

# Year 1 Newsletter 11.04.25

We have packed lots into the end of this half term and have had a lot of fun! The children loved taking part in the fun run on Thursday and we were delighted with the incredible amount of money raised to support both the Lily Foundation and the building of our school pond. It has been exciting to see the pond take shape over the last 2 weeks and we look forward to seeing how it develops over the summer term.



## Centre for Life Trip



On Monday we had a fabulous day at the Centre for Life. We particularly enjoyed watching the experiments in the science show and had a great time becoming real scientists complete with safety goggles and lab coats during our workshop. The children carried out 4 different investigations to help them learn more about their senses. We also had time to explore all the different zones of the museum. It was a jam packed day and there were a lot of tired children on the bus on the way home. We were incredibly proud of how well the children behaved during their day, they were brilliant representatives of Southridge!

## Spring Assembly

It has been a week of feeling proud of our lovely children. Their confidence, beautiful singing, and loud, clear voices were incredibly impressive during our spring assembly this week. They were brilliant at knowing when it was their turn to speak, supporting each other when talking in groups, joining in with actions and giving their best smiles, even when they were feeling nervous. We always talk to the children about how normal it is to feel nervous, and that the adults get nervous too! We talk about the different ways our bodies react to nerves and that it looks and feels different for everyone but that everyone is there to support them and, even if we make a mistake, it does not matter. We could not be prouder of how well they stepped up to the challenge.



## Curriculum

In science we have been learning how scientists group vertebrates into mammals, fish, reptiles, birds and amphibians. We have found out about each of these groups and some of the features that animals in these groups have. The children have also had a go at grouping animals in their own way, deciding what makes them the same or different.



The children have been very grown up in our PSHE lessons over the last two weeks. Last week they learned about different sorts of medicines and how to stay safe around them. This week we learned about the importance of knowing the correct names for our private parts and particularly enjoyed the 'Pantosaurus' song to help us understand the PANTS rules.

Many of the children were surprised to discover in geography last week that not all deserts are hot and sandy, as we learned that the Antarctic is also a desert. This week we continued our learning about deserts by comparing the Sahara Desert with the Antarctic to see how they are similar and different.

In French we have enjoyed exploring different places in Theo's town. We know how to say hello and introduce ourselves, can count to 6 and can already name the bakers, school, cinema, stadium and ice-rink.

### **Fun Friends Sessions**

We are very excited about our upcoming PSHE sessions which will be delivered by the Connect Mental Health team in the summer term. These sessions form part of our mental health spiral curriculum and for our children will focus on understanding our own feelings and beginning to think about our impact on others. We will learn about red and green thoughts and talk about how we can change a red thought into a green one. Throughout the sessions the children will also learn different relaxation techniques. These sessions are an excellent addition to the many tools we already use within the classroom and will no doubt help the children to tackle challenges as they arise, including challenges within friendships as well as when faced with doing something that makes them feel nervous. The Connect team are offering a parent information session on Friday 2nd May at 9am where you will have the opportunity to find out more about what the children will be learning which we hope will give you the confidence to use these strategies at home too. We hope to see you there!

### **Dates for your Diary**

First day of summer term—Monday 28th April

Phonics screener information meeting for parents—Tuesday 29th April 5pm

Connect parent information event—Friday 2nd May 9am

May Bank Holiday—Monday 5th May

Teacher Training Day—Friday 23rd May



Southridge First School

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