



TERM 3 NEWSLETTER

Sutton Veny CofE Primary School

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 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
email: 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 Elliott will be more than happy to help you.

NEW SCHOOL FACEBOOK PAGE

As a school, we have been looking at ways to improve our exposure on social media, so that we can share all the wonderful experiences that we offer as a school. A new school Facebook page has been set-up, which will enable us to promote the school and appeal to new families looking for school places. The page has only just become active and you are now able to follow our school page, so that you will receive any messages and notifications. We hope that this will strengthen our communication and enable us to share the children's experiences with you. You can access our new Facebook page by following [this link: https://www.facebook.com/suttonvenyprimaryschool](https://www.facebook.com/suttonvenyprimaryschool) There will also be a link to the page on the homepage of our school website.



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

We also welcome Mrs Linsey Jones to the Sutton Veny staff team this term. Mrs Jones is a qualified teacher with over twenty-five years' teaching experience. Mrs Jones is joining the school as a teaching assistant and will be supporting Elliston Class and Nelson Class. We look forward to welcoming her to the school and the staff team.



PANTOMIME: Jack and the Beanstalk

We were delighted to welcome M and M Productions into school on Friday 5th January, to provide the children with a pantomime performance of 'Jack and the Beanstalk'. 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.

CHILDREN'S ANNUAL 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 19th February.**

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY

Positive school attendance and punctuality has a positive impact on a child's educational outcomes and life chances. Attending regularly and arriving on time develops positive habits, not just towards school, but for employment in later 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.

Furthermore, a reminder that school starts at 8.45am in the morning and we expect all the children to arrive at school on time, so they do not miss vital learning. If your child is ten minutes late every day, they will miss fifty minutes of learning time a week.

It is your responsibility as parents and carers to ensure that your child / children attend school regularly. We will be contacting families of children whose attendance has dropped below 90%, to work alongside you to support improvements in your child's school attendance.

SCHOOL STARTERS SEPTEMBER 2024

Do you have a younger child starting school in September 2024?

If you have a younger child who will be four years old before September 2024, **please make sure you have applied for a primary school place for next year.** You can apply online at www.wiltshire.gov.uk. The deadline for applying for a school place is the **15th January 2024.**

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 £1,385 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 (your household income must be less than £7,400 a year)

Please let Mrs Wilbond or Mrs Elliott know if you think your child is eligible; we will then help you complete a quick form before census day on the **18th January 2024.** 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. This is usually because it is unsafe to travel and transport companies have advised us that they are not providing their services. 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.



SCHOOL TRAFFIC AND CAR PARK

Towards the end of Term 2, members of the school community expressed their concerns about inconsiderate driving and parking outside school. Please see our school Travel Safe Highway Guide for a reminder of the expectations we have for parking and driving outside the school. This can be found on the newsletter page of our school website: <https://www.suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk/information/newsletters/>

If impatient driving or inconsiderate parking puts pedestrians, or other road users, at risk then we will have no other option than to pass on the details of offending drivers to the police.

A reminder that the school car park is strictly for staff, taxis and emergency vehicles. Parents and carers are not permitted to enter the car park at the end of the school day, unless they have been given authorisation to do so. Thank you for your cooperation with this.



CONGRATULATIONS TO MISS GEE

For the last eighteen months, Miss Gee has been studying towards a National Professional Qualification in Senior Leadership. Towards the end of last term, we were notified that Miss Gee had passed her assessment for this qualification. We are delighted for Miss Gee and her well-deserved achievement will have a positive impact across the school.

KEY STAGE TWO CLUBS

Afterschool clubs for KS2 will start this week, beginning **Monday 8th January**. A separate clubs letter was sent home at the end of last term, with all the information that you need to sign-up for a place.

SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

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. We currently have some positions available on our Governing Body and we are looking to recruit new volunteers to join our current team of governors to help support the work of the school.

If you, or somebody that you know, is interested in becoming a school governor, or if you just want to find out more about the role, please do not hesitate to contact the school for further details.



A 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 over £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 have some exciting plans lined up; however, we are always looking for fresh ideas and welcome new faces, 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. This term, we have the following events taking place:

- We are hosting our next meeting on **Wednesday 10th January at 9.00am** in the Village Hall and would love you to join us to see how you could get involved.
- FOS Film Night on **Friday 26th January**. If you're able to help or support the event in any way, please do let us know.
- Elliston Cake Sale on **Friday 2nd February** in the front playground after school.

As always if you have any ideas for fundraising, or ways that FOS could benefit the school, please find us in the playground or send us an email at fos@suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk. Please look out for FOS communication throughout the year via eSchools, or on the school website FOS page.

Best wishes
FOS

Contacts:
Eleanor Everitt (Chair),
Sam Allison (Treasurer)
Charlie Pywell (Secretary)