



SOUTHMINSTER
C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL



Southminster C of E Primary School's Newsletter Friday 22nd September 2023

Bible Quote of the Week

Matthew 5: 16 Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.



This week has seen a return to whole school Worship following completion of repair work to the floor in our Meadows Hall. We had a super time celebrating the children's achievements in our Worship time today with new Stars of the Week and Hot Chocolate winners. Congratulations to everybody for their achievements and to all those who have been trying their best.



EYFS

Our Early Years children are continuing to settle into their daily routines. They are coming into class beautifully and organising themselves for different times of the day. I have enjoyed reading to them and singing number rhymes and it was lovely to see them enjoying their Outdoor Learning session today.

The children have also enjoyed painting with blackberries this week, making apple people and creating their own rainbow names.



KS1

The children in Key Stage 1 have been working on their narrative skills this week. They have looked at the features of fairytales and have planned their own stories based on these but with a twist. I have enjoyed looking at how hard the children have worked on improving presentation, too, thinking about letter formation and sitting the letters correctly on the lines.

As part of their Science learning, the children went out and about hunting for different materials, discussing their properties and their uses.





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KS2

In Years 5 and 6, students have been immersed in the captivating tale of Thomas Oakley and William Beech in *Goodnight, Mr. Tom*. They've also dedicated their efforts to crafting newspaper articles, set in World War I, following a tragic bombing that destroyed one of the village houses. Their engagement with the story and their commitment to improving their writing skills have been truly inspiring. We eagerly anticipate seeing their published articles.

This week in Years 3 and 4, the children have been exploring the topic of Sound in Science. They investigated how a tuning fork can seem silent after the initial sound has died out but, when they put the fork against their heads, they could still hear it. The children loved this experiment and learned lots about how sound is transmitted. They will be making their own pan pipes on Monday and will find out how they can influence the sound.

Outdoor Learning

During their Outdoor Learning today, the children created this Hapazome bunting using the natural pigments in leaves and flower to make these surprisingly detailed prints.





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Reminders

Lost Property

We are already finding lots of lost uniform, lunch boxes, bags and drinks bottles in and around school. It is so much easier to get these back to the owners if they are named. We are reminding the children to take responsibility for their possessions, but it would be very helpful if they could all have the child's name written on to save them being lost. Thank you for your co-operation with this.

Earrings and Jewellery

All jewellery, including watches and earrings must be removed for P.E. lessons. Earrings cannot be taped. If earrings are not removed for Outdoor Learning sessions, then the children can take part in learning tasks but not in climbing activities.

Secondary Schools Applications

The new secondary school admission round opened on Tuesday 12th September 2023 for parents of current Year 6 children to apply for a secondary school (Year 7) place for September 2024.

The statutory national closing date for applications is 31st October 2023.

Applications can be made online via www.essex.gov.uk/admissions 99% of parents in Essex applied online last year.

All of the application information is available on the website above. The website also has a copy of the Secondary Education in Essex 2024-25 booklet which contains details of all secondary school admission policies.

Thank you for your ongoing support in getting your children to school promptly and ready to start their learning each day.

Kind regards,

Mrs. Woods and all the staff at Southminster C of E Primary School