

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 ParentPay 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 Pantomime

We welcomed M&M Productions into school on Tuesday 6th January for a pantomime performance of 'Robin Hood'. 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.



New Children and Families

This term we extend a warm welcome to the children and families joining our school. We have six new children joining school; two in each of the following classes: Auckland, Canberra and Darwin. We all hope that they will feel welcomed and be very happy as they start their journey at Sutton Veny School.

Welcome back Miss Berrington

We also welcome back Miss Elle Berrington this term. Miss Berrington has been on maternity leave and is returning to school this term. Miss Berrington will be teaching Nelson Class PE on Tuesday afternoons and will also be teaching PE as part of our Wednesday Enrichment Programme. She will also be running after school clubs on Tuesday and Wednesday. We are delighted to have Miss Berrington back in school.

Welcome to Reverend Tim Ling

Last term, The Upper Wylde Team welcomed a new Team Vicar, Reverend Tim Ling, and a new Team Rector, Reverend Mike Duff, who were both appointed after a long vacancy in the team. We are really pleased that Reverend Tim will be coming into school to lead worships from the beginning of this term. As a Church of England Primary School, we are looking forward to them both supporting the work of the school.

Bath Spa Teacher Training Placement

This Term, we welcome Miss Charmaine Tinson to Sutton Veny School. Miss Tinson will be completing a placement in Geraldton Class, between February and June and will be mentored by Miss Miles. Inducting new teachers into the profession is a real privilege and having an additional adult in the classroom, provides additional capacity to work with the children. We are looking forward to welcoming Miss Tinson to the school.

Afterschool Clubs

Afterschool clubs for this term start this week, beginning on Tuesday 6th 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.

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)

A reminder that Mrs Kim Muller, our Parent Support Advisor, has provided a wide range of support for families over the last year. The PSA page on our school website provides further details about the things that Mrs Muller can support with and also includes her contact details; you can access this page 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 15th 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 £1,515 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 1st 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 ParentPay, and the homepage of the school website will be updated, as soon as a decision has been made.



School Starters September 2026

Do you have a younger child starting school in September 2026?

If you have, or someone you know has, a younger child who will be four years old before September 2026, 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 **15th 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 should you wish to discuss your child's report in more detail, with your child's class teacher.

You will be able to book an appointment via our booking system at the start of Term 4, from **Monday 23rd February**.



Community Café

A reminder that the Sutton Veny Community Café takes place on the first Wednesday of every month, in the church. The first Community Café of 2026 will take place on **Wednesday 7th January**, between 2.00-4.00pm. We hope that you take this opportunity to have tea/coffee and a biscuit with other members of the local community, either before or after the school pick-up.

Scholars Uniform Sale Event

Our school uniform provider, Scholars, are holding a uniform selling event after school on **Wednesday 21st January**. This is due to the fact that they have recently closed their Warminster store and they wanted to provide the school community with opportunities to access new uniform.

A MESSAGE FROM FO

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, as we appreciate what a busy time it is for everyone, so your support was much appreciated. The Christmas Fayre and the Christmas Disco were such a huge success. In total, these events raised nearly £2,000, which is fantastic.

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 14th January at 9.00am, in the village hall.
- FOS Film Night in the village hall: Friday 23th January – times TBC
- Darwin Cake Sale - Friday 6th February at 3.15pm

Full details of the film night will be confirmed shortly, but it will be in the village hall and the entry fee 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.

Best wishes
EoS

FOS

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