



SYTCHAMPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

October 2024

Message from Mrs Brogan

Dear Parents and Families,

It is difficult to believe we have been back for a whole month already! The children have settled in really well to their learning, those in new classes have got into the new routines quickly and those who are 'old hands' have been acting as great role models. It has been particularly pleasing to see how quickly our new reception class has got into the swing of full-time school. Earlier in the month, we welcomed representatives of 'Learning Through Landscapes' for some staff training on facilitating outdoor learning, and staff have already begun taking on some of the ideas, to increase children's connection with the outdoors.

It has been great to see families in school for the Celebration Assembly and for the workshops around Phonics, Reading and Times Tables. Thank you for your support with this. We are looking forward to seeing families at the Harvest Festival this month.

As ever, if you have any queries or feedback, please do not hesitate to come and speak to me - I am usually on the playground at the beginning of the day and you can call the school office at other times.

Best Wishes
Catherine Brogan.



The Stars



Here are our September 'Stars of the Week'.

These are the children that teachers have picked out this month for congratulations. They have shown a wide range of characteristics and skills from resilience to kindness, excellent learning behaviours and being great role models. Well done to you all - keep up the hard work! We are looking forward to meeting our October Stars through this month's assemblies.

Democracy in Action

As we wanted to expand the role and identity of our School Houses, we decided to have a change of names. Through our House Assemblies and with the school council, we have been collecting ideas, creating a shortlist and then voting across the school. The most popular choice in every class vote was to name our houses after the elements. So here they are.....



We will be having a House Assembly every week and through these we want to **create a sense of connectedness, support wellbeing and share our hobbies and achievements**. The first Tuesday of every month will be a time for children to bring their certificates and news from their out of school activities to share with their House.



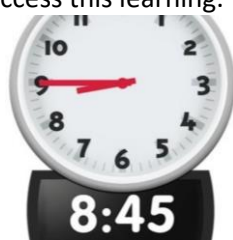
Harvest Festival

We are looking forward to seeing you at our Harvest Festival on Wednesday 16th October at 2.30pm. We will be collecting donations of dried and tinned products for the Droitwich Foodbank. Please send these into school between the 14th and 16th October.

A couple of important reminders....

Start of the School Day

Please remember that our school day starts at 8.45am. There are learning activities in place from this time, which are part of our curriculum. **Children should be in the playground ready to enter their classes at 8.45am**, so that they can access this learning. This also means that teachers can be back in the classroom ready to support children with their learning in a timely manner. Thank you for your support with this.



Jewellery

Children should not wear jewellery to school apart from stud earrings, if this is necessary to keep piercings open. There is risk of jewellery getting broken or lost, but more significantly, **there are safety concerns**, with rings, necklaces, bracelets and earrings potentially getting caught on play equipment, or during play and causing significant injury. Please keep jewellery for home use.



Sports Crew



Play Leaders



We have voted in our new Sports Crew and Play Leaders. These children play an important part in keeping us active and supporting social skills and wellbeing.

Sports crew will be encouraging everyone to complete their active 30 minutes and will be doing their own assembly in a few week's time.

Play leaders will be running activities every lunch time for everyone to join in, have fun and be more active.

School Council

Our learning, our environment, our wellbeing, our School

Hello from your new school council!

We are an elected group of children who represent our peers to help improve our school. We do a number of things

- We meet regularly to discuss school events and relay this information to our classes.
- We welcome any ideas you would like to make happen and will put these at our meetings.
- We will discuss any concerns you may have about something at school.
- We help around school and are involved in putting on school events to make our school even better.



Thank you for your support of our 'Break the Rules Day'. We raised over **£185!**

We are hoping for your support with our Big School Tidy.

We need your help!

School grounds tidy up
Adults only please

Saturday 19th October 10am - 12pm

We are so lucky to have such wonderful grounds but they need a good tidy up so we can get the most from them. Our School Council would like you to come and help us.

<p>What needs doing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fence painting• Fence maintenance (not external)• Pruning• Weeding• General tidy	<p>What you could bring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secateurs• Cordless hedge trimmer• Brooms• Shears• Fence paint brushes• Gloves• Tool box	<p>We would love it if you could help us. If you are able to help please email the school office on office@sytchampton.worcs.sch.uk.</p> <p>Tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>The School Council</p>
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Operation Christmas Child

Our school council have asked that we support Operation Christmas child this year. Children have brought leaflets home explaining the project and how you can support it by packing a shoebox to send to a child in a developing country this Christmas. Please bring your shoeboxes into school by Friday 8th November.



