East Sheen Primary School
Newsletter Friday 23rd October

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Pupil survey:



It was fantastic to analyse the pupil survey in this week's governor meeting. All pupil responses were in the high 90%'s, and some particular highlights follow. 99% of pupils enjoy school; 99% feel safe; and 99% know that staff listen to and care about them. We have been working to promote oracy skills over the last two years, and it has been pleasing to continue to build on a year-on-year increase in agreement with the statement: 'I contribute to lessons and speak in front of the class.' At 95%, this is higher than any previous year and comparisons with 2022 show an increase from 76%. Full results and year-on-year comparisons can be found here.

Year 1 bonfire experience:



Year 1 enjoyed a bonfire experience to support their English writing last week. By using the Habit of Mind '5 senses', they explored what they could see, hear, smell and feel, helping them to produce some wonderful descriptive writing.

Bee friendly flower project:

As part of our commitment to becoming a bee-friendly school, we have started planting a selection of bee-friendly plants around the school grounds. We were fortunate to receive £250 in funding from Richmond Council, which enabled us to purchase plants such as lavender, rosemary and echinops.

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We look forward to seeing these plants flourish over the coming months, adding colour to our outdoor spaces and providing an important source of food for local pollinators. Thank you to our parent volunteers and Green Team members for their hard work and support in making this happen.



Dyslexia workshop:

The Richmond Dyslexia Association are holding an information session for parents/carers on Friday 6th November at 8.55am. For more information, please click here.

So that we can accommodate all parents that would like to attend, it would be really useful for us to gauge interest. If you would like to attend, please complete the following form.

Richmond Dyslexia Association – Fill in form

Thinking Schools

The two Habits of Mind we are focusing on this half term are:





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Attendance:

We look forward to welcoming all children back to school after half term on **Tuesday 3rd November**.

A polite reminder that holidays must not be extended into term time, as any additional absence will be unauthorised. If your child is unwell, please consult the NHS guidance on common illnesses and notify the school as soon as possible if they need to remain at home. Please remember that children should attend school before and after any medical appointments. To minimise time away from learning, routine appointments should be arranged outside of school hours.

We also encourage families to read our Attendance Policy at a Glance, available in several languages commonly spoken in our school community.

Attendance:

School target: 97% **Last week: 97%** **Classes above target: 11**

RG	**91.6%**	**1B**	**96.9%**	**2D**	**98.7%**	**3G**	**97.2%**	**4DM**	**98.7%**	**5B**	**96.4%**	**6B**	**100%**
RM	**96.4%**	**1D**	**96.7%**	**2N**	**97.6%**	**3K**	**98.5%**	**4F**	**94.1%**	**5C**	**96.4%**	**6C**	**97.1%**
RT	**95.2%**	**1L**	**92.8%**	**2SB**	**98.7%**	**3S**	**97.3%**	**4H**	**97.9%**	**5M**	**96.8%**	**6T**	**100%**

Notices and reminders:

If you would like to find out more about Oboe taster lessons for your child, please click here.

This half term, Ciné Schools are building on its Film Academy programme with an exciting three days of spooky filmmaking at Burntwood School in Wandsworth. Running from Monday 26th to Wednesday 28th, young filmmakers will come together to make a completely original short scary movie. The children will get a chance to write, act, direct, film, create sound effects, and more, over the course of the three days. More information and booking is available online at: https://www.cineschools.com/product-page/half-term-filmmaking-camp . There are options for the core day and additional wraparound care.

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The Joy of Reading:

We are so pleased to see how much excitement our new libraries have generated and how they are motivating children to read. It is wonderful to see children showing one another the books they have chosen and talking enthusiastically about what excites them.

Classes have a weekly library visit, but if that is not enough, families are welcome to use the KS2 library straight after school on Tuesdays and Wednesdays until 4.10pm.

We have also significantly expanded and refreshed our book stock and are delighted to say that children can now borrow up to two books from the library at a time.

If your child brings home a book they have chosen that feels challenging, please do read it to them, whatever their age. Children gain so much from being read to, and the shared experience of enjoying a book together can help foster a lifelong love of reading. Listening to books beyond their own reading ability is also incredibly valuable for developing language, vocabulary and background knowledge.

Once children can decode accurately and fluently, reading widely becomes the most important way they continue to develop as readers. By putting in the "reading miles", children build reading stamina, encounter new ideas and knowledge, develop richer vocabulary and strengthen their fluency. The more children read, the more confident, knowledgeable and skilled they become.

As we head into the half-term break, we encourage all children to make time for reading each day. Whether it is sharing a bedtime story, visiting the local library, reading a magazine, listening to an audiobook or getting lost in a favourite novel, every reading experience counts. We wish all our families a wonderful half-term and hope that plenty of books feature in your adventures!