

# TERM 3 NEWS

## Sutton Veny CofE Primary

**Together**, through **friendship**, in **peace** and with **courage**, we reach for the stars.

Colossians 3:12: '**clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.**'

**Welcome back. We hope that you all had a restful break and we wish all of our families a very Happy New Year!**

This is our termly newsletter and we hope that you will enjoy reading about what will be happening in school. Regular updates will be sent out via our eSchools platform throughout the term. Please keep an eye out for these. All of the dates for the term are available from the calendar section of our school website; you can access this page by clicking [here](#). Upcoming events are also listed on the homepage of our website. Please see the school notice board for weekly updates too.

website: [www.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk)  
email: [admin.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk](mailto:admin.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk)

### Class Updates

Please remember to check the class pages on the website for updated curriculum information and timetable changes for Term 3. Teachers work hard to update their class page ready for the start of a new term. This is particularly important so that you know which days of the week the children need to wear their PE kits to school.



### School Communication

A reminder that all of our school communication will continue to be sent out via our eSchools platform. Please make sure that you check your eSchools App or your emails for important updates and information. If you are having problems accessing eSchools, please contact the school office and Mrs Wilbond or Mrs Coughlan will be more than happy to help you.



This term we extend a warm welcome to the children and families joining our school. We have three new children joining school in Auckland, Canberra and Elliston Class; we all hope that they will be very happy as they start their journey as part of Sutton Veny School.

We also welcome Mrs Poppy Hall to Sutton Veny this term. Mrs Hall is a teacher at Mere School and is completing a 3 week placement in Elliston Class at the beginning of this term. Mrs Hall will be working with Ms Lawrence and will be supporting the children, as well as teaching certain aspects of the curriculum. We look forward to welcoming her to the school for this placement.



### Thank You to Friends of School

A huge thank you to Friends of School for all of their support and fundraising efforts. As a result of their hard work, they are currently funding over £7,000 of resources for the school. We have already had new tables delivered for Year 5 and 6 and we are having new visualisers installed in each classroom, which are such a powerful teaching tool. We are very grateful that we are able to purchase resources that we otherwise would not be able to afford without the work of Friends of School and all of your support at their events. Thank you everyone.



### School Pantomime: Sleeping Beauty

We were delighted to welcome M and M Productions into school on 7<sup>th</sup> January for a pantomime performance of 'Sleeping Beauty'. It is always such a lovely way to welcome the children back to school and provides them with an enriching and memorable experience right at the beginning of term. Thank you to Friends of School for agreeing to fund this much-loved school event.

### Wiltshire Times Report

Over the Christmas break, we were notified by numerous members of our school community, about an article in the Wiltshire Times, which celebrated the top primary schools in the county. We were very pleased to see that we featured in the article, due to the outcomes that the children achieved last year. If you would like to read the article, it can be accessed [here](#).

## Attendance and Punctuality



Regular school attendance and consistent punctuality is an integral factor of a child's educational outcomes and their life chances. Attending school regularly and arriving on time develops positive habits, not just towards school, but for employment later in life.

We understand that illness is unavoidable and there will be times where children need to be absent to recover. However, if your child's attendance drops below 95%, then this is a concern for us as a school. If your child's attendance drops below 90%, then they are classed as being persistently absent from school and we need to work with you to improve this.

On this note, a reminder that school *starts* at 8.45am in the morning and we expect all the children to arrive at school on time. It is important that they enter the classroom with their peers, so that they are part of the class's daily routines. If they arrive later than their peers, they miss vital instructions, they feel different and the children have also fed back that they feel embarrassed walking into a settled classroom.

Please know that if your child is ten minutes late every day, they will miss fifty minutes of learning time a week, which equates to one and a half weeks over a school year. Please note that when a child arrives late after the register closes this is recorded as an unauthorised absence for the whole morning session.

If there are any factors impacting on your child's attendance or punctuality, please do speak to us as we are here to support you and help in any way that we can.

