



Spring has officially sprung, bringing with it clear skies and glorious sunshine this week. The weather has provided a super opportunity to spend further time outdoors and use some of our senses to talk about the new season. The children have been quick to notice the changes—spotting fresh buds appearing on trees, new shoots emerging in our wildflower beds, and enjoying the warmth of the sun. Their observations have captured the essence of spring:

"I don't need my gloves and hat anymore", "I have a summer coat for school", "My cap keeps the sun off my head and helps me see" and "The blossom is growing on the tree in my garden"

It is also another reminder for us to start thinking about protective clothing and sunscreen when in the sun during outdoor play, especially as the summer months will be soon approaching after the Easter break. Therefore, please remember to:

- provide a labelled sunhat/ cap to protect your child's head and face.
- apply an all-day sunscreen that doesn't contain any nut oils. Please remember we are a 'nut-free' school and must protect those children with allergies. The cream must be applied in the morning before school and must not be brought into school for the staff to apply.
- Prepare for any known pollen allergies and speak with the class teacher if you haven't already done so.
- Bring a water bottle every day (water only, no juice or flavoured water).



Our PE lessons have taken place on the field this week. The children enthusiastically participated in mini-races, relays and aiming beanbags into hoops placed at varying distances. The children have made good progress in their co-ordination and stamina since the autumn term.

Beyond physical progress, they demonstrated fantastic sportsmanship—embracing teamwork, encouraging their peers, and celebrating each other's successes. These activities supported both their 'Physical Development' Early Learning Goal (ELG) and their 'Personal, Social and Emotional' ELG, fostering cooperation, resilience, and a love for active play.



Thank you for helping the children with their Weekly News writing—it's been a joy to see their work! They're making good steps in thinking through their sentences, holding their ideas in mind, and then putting them down on paper. The next exciting challenge is encouraging them to step into the role of 'editor,' checking for capital letters, finger spaces, full stops, and making sure their sentences make sense.

Developing this habit will boost their confidence and help them become more independent writers!



This week, we've completed our phonics assessments to make sure each child is reading at a level that's right for them, helping them feel confident and successful in their progress.

To support their literacy journey, we'll be sharing a variety of fun activities for the Easter holiday. We encourage you to look at these materials early, so you can plan the best time for your child to read and complete them at their own pace.

Finished activities will be collected on Monday, 28th April. We appreciate your support in making learning engaging and enjoyable!

Important diary dates and information

- 7.4.25 Reception's Spring Assembly, 2.30pm (Please note that due to our hall's capacity we can only invite two family members per child)
- 10.4.25 Southridge Sponsored Fun Run
- 11.4.25 Break up for the Easter Holidays
- 28.4.25 Return to school

Reminders

- Children are not permitted to ride scooters or bikes on the playground. Please ensure your child dismounts their bike/ scooter once through the school gates and push the bike/ scooter to the bike hut.
- Your child's 'My Weekly Journal' will be collected this Monday, 28th April.
- Please remember to leave your child's reading folder in their bookbag each day. Monday and Fridays are book changing days but we do read with your children through the week.



Southridge First School

'Proud to Make a Positive Impact'