

**Working and learning
together for success**

Dear Parents,

I hope you have all received the email update from your child's teacher about how they are settling into their new class and year group. I would like to thank the staff team at Sarisbury for the time and thought given to this important initial feedback for parents.

Just One Tree

We are holding our Just One Tree Day on Friday 22nd October where children can come in non-uniform wearing an item of green (not essential) for a £2 donation. Just £1 plants one tree. Last year at SJS, we raised enough to fund the planting of over 340 trees as part of this global project and we would love to exceed that this year; let's see if the SJS community can plant over 500 trees!



Club Activities

Can I take this opportunity to remind you that with indoor club activities using the hall throughout the week, wet weather will mean we are unable to run outdoor clubs safely and may have to cancel these sessions. We will notify parents by 2:15pm via our text message facility should this be necessary. We would ask that if this situation occurs, you collect your child at the end of the school day at the normal time. Thank you.

Road Safety Request

With larger pupil numbers now accessing the site each day, we are seeing greater congestion along Allotment Road. I am asking that when dropping off and collecting your child, you make use of the Holly Hill Park and Stride facility or walk, cycle or scoot. If collecting by car, then please be considerate of pedestrians and Mrs Davis who has to supervise the crossing outside the school gates. We actively promote road safety in school and would ask that our parent community supports us with responsible and careful access at the beginning and end of the school day; your cooperation is much appreciated.



PFA Events

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight the many Christmas themed fund raising events that our fantastic team on the PFA have planned for the remainder of the autumn term.

Our Virtual Shopping Platform is now open and will be available for parents to sell and shop for the next three weeks. If you have a business and would like to advertise, then please contact the PFA via the details on the PFA Facebook Page. Please do use this platform for your early Christmas shopping – every penny raised counts towards our new adventure playground! I am delighted to confirm that the installation of Phase 1 of this exciting project will begin on Monday 1st November and we begin raising funds now for the installation of Phase 2 (the outdoor classroom with stained Perspex roof) during the summer term. Please shop away by following the link below:

[Sarisbury Junior School PFA | Facebook](#)

We are planning a 'Bake and Buy' cake sale on Thursday 21st October at 3:30pm. Further details will follow from our PFA so please do look out for their newsletter next week.

With Covid control measures still in our minds, we have taken the decision not to hold a large scale Christmas Fair inside the school building this year, but are planning to hold a smaller Christmas Market on the school playground on Friday 3rd December (10th December as a wet weather reserve date). Further details will follow but please put the date in your diary.

We will hold a non-uniform day on **Friday 26th November** on which we will ask your child to bring in an item, or items, to add to our luxury Christmas Hampers; these will be raffled on Tuesday 30th November.

We would also be grateful for your support with our annual Christmas Raffle and again, further details will follow from our PFA after half term.

Christmas Card Designs

Children's designs for this year's PFA Christmas Card initiative need to be returned to school with the **order and payment by Monday 18th October**. The PFA will also select two winning entries per class and so if you haven't yet planned a design, why not give this a go over the weekend.

Covid-19 Update

As with all schools, we are seeing a slight increase in the number of confirmed Covid-19 PCR cases at SJS and whilst these remain a very small proportion of the school population, we are maintaining high levels of vigilance in our use of daily control measures.

We have also had a few cases of staff testing positive with Covid-19 and as detailed in my previous newsletter, this does present a greater significance with regards teaching and class cover at Sarisbury. To this end, we continue to ask for your support and cooperation by ensuring that, should your child display symptoms associated with Covid-19, however mild, that you carry out a PCR test before sending them back to school. The implications of staff absence are considerable as we approach the winter months and ensuring classes remain open safely, is our highest priority.

Sports News

Congratulations to our Year 5 and Year 6 Football Team who played brilliantly in the first round of the Hampshire Cup narrowly losing 4-3 to Sparsholt. The boys' performance was excellent and despite the result, all looks set for a very successful season.

Our Year 6 Cross Country Squad have made a great start to the new season and I am always impressed with the determination shown by our cross country team. It is certainly great to back running in the sunshine on Portsdown Hill!

We are looking forward this year to a full competitive sports programme and will keep you updated on results and all sports news via our newsletters, website and our Facebook page.

With my best wishes for a restful weekend.

A. J. Stockton

Headteacher