### Parent Support Advisor (PSA)

Mrs Kim Muller, our Parent Support Advisor, has enjoyed working with a number of families during her first term in school. The feedback from those parents who have met, or spoken with her, has been very positive. There is now a PSA page on our school website that provides further details about the things you may want to talk to her about. The page also includes her contact details and you can access this by clicking [here](#). Mrs Muller will continue to be in school every other Thursday for face-to-face meetings. Her first day in school this term is

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> January.**

## Additional Funding for our School

We are keen to ensure that we are providing your child with the best education and support we can. Did you know that the school can receive £1,455 per pupil in additional funding to provide free hot meals, and to cover the cost of class trips, swimming and residential trips like Mill on the Brue, if families are in receipt of any of the following?

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Please let Mrs Wilbond or Mrs Coughlan know if you think your child is eligible; we will then help you complete a quick form. Please rest assured that all discussions will be handled both confidentially and sensitively.



### Winter Weather

As we are in the midst of winter, please make sure your child comes to school each day with a winter coat, hat and gloves. We will, weather permitting, ensure the children are outside for break and lunch times. If your child wears a vest, or an extra layer under their school uniform, please make sure that this is white, so that it matches the colour of their school t-shirt.

Very occasionally, schools are forced to close due to snowfall and bad weather. A decision to close school is not taken lightly and is made with the safety of the children, staff and wider school community in mind. If we ever need to close the school for safety reasons, a message will be sent out via eSchools, and the homepage of the school website will be updated, as soon as a decision can be made.

### Afterschool Clubs

Afterschool clubs for this term start this week, beginning on **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January**. A separate clubs letter was sent home at the end of last term, with all the information that you need in order to sign-up for a place.

### New Parent Governors

Our School Governing Body is made up of volunteers, staff and parents, who work together to support the work of the school. Governors play a pivotal role in the leadership of the school; they help to set the vision and strategic direction of the school, as well as ensuring that the educational and financial performance of the school is as effective as it can be.

Last term, we advertised for new Parent Governors and we are delighted to announce that Mrs Amy Boyce and Mr Tom Robinson nominated themselves and will be joining the school's Governing Body from this term. As there were the same number of nominees as there were vacancies, an election was not needed and both are automatically elected onto the Governing Body. We are looking forward to them joining the team and working alongside them both.

### School Starters September 2025

#### Do you have a younger child starting school in September 2025?

If you have a younger child who will be four years old before September 2025, please make sure you have applied for a primary school place for next year. You can apply online by clicking [here](#). The deadline for applying for a school place is the **15<sup>th</sup> January 2025**.

### Annual School Reports



Staff will be busy writing the children's annual reports this term and each class teacher has release time to write them. You will receive your child's individual report at the end of the term. Parents' evening will then take place at the beginning of Term 4. This will give you a chance to go through the report in more detail, with your child's class teacher.

You will be able to book an appointment via our eSchools platform at the start of Term 4, from **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February**.



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### MESSAGE FROM FOS

Friends of Sutton Veny School (FOS)  
Charity number 290388

Friends of School (our Parent Teacher Association) would like to thank everyone for their support with the school events that took place during Term 2. The Christmas Fayre and the Christmas Disco were such a huge success. In total, all these events raised nearly £2,000, which will go towards providing the children with enriching opportunities and enabling the school to buy the items from their wish list.

We are always looking for fresh ideas and welcome new faces to meetings, whether in a formal role, or as part of our team of ad-hoc helpers. We really do value any support that you may be able to offer and we'd love to see you at our meetings.

In Term 3, we have the following events coming up:

- FOS Meeting: Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January at 9.00am, in the village hall.
- FOS Film Night in the village hall: Friday 24<sup>th</sup> January
- Darwin Cake Sale - Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February at 3.15pm

Full details of the film night will be confirmed shortly, but it will be in the village hall and the cost will be £3, which includes popcorn. It's a lovely event and the children are actively encouraged to come in pyjamas/onesies. If you're able to help at the film night, then please do let us know.

Thank you again for your continued support for Friends of School and helping us to support the school. We are very grateful for all you do.

Best wishes,  
FOS

#### Contacts:

Eleanor Everitt (Chair)  
Sam Allison (Treasurer)  
Charlie Pywell (Secretary)