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Fundraiser for Neurofibromatosis

One of our Year 5's is holding a cake and homemade craft items sale after school on Monday 20th May from 3 -4.15pm. Please bring a small amount of cash to help support this important event. For more information on NF please have a look at their website: www.nervetumours.org.uk



New Glockenspiels

A huge thank you to the PTA for purchasing 15 new Glockenspiels for Music. The children have had lots of fun playing them



School Trip and Swimming Payments

Can we please ask that payments for trips and swimming lessons are paid promptly, which is before the event starts please. Without enough on time payments trips and swimming lessons are at risk of being cancelled. If you need to speak to the office regarding payments please call 01793 823379 or email office.admin@southmarstonprimary.co.uk



Sports Update

We are looking forward to a busy summer of sport in an Olympic year ...

Sports day is coming up on Tuesday June 18th. Girls cricket in May, also Class 4 Quadkids in May and Class 2 in June and July is Class 3.

It's been great to see Class 2 make such a positive start swimming - we were so impressed with how quickly they changed and completed their first lesson. All children are developing their ball and racquet skills in PE this term so any practice at home would be helpful. Also we are pleased to see new faces at football club. A couple of new girls are trying out the club and had expert coaching from Joah. Finally - the trim trail is back in use now that the field is drier and it has been encouraging to see so many children making good use of it!



School Attendance - Well Done! School attendance since Half Term is now at 95% which is above National Average. Thank you all for your support with this excellent attendance, let's hope we continue with this until the end of term.

Photo Permissions and Social Media

Many of you are aware we have a new Facebook page to share information about the school to a wider audience. **'South Marston CofE Primary School'** if you would like to Like and Follow us. If you do not wish your child to feature on the page please let the office know as soon as possible.



Lavender Lodge—Update from Mrs Keating-West

In 2022 our school community raised money for our lodge, 'Lavender Lodge' named by The Well-Being Team, which was officially opened in 2023 as part of our 150 year celebrations. The lodge is now heated, has electric and a colour changing light that is being well used! I personally love Lavender Lodge and feel it is perfect for our children to come and talk in a space that is away from the classroom. As Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) I see children from age 3 -11. Early intervention has been shown to be key, and this will mainly be looking at feelings and social skills. As a school we use Zones of Regulation and these are on display throughout the classrooms.

I run Lego Therapy after school club, this has been very popular and it is lovely to see children socialising and learning new skills from one another. A big THANK YOU to the Murkin-Summers Family for donating a huge amount of Lego! It really is very expensive and this has helped the club a lot, much appreciated.

Thank you to the Feline Family for donating 'Lavender Lodge' sign, the children all comment and it finishes the Lodge off. Also, thank you to the Hamilton-Gill family for kindly sorting their fidgets and donating a huge box, these are being well used!

Should you feel your child could benefit from ELSA sessions then please email the school office. Sessions are 20 minutes long and can be weekly/fortnightly for approx 6-8 weeks (or as long as needed).



Message from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents & Carers,
Welcome to this week's newsletter.
This short but busy term has started well with classes enjoying their new topics.
Last week I walked the school with the Chair of our Academy Council and it was wonderful to see the learning taking place from Class 2 busy being amazing mathematicians to our brilliant musicians in Class 3 learning the recorder. Our Chair commented on how 'vibrant' school was which was lovely to hear!
This term's Christian Value is 'Service' so we will be exploring what this means to us, to Christians and what it means to do acts of service for others.
This will be the last newsletter before the Year 6 take their SATS tests on the week beginning May 13th so I wanted to take this opportunity to wish them all the very best – they have worked incredibly hard and have been supported brilliantly by Mr Miller this past year. I know they will apply themselves and try their best. We will be reminding them to work hard and that whilst these tests are important they do not of course show how creative, thoughtful, kind or sporty they may be and that they are a snapshot in time.
Wishing you a lovely bank holiday weekend, here is hoping the sun shines!



Safeguarding when school is closed

The information below is from Swindon' Connect (formerly MASH) which may be of use when school is closed. Please note that school staff will have their 'out of office' notifications on and may not see messages that are urgent in this way. Please contact Swindon Connect (formerly MASH) if you are concerned about a child. If you think that a child is in immediate danger, please ring 999 and speak to the police. If you are concerned about a child or young person: E-mail: contactswindon@swindon.gov.uk

Telephone: 01793 464646 (during normal office hours which are 8.30am to 4.40pm Monday to Thursday, and 8.30am to 4.00pm Friday) The Emergency Duty Service (EDS) is available outside office hours on 01793 436699

Dates for your diary

Bank Holiday

6th May 2024—School closed for Bank Holiday

24 May 2024

Last day before Half term—normal finish time

SATS Week

13-17 May 2024

Roves Farm Visit

16 May 2024—Pre school visit

School Photos

21st May 2024—All school and Year 6 and Preschool Leavers photos

Bourton on the Water Trip

24 May 2024—Class 2 school trip

Sports Day

Tuesday 18th June 2024