A message from your SENCO...

The Autumn term is now well underway, and I hope your child has settled back into life at Sytchampton, I warmly welcome any new families to our school. My name is Mrs Oliver and I am your interim SENCo, while Mrs Lawson enjoys her maternity leave.

If you have concerns about your child, we can offer support in a variety of ways. Your child's class teacher should always be your first port of call. Our staff are able to offer lots of support within the classroom. I am also available for further support, help and advice. We work closely with external agencies and base our classroom practice on their advice and training, so in the majority of cases, children's needs can be met in school without the need for external referrals.

Our website has a SEND section and is a great source of information:

[Sytchampton Endowed Primary School - Special Educational Needs and Disability - Access and Inclusion](#)

SEND Coffee and Catch-Up Wednesday 6th November at 2.30-3.15pm

In the past, this network has proved to be very supportive with some excellent resources and tips shared between parents of children with SEND. This is also a lovely opportunity to forge links with other parents in school.



I'll do my best to be available for the whole session to answer quick queries and questions. I will absolutely supply the drinks and biscuits.

PTA

The PTA held their AGM on Thursday this week. A new committee was voted in ready to organise a great calendar of events for the year, and continue to raise valuable funds for our school. Look out for their newsletters and social media and remember to offer your support wherever you can. You can contact the PTA on [sytcpta@outlook.com](mailto:sytchpta@outlook.com).

New fun digital therapy for childhood anxiety

Herefordshire and Worcestershire NHS have partnered with BFB Labs to offer children and young people in Herefordshire and Worcestershire free access to Lumi Nova from 1 October 2024.

Lumi Nova – Tales of Courage is a therapeutic game that helps children aged 7-12 years self-manage worries and build resilience.

Click on the picture link to go to the website.



There is an introductory video here [Introducing Lumi Nova: A therapeutic mobile game for children's worries and anxiety \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

Who is Lumi Nova for?

Lumi Nova is for 7-12 year olds facing difficulties with anxiety, including:

- **Phobias** e.g. Being afraid of spiders or insects, heights, being near dogs, or the dark.
- **Social anxiety** e.g. Feeling worried about making new friends, going to social events.
- **Separation anxiety** e.g. Unable to sleep alone, worried about being away from parents, going to school.

Is your child a young carer?

A Young Carer is a person aged between 6 and 17 who supports a family member at home beyond what is typical for their age.

Family circumstances may differ, but usually family members need to be cared for because they have a disability, physical or mental health difficulties, or are struggling with alcohol or drug addictions.

It is useful if we, as a school know that your child is acting as a young carer so that we can support them and you.

Please speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Brogan.



Worcestershire Young Carers offers support and networks for young carers. Visit their website [here](https://www.worcestershireyoungcarers.org.uk/).

Talk About Learning....

We know that it can be difficult to get some children to talk about what they have been doing in school. Our class curriculum newsletters (see our website) give an overview of what the term has in store, and here we will give you some highlights that could prompt conversation at home.

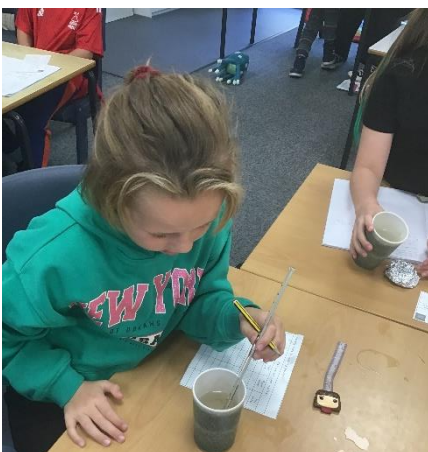
Elm Class have explored 'Chiaroscuro' in **Art**, a popular technique used by many Artists, including Leonardo da Vinci.



Our **Science** unit has proved very popular this half term, we have so far separated solid/solid mixtures by sieving and liquid/solid mixtures by filtering! It has been amazing to see what can be achieved in our classroom...



Willow Class have been investigating melting in **science**, we have used ice, water of varying temperatures and thermometers.



In **Art** we have made our own paint using natural materials such as spices and berries. The classroom smelt lovely!



Oak Class have been sorting things into different categories using their properties, as part of our data handling work in **Computing**. In **Art** we have made some pots developing our skills with clay – next week we will be making tiles!



