternoon. We will raise money for new books and ask children to donate £2 on the day towards our Year group topic books. Miss Nicholson will keep parents updated and the winning year group will be match funded by the school towards their topic books.

We would also like children to bring in books for a book thief year 6 bonfire display as part of their WW2 topic and also good as new books to put into our outdoor library.

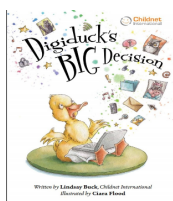
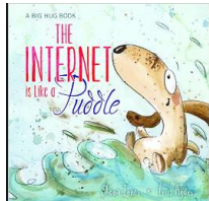
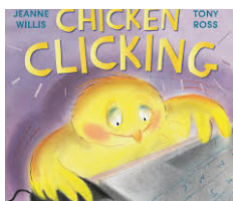
Each class will spend a day focusing on a love of books and will develop their reading corners to reflect work produced on the day. I will share some of these areas in the next newsletter. Any parents who would like to help on the day and would like to become a character or help with art work please could you let Mrs King know and she will be in contact with you soon.



## Safer Internet Day



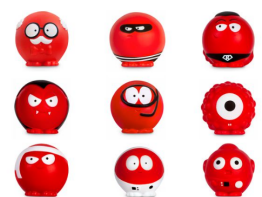
Reminder that we have our Safer Internet Day on the 5<sup>th</sup> February. Mr Howlett and Miss Dooley will keep you all updated through the Computing and E-Safety Newsletter of things to try at home as well as teachers planning events in schools to ensure that our pupils remain safe whilst using the internet.



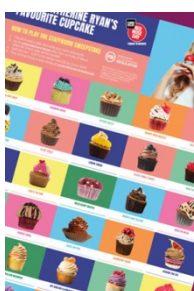
Try these books



## RED NOSE DAY AT SOUTHFIELDS



We will be celebrating Red Nose Day with two events on 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019- £1 donation would be fantastic as this is our chosen charity for this half term:



Event 1: Make someone smile with something you wear or do on a special day 'Catch and Smile and Pass it on'



Event 2: Bring along a cup cake competition both children and parents. The theme is make someone smile with your inventive cupcake idea. Please write a small postcard sized explanation of what it is, your name and class and children will take it to the main KS1 or KS2 hall - so we can judge this event and celebrate your fabulous ideas.

We will host a school café after school in both halls so you can come and see the competition and have a coffee and cake with your children and staff.





## BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

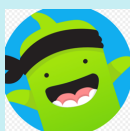
Leo, Maria, Angel, Struan, Bentleigh, Faye, Rayne, Toby, Jacob, Savannah-Rose, Fatimah, Harry, Priyanka, Jake, Myles, Noah, Inaaya, Lola-Belle, Cohen, Jack, Aisha, Konrad, Sienna-May, Tilly-May, Gabriel, Lena, Emilija, Fenton, Orlando, Lucas, Connor, Cameron, Travis, Rodrigo, Eliza, Saskia, Auris, Jensen, Bartosz, Jan, Freya, Kelsie-Leigh, Luca, Ella-Louise and Sophie.



## HOUSE WINNERS

## END OF TERM RESULTS

<b>1<sup>st</sup> Robins</b>	<b>1568</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Canaries</b>	<b>1319</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Kingfishers</b>	<b>1299</b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Parrots</b>	<b>1145</b>



Total Dojo to date

Message from the Head Boy and Girl - Saskia and Thomas  
'Keep the Grounds Tidy' campaign calling all parents to help us

## PARENT'S COMMENTS TO THE HEAD

As always we really value your opinions about our school. Please add your comments here for the Headteacher. You can return them in an envelope if you would prefer them to remain confidential or email me directly on [lauramartin@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk](mailto:lauramartin@southfields.peterborough.sch.uk)

Please use the remaining space to make any further comments about things you like, the things you think we need to develop or any ideas you may have and we will try to use them in school.

**Happy Chinese New Year Everyone**  
**Love from Mrs Martin and the Southfields Team xxx**

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring term 2019

9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019 - Year 3 Aylmerton Residential Evening 6pm  
14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2019 Health Reception Screening - All day  
17<sup>th</sup> Jan Year 6 Growth Mindset Day  
21<sup>st</sup> Jan Year 6 Evacuee Day  
22<sup>nd</sup> Jan Peterborough English Challenge Finals  
25<sup>th</sup> Jan Parent Representative meeting  
29<sup>th</sup> Jan Year 1 Multi Skills  
30<sup>th</sup> Jan Year 4 Horstead Evening  
1<sup>st</sup> Feb School Photo Day  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb Badminton year 5/6 Team Event  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb Year 3 Flag Fen educational visit  
5<sup>th</sup> Feb Year 1 Multi Skills event

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Spring term 2019

6<sup>th</sup> Feb Parents Meeting for Aylmerton 2019  
7<sup>th</sup> Feb Year 5 Yovik Centre  
8<sup>th</sup> Feb Purple Light Treat Celebration  
11<sup>th</sup> Feb Year 5/6 Girls Football  
11<sup>th</sup> Feb Stibbington Residential group 1  
13<sup>th</sup> Feb Stibbington Residential group 2  
12<sup>th</sup> Feb Valentines Disco  
15<sup>th</sup> Feb Year 4 Dance Workshop  
26<sup>th</sup> Feb Year 4 sports hall Athletics  
27<sup>th</sup> Feb year 2 Peterborough Museum visit  
27<sup>th</sup> Feb Feedback meeting for parents following Stibbington visit  
11<sup>th</sup> March Year 4 to Harry Potter Studio