



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 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

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 were so grateful for your contributions.

Compass Schools' Collaboration

As a school, we work closely alongside five local schools, in a collaboration called Compass Schools. This is the third year that we have been working to support one another and we have recently expanded the group to include Sambourne and Minster Primary schools. 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.



New Parent Support Advisor

We are delighted to announce that we have appointed a Parent Support Advisor (PSA) to work across our Compass collaboration. From the beginning of this term, Mrs Kimberley Muller will be available to provide support for our parents and carers. Mrs Muller will be able to provide support around a wide range of topics, from developing positive routines at home, helping with behavioural challenges, accessing relevant support for families and providing advice around any general parenting issues that you may have. We are looking forward to welcoming Mrs Muller to the Sutton Veny team and working alongside her. We will provide further information, in due course, about accessing this support should you wish to.



New for 2024 -25 Parent and Carer Forums

A reminder that we held our first Parent and Carer Forum last term. These are held in the afternoon and the evening, so they are accessible to all those who would like to attend. Our next forum is taking place on **Thursday 21st November at 2.30pm and 6.30pm**. We will be sending out a Microsoft form nearer the time to ask you if there are any aspects of school life that you would like to discuss or find out more about, at the forum. It was very helpful to gather your perspectives last term and we have adapted things in light of the feedback provided.



Online Conduct for Parents and Carers

As a school, we value our relationships with parents and carers hugely, as positive relationships, at all levels, are the foundation for 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. We always take any concern seriously and will always work with you to find a resolution.

It is not helpful 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. 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 with you to address these. Thank you.



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.



House Point Totals

Each time the children get an eight stamp certificate they are awarded a point for their house. Here are the house point totals at the end of Term 1:

- **Deverill** 44 points
- **Were** 58 points
- **Nadder** 41 points
- **Wylie** 44 points



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 Monday 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 on Thursday 7th November and also before and after school on Friday. Please send your child(ren) in with a small donation should they want a poppy to wear over the Remembrance period.



Class Trips & Visits

You will also be notified when your child(ren) are going on a school trip. 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 **Thursday 7th November**.
- **Wessex Water** are visiting **Elliston, Geraldton and Nelson Class** on **Tuesday 19th December**.
- **Darwin Class** are visiting Stonehenge on **Tuesday 21st November**.
- **Canberra Class** are visiting Salisbury Cathedral on **Thursday 5th December**.



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.



Mill on the Brue Residential Meeting

Believe it or not, we are already planning our annual residential trip for Year 5 & 6 for September 2025. 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 11th November at 6.00pm**. 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.



Website & School Communication

A reminder that all of our school communication will continue to be emailed out via our eSchools platform. You can access this by clicking on the login icon on the homepage of the school website, although we recommend downloading the eSchools APP. Please ensure you check your emails regularly for up-to-date school information and news as updates will be sent out throughout the term. If you have any issues or problems accessing either eSchools or Parent Pay, please contact the school office.



FREE BREAKFAST CLUB PLACES FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

Did you know that military families are entitled to 20-hours of free wrap-around care for each of their children? This includes attending breakfast club. This is available to all service families and we'd urge you to take up this opportunity. Your children could be enjoying activities before school and a free breakfast every day of the week! For all the details and for how to apply, please click [here](#).

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.



National Anti-Bullying Week

Each year, we use National Anti-Bullying Week to help educate the children about 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. This week the theme is 'Choose Respect' and the children will be engaging in a range of activities relating to this topic, between **Monday 11th and Friday 15th November**. Further details will be sent out ahead of the week.



Environmental and Social Justice

During the last academic year, we ask the children to engage in task where they had to draw a picture of their 'perfect world'. We also asked them all one question: *What would make the world a better place?*

Nearly every child's picture included aspects of the natural world and depicted how important the natural world environment was to them. As a staff, we have reflected and thought carefully about whether we are providing enough opportunities for the children to address the injustice they feel towards the way the natural world is treated.

This year Mrs Bell and the School Council working with her, have set up an Eco Council in school, we have signed-up for a conservation project with the Beaver Trust and we have registered the school with the Let's Go Zero Climate Challenge. We will begin working with one of their advisors this term to create a school action plan. If you feel you, or anyone that you know, could help support our work in this area, please do let us know.



Respectful Reminder

It has been brought to our attention that some of our children are running through the church yard before and after school. Some have been observed running in-and-out / over some of the graves. Please could you remind the children to respect those laid to rest next door by not allowing them to do this. Thank you.



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.

Thank you very much to everyone who came to the quiz night last term. It was such a fun evening, and we made over £500, which is fantastic!

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

We are hosting our first meeting of the school year on **Wednesday 6th 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.

This term, it is the Elliston Class Cake Sale on **Friday 22nd November**.

It is also our Bags2School fundraiser on **22nd November**. Bags2School is a fundraiser that we take part in that recycles unwanted clothing. We get paid per kilo of unwanted items. It's a great chance to have a pre-Christmas clear out and raise money for the school at the same time. We will send further details nearer the time, including the type of items that can be sent in.

On **Friday 6th December**, it is the FOS Christmas Disco. Further details will follow nearer the time.

Our very popular Christmas Fair is on **Saturday 7th December**, from 10am -12noon. It's a lot of fun for the whole family and Santa's Grotto will be making a return.

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. As part of the fair, we will be holding a Christmas Raffle. We are asking whether our families may be able to donate any prizes. The raffle is one of our big earners so any prizes would be very much appreciated. If you'd like a table at the Christmas Fair, then please get in touch.

We are very much looking forward to a fun-filled term!

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 eSchools 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)