Brambles class have been finding out how opticians help us and learning all about size and measuring.



Online Safety



Protect our children!

Parents and guardians: Our kids are now most commonly abused online, via their mobile phones and games consoles. Do you know how to keep your kids safe?

Learn more about the dangers of kids being online and how you can keep them safe. Join our free one hour online parent awareness session to give yourself a head start in an ever changing digital world.

Scan the QR code to find out more about our awareness training and to sign up to one of our free sessions or go to www.westmercia.police.uk/exploitworkshops





Girls RUGBY

Calling all girls aged 10-12 years old
to come along & give rugby a try at our
FREE GIRLS RUGBY TASTER SESSIONS

WHEN
EVERY SUNDAY
Please contact Phil Cotton for
timings
WHERE
BROMSGROVE RFC B60 3DH

WELCOME TO THE WORLD OF GIRLS RUGBY

- Beginners or Experienced players welcome
- Sessions open to girls aged 10 -12 years old
- Wear any sports clothing
- Trainers or football boots as footwear

MORE CONTACT INFO:

EMAIL: Philc_72@hotmail.com

CALL: Phil Cotton
07855448583



Term dates 2024 - 2025

Please Remember that Term Time Holidays are not permitted

- Taking children on holiday or out of school during term time is against the law.
- The school is not allowed to authorise absence during term time
- Taking unauthorised holidays could result in a penalty notice from the Local Authority.

The agreed term dates are here for your information

	Holidays - School closes to pupils on	School re-opens to pupils on
Autumn Term		Wednesday 4th September 2024
Autumn mid term	Friday 25th October 2024	Monday 4th November 2024
Christmas	Friday 20th December 2024	Tuesday 7th January 2025
Spring mid-term	Friday 14th February 2025	Monday 24th February 2025
Easter	Friday 11th April 2025	Monday 28th April 2025
Summer mid-term	Friday 23rd May 2025	Tuesday 3rd June 2025
End of summer term	Friday 18th July 2025	

Christmas Day	Wednesday 25 th December 2024
Boxing Day	Thursday 26 th December 2024
New Year's Day	Wednesday 1 st January 2025
Good Friday	Friday 18 th April 2025
Easter Monday	Monday 21 st April 2025
May Day	Monday 5 th May 2025
Spring Bank Holiday	Monday 26 th May 2025

Wrap Around Care

We have some spaces in our WAC club which runs before and after school.

Breakfast Club runs from 8.00am until 8.45am in the hall and children are given a breakfast of toast, cereal and fruit. Milk or juice is available.

After school, children can stay until 4.15pm or stay and have tea, being collected by 5.30pm Monday-Thursday and 5.00pm Friday.

Please ask in the school office for more information or see our [website](#).

Session	Cost
Breakfast Club	£4.50
3.15 to 4.15pm	£5.00
3.15 to 5.30pm (Mon to Thu)	£10.50
3.15 to 5.00pm (Fri)	£9.50

Lunches and milk

Please remember to order lunches online by Wednesday for the following week.

Children have free milk up to the age of 5. If you want your child to continue to receive milk after their 5th birthday, there is a small charge for this. Please speak to the school office.

Dates for the Diary

Monday 14 th - Wednesday 16 th October	Donations for the food bank
Wednesday 16 th October	Harvest Festival 2.30 pm
Saturday 19 th October	Big School Tidy – Parent and Community Volunteers 10am – 12pm
Thursday 24 th October	Tempest Photography in school – individual photos (pre-school sibling photos from 8.30am)
Thursday 24 th October	PTA Halloween Disco 5.30pm and 6.45pm
Friday 25 th October	Diwali Day in School
Friday 25 th October	Celebration Assembly with Parents 2.30pm
Monday 28 th October – Friday 1 st November	October half term holiday – school closed
Monday 4 th November	School Opens
Thursday 7 th November	Flu nasal vaccinations for all pupils (please complete consent forms online via link on Class Dojo)
Friday 8 th November	Shoebox Appeal Deadline
Thursday 14 th November	Parents’ Evening
Friday 15 th November	Children in Need
Monday 18 th November	Parents’ Evening
Friday 29 th November	Celebration Assembly with Parents 2.30pm
Tuesday 10 th December	KS1 Nativity
Friday 20 th December	End of term
Monday 23 rd December – Friday 3 rd January 2025	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY – school closed
Monday 6 th January	INSET DAY – school closed to pupils
Tuesday 7 th January	School Opens to Pupils