



TERM 2 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 for Term 2

Welcome back to everyone for the start of a new term. 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 ParentPay platform throughout the term. Please keep an eye out for these. All of the dates for the term are available on 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

THANK
YOU!

Harvest Thanks

Thank you to all of our families for the generous donations for our Harvest Festival. Many local families will benefit from the food donated to the Warminster Food Bank. The school donated an amazing amount of food and toiletries and we have received a letter of thanks and a certificate from the food bank; they have asked us to pass on their thanks to the children and our families for their generosity. The Food Bank team are always so grateful for your contributions, and are in awe of how much we manage to donate as a school.



Compass Schools' Collaboration

As a school, we work closely alongside five local schools, in a collaboration called Compass Schools. This is the fourth year that we have been working to support one another and we have shared two training days already this year. The collaboration supports our school improvement and allows us share practice, network with colleagues and provide shared opportunities for our children. We are proud of the developments that we have made together and the impact that our work has had across our schools. We are currently working to build on our successes and continue to improve outcomes for the children we serve.



Compass School Online Safety Session for Parents and Carers

One of the benefits of working with other schools in a collaboration is that we can provide shared opportunities for the staff, the children, and our parents/carers. On Tuesday 2nd December, an online safety session for Compass Parents and Carers, entitled, Parenting in the Digital World, is being presented via Zoom, by Online Safety expert Richard Pomfrett. An information poster was sent out via ParentPay last term, with all the details that you need to join the event. We hope that as many of you as possible can take part in this session, so that you are best placed to help your children navigate the online world in a safe and positive way.



Parent and Carer Forums

Last year, we held Parent and Carer Forums once a term, to provide opportunities for you to come and hear about school priorities and to provide you with opportunities to raise topics you'd like to discuss. Our first forum of this year will take place on **Thursday 6th November at 9.00am and 2.30pm**. If you would like to attend one of the forum sessions, please follow this link to complete the Microsoft Forms booking link: <https://forms.office.com/e/HPUPY8mSj0>
On the form there is a space for you to raise any topics that you'd like to discuss. We look forward to you joining us.



Online Conduct Reminder for Parents and Carers

As a school, we place great value on the positive relationships that we have with parents and carers, as positive relationships at all levels form the foundation of any successful school.

As staff, we value being 'visible' at the beginning and end of the school day and we are always available should you wish to talk to us about anything. If you have a concern, about any aspect of school life, please come and speak to us. Any member of staff at our school would be more than happy to speak with you to help find a resolution to any worries you may have.

You will appreciate that it is not helpful, or constructive, to post any concerns that you may have publicly, on social media sites. Firstly, you may not fully understand the context of a situation if you have not come and asked, as a child's perception of a situation does not always provide the full picture, or context. Secondly, this approach will not help us to resolve anything and may cause unnecessary concern for others who may be exposed to it. A reminder that our Parent and Carer Code of Conduct clearly states that: *'we cannot tolerate undermining the staff or school by publicly criticising, questioning school policy or practice, or by making slanderous/defamatory comments damaging to the school.'*

Please come and ask, or speak to us if you are worried about anything, so that we can work together, in a solution focused way, as all we want to do is help in any way that we can.

Slow Down & 'Be Safe Be Seen'

As the mornings and evenings are now darker, please take extreme care when you are driving to and from school, or walking with the children. We urge all walkers to 'be safe and be seen' by wearing high visibility clothing. Please may all drivers take care when driving through the village and avoid the use of Best's Lane as a short cut, due to the number of pedestrians on this single track road.



Wellies in School

As part of the children's school uniform, we ask that the children have a pair of wellies in school. This is so we can use the field for break and lunch time for as long as possible. We are at the point in the year where the children will not be able to use the field unless they have wellies to wear.



Poppies for Remembrance

On November 11th 1918, at 11am, the First World War ended with an Armistice between the Allies and Germany. To commemorate this time in history, the school will hold a silence at the war graves on Tuesday 11th November, at 11.00am. The children will walk over to the war graves to observe a silence at 11am. The children will lay a silk poppy on each of the war graves. These poppies are flown to us each year, all the way from the Returned Services League (RSL) in Geraldton, Australia. You are very welcome to join us for our Remembrance Service.

Poppies will be on sale in school from **Tuesday 4th November**. Please send your child(ren) in with a small donation should they want to purchase a poppy to wear over the Remembrance period.



Community Café

The Sutton Veny Community Café, "Where Village & School Communities Meet", is open on the first Wednesday of every month, in the church, from 2.00pm-4.00pm. This is a great opportunity for parents and carers to meet and socialise before, and after, school pick-up.



Class Trips & Visits

You will be notified when your child(ren) are going on a school trip. We are very lucky that Friends of School provide each class with a budget to subsidise the cost of school trips. This helps to keep the cost of transport down for everyone. All the details for any class trip, or visit, will be on Parent Pay. Please make sure you have logged on to this platform to provide your consent and to make any payments. Thank you.

This term we have the following trips taking place:

- **Elliston Class** are visiting the Roman Baths on **Monday 24th November**.
- **Wessex Water** are visiting **Elliston, Geraldton and Nelson Class** on **Tuesday 18th November**.
- **Canberra Class** are visiting Salisbury Cathedral on **Thursday 4th December**.



