



22ND OCTOBER 2021

NEWSLETTER

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DATES FOR THE DIARY

25th - 29th October 2021

HALF TERM - No School

Saturday, 11th December

LINK ASSOCIATION

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Being held at the secondary school

Friday 17th December 2021

END OF TERM - EARLY

CLOSURE FOR PUPILS

Tuesday, 4th January 2022

STAFF INSET DAY

Wednesday, 5th January

2022

PUPILS RETURN TO

SCHOOL FOR THE SPRING

TERM

14th - 18th February 2022

SPRING HALF TERM - No

School

Friday, 1st April 2022

END OF TERM - EARLY

CLOSURE FOR PUPILS

October half term is here.

The first half term is always an interesting one for everyone.

Classes get to know each other and the dynamics of the learning environment are formed.

Once we know the dynamic, we build on this to stimulate growth and development, not only academically, but holistically too.

Seven weeks in, our learners have adjusted to their new environment extremely well. As a parent or carer, you should be very proud of them.

The process of transition - moving from one class to another or to a new school can have a significant impact on children and it is good to see that the time we invest in nurturing our learners to feel valued and safe, will ultimately result in success.

Next half term, our Annual Review Meetings, IEP meetings (primary) and parent teacher evenings (secondary) will begin to take place.

These meetings will give you the opportunity of seeing how your child has settled and the aims and targets we have for them. We will also tell you how you can support your child's learning journey and how we can work together encouraging them to reach their full potential.

We hope you have a wonderful half term.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE PRIMARY SCHOOL?

This week our School Council were busy planning a visit to Sherwood Park School to have a look at their play facilities and get some ideas that we may be able to use in our own playground. They voted to carry out this research and sequenced an itinerary of the visit using symbols.



Link Priority 2

Being part of a group or community

Link Priority 7

Communication Social

Link Priority 10

Generalising Skills

Link Priority 3

Spiritual Development



There have been some strange happenings this week at the primary school. Things do not seem to be quite the same.

For instance we had a visit from Harry Potter! He definitely worked his magic around the school as he helped deliver lots of letters for the school office and also managed to carry out some important data handling in respect of school meals.

If he waved his wand, you may think it was Archie from Pine Class, but then again was it?



Lots of creative activities have been taking place - Udi designed her own cauldron and made sure she wore her witches hat whilst she designed it - perhaps a spell is brewing!



Lucas was one of many who carved a pumpkin to take home - intricate cutting skills were used - our OTs were thrilled! Ever eco, the pulp will be used to make a delicious soup.

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING AT THE SECONDARY SCHOOL?

This week Lynn Shah gives us an insight into what has been covered in Science so far this term.

Students in KS3 have been learning about animals over the last few weeks. The BIG QUESTION was 'What habitats are there local to The Link and what do they provide for animals?' Students had fun drawing a huge map of the local area and adding as many animals and habitats as they could think of.



We then learnt about different habitats in the world and locally. We had a lovely trip to Waddon Pond along the river Wandle to see for ourselves the local habitats and we tried to spot any animals.



We also worked on Link Priorities and thought about careers when we visited Pets at Home. This was a great opportunity for students to see the huge variety of fish and other small mammals.



They learnt about the way scientists classify animals, and practised science skills of observation. They also drew some beautiful insects.



We also went on a treasure hunt spotting invertebrates in the school garden. It was a shame but we

didn't find many at this time of year.



We finished the topic by thinking about threats to the environment. Students really understood the impact of things such as pollution, litter and global warming on the environment.

All the students are really looking forward to seeing more types of animals in London Zoo in November.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND AND ABOUT?

Lots of things happening around and about over half term - here are a few events that may be of interest.

Sutton Fire Station have an Open Day on Saturday, 23rd October from 1.00pm - 5.00pm, which is completely free of charge. Located at 43, St. Dunstan's Hill, if you have a child who loves fire engines, do take them along. They will get to see the inside of a fire engine, spray a fire hose and get to meet some of our very brave firefighters. A treat indeed!

Super Phonics are holding a special Halloween Party on Monday, 25th

October at Highfield Hall in Carshalton. Aimed at children aged 3-9 and with fancy dress, games, crafts and lots more, to learn more or to book, go to www.superphonics.co.uk

The ARC Centre in Croydon is an animal education centre for anyone aged up to 18 years of age. On Saturday, 30th October they are holding their Halloween Spooktacular. Tickets costs £6pp and give an opportunity to go and look at the animals, learn more about practical animal classes and simply join in the fun. For more information, look at their website: www.the-arc-centre.co.uk

Sutton Ecology Centre have nature activities going on, including their Halloween Trail.

October Half Term 2021 Nature Activities at Sutton Ecology Centre



Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Enquiries: biodiversity@sutton.gov.uk
www.friendsecologycentre.org.uk
Festival Walk, Carshalton, SM5 3NY



Sutton Mencap are holding a Zoom Halloween Disco. Tickets cost £5, but it's free admission for any of their Friday Club Members.



For a fantastic family day out in Surrey, look no further than Godstone Farm, who have a whole week of activities over the half term week. Farm entry allows you to explore the farm trail, animal holding, pond walk, the world of dinosaur roar, outdoor play areas and the indoor playbarn. They even have evening firework displays, aimed specifically for young children who are sensitive to noise.

Check out their website to learn more: www.godstonefarm.co.uk

And Finally

The moment a lot of our young learners have been waiting for - the winners of The Link Association's Halloween Haul Raffle.

Sandy drew the tickets and we are pleased to announce:

Primary School

Winner - Jack

Runner Up - Wiktorja

Secondary School

Winner - Alfie F

Runner Up - Annabel H-B

A message for the adults within our school community

During half term remember to take a deep breath and relax.

Enjoy your family, your friends and take some time to indulge yourself - even if it's just ten minutes for a nice cup of coffee or tea.