Mill on the Brue Residential Meeting

Believe it or not, we are already planning our annual residential trip for Year 5 & 6 for September 2026. To provide you with all the information that you need to prepare for the trip, we are holding a meeting for current Elliston and Geraldton Parents on **Monday 10th November at 5.30pm**. Here, you will find out all about the experience, including the cost and payment plans available. We try to hold this meeting as early as possible to provide you with the best part of a year to pay for the trip.



Scholars Closing Down

We have been notified that Scholars, our school uniform provider, is closing its Warminster branch. The company are keeping their Trowbridge branch open and their online shop will continue to trade as normal, with the company committed to keep on providing school uniform to the local area. The Warminster shop closed for business on Friday 31st October. The details for the Trowbridge store are as follows:

Scholars
55/56 Fore Street,
Trowbridge
BA14 8ET
01225 753586

trowbridge@scholars-uk.com



National Anti-Bullying Week

Each year, we use National Anti-Bullying Week to help the children understand what they can do if they are worried about bullying. Our hope is that no child would ever experience being bullied. However, if an allegation is made, we have clear procedures in place to respond to them. When working with the children, we always focus on the positive behaviours and interactions that we expect to see in school. The theme for this week is 'Power for Good' and the children will be engaging in a range of activities relating to this topic, between **Monday 10th and Friday 14th November**. Further details will be sent out ahead of the week.



Environmental Work and Social Justice

During the last academic year, we signed-up to be part of a national initiative called Let's Go Zero. As part of the project, we have developed an action plan alongside a climate action advisor. This has given us clear actions that we plan to take as a school over the next five years to try and reduce our carbon footprint as much as we can. This was in response to feedback we received from the children and how strongly they feel about social justice and the responsibility that we, as humans, have to protect our environment. So far, we have had two new energy efficient boilers installed over the summer, we have had our roof recovered and reinsulated and, during the half term, our lighting has been upgraded, all of which will have a positive impact on our carbon footprint.

We have plans to further reduce our food waste, the School Council have some great ideas about other small changes we could make in school and we would like to develop a school travel plan that focuses on safe and sustainable travel. If you would like to be involved in helping us develop the travel plan, please speak to Mr Lewis as we need to develop this as a school community. Thank you.



Christmas Lunch Orders

Our school meal provider will be providing a Christmas lunch for the children on **Thursday 18th December**. Please note that this will not appear on the PartentPay menu as a Christmas lunch. However, if you place an order for a lunch on this day, your child(ren) will be booked for the Christmas meal.



Coming Soon...

We will send out a separate newsletter towards the end of November, detailing all the information for our Christmas events in December. Please see the 'December' term dates on the website if you wish to plan ahead and don't forget to check the weekly noticeboard outside school.



A message from FOS

Friends of Sutton Veny School (FOS)
Charity number 290388

Friends of School (our Parent Teacher Association) would like to welcome you back for Term 2. We are a friendly team who meet throughout the year to plan fundraising and events to enrich our children's experience at school.

We have some exciting plans for the term ahead and would love you get involved and help support our events.

We are hosting our first meeting of the school year on **Wednesday 5th November at 9.00am** in the village hall and anyone is welcome to join us, to see what we do and understand how you can get involved.

It is also the Elliston Cake Sale on **Friday 21st November** too.

On **Friday 5th December**, it is the FOS Christmas Disco. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Our very popular Christmas Fair is on **Saturday 6th December**, from 10am -12noon. It's a lot of fun for the whole family and Santa's Grotto will be running again this year.

Help Needed!

If you are able to help at the fair, or the grotto, then please let us know; it takes a team of people to make it happen and your help would be very much appreciated. Furthermore, if you'd like to have a table at the Christmas Fair, then please get in touch.

Raffle Prize Donations

On **Friday 21st November** it is a FOS non-uniform day. In return for the children wearing their own clothes to school, we are asking everyone to donate items to make up Christmas hampers for raffle prizes at the Christmas Fair. The raffle is one of our big earners so any prizes would be very much appreciated.

We would be very grateful for the following items:

- Christmas confectionary (sweets, chocolate, biscuits, etc.)
- Christmas food items (crackers, chutney, pickles, mince pies, cheese etc.)
- Scented Candles
- Alcoholic drinks
- Soft drinks
- Hot drinks (teas, coffees, hot chocolate etc.)
- Christmas decorations
- Fragrances (hand wash / creams, smellies)
- Christmas toys, games, books or craft sets

Thank you all in advance for your support with this.

As always, if you have any ideas for fundraising, or ways that FOS could benefit the school, please find us on the playground or send us an email at fos@suttonveny.wilts.sch.uk. Furthermore, if you'd like to get involved with Friends of School or want to find out a bit more then please do get in touch.

Please look out for FOS communication throughout the year via ParentPay or on the school website FOS page. Don't forget we also have the Friends of School Facebook page where we share information about events etc. If you'd like to follow the page, then you can find it at:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/m1WX4yqDSGSTsCi2/?mibextid=K35XfP>

Best wishes,
FOS

Contacts:

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