



Seend Church of England Primary School News

March 2017



Young Story Writers



Congratulations to the 6 children in Sycamore whose Crazy Creatures stories were chosen to be published in a book. Last year Freddie Hubert's entry into the competition was chosen and this year we have, Poppy N, Lily H, Mushin, Daniel, Joel and Jessica. We look forward to receiving our complimentary copy to put in the library.

It's all about the reading: Second-hand Book Sale

As part of World Book Day on Thursday we had a second-hand book sale (thank you so much for all the lovely books you sent in) Books were on sale at break-time and after school and £101.55 was raised. More importantly children were able to refresh their bookcases cheaply with books that were no longer being read. Thank you to Emma Smith, Sam Butter and Matt Hill for helping with the after school sale and with clearing away.

Book Fair

On Tuesday 14th March the book Fair is being delivered. There will be a wide range of brand new Scholastic Books available. The children will get the chance to browse and they will be available for sale before and after school most days until they get returned on Tuesday 21st



Bedtime story evening

Children are invited to return to school at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday 15th for bedtime stories, a biscuit and a hot chocolate. Don't forget to fill in the form by 13th March, confirming your child's place so we can make sure we have enough refreshments.



Pets as Therapy Dogs

In a couple of weeks' time I am expecting a special visitor called Moose. Moose is a pet therapy dog who is going to drop by each week and listen to children read. Studies have shown that children who are a bit nervous of reading out loud to an adult, are much more relaxed reading to a dog (and who wouldn't be?) so we are delighted to welcome Moose as one of our regular readers at Seend School!

Supervision matters

They are a certain number of older children arriving at school early and waiting unsupervised for 10-15 minutes each morning. Can I remind you that all children should be supervised before (and after) school and if you wish to drop your child and go, please wait until 8:40 when the doors will be opened. By ensuring that children are well supervised and therefore well behaved before school, means that they come into the classroom in the best state ready to learn. Thank you for your co-operation in this.

Fundraising committee meeting

The next meeting is this Thursday 9th March at 7:00 in Chestnut Class. Come along and share your ideas for fundraising. With school budgets getting tighter, the money raised by you becomes increasingly vital. Talking of which, the total on [Easyfundraising](#) is now at £275.38 which has been raised by 40 supporters. It really is easy money!

Vouchers

Thank you for the Sainsbury's vouchers that have already come in. The box, which is in the main entrance, is now starting to fill up. If anyone has any spare time on their hands and would like to offer to count some of them towards the end of the promotion, your help would be very much appreciated. Please let me know (Sonja!).



Budding scientists

After sharing details of the Family Science project, Miss Holland is pleased to announce that Tatum and Joel are taking part. Over the past few weeks families across Melksham have been working on science projects and on March 4th they will be coming together to share their results. We look forward to hearing more about it from them, after the event.



Free school meals entitlement gets the school £1,300 per year

If you are receipt of any of the following, then please see Helen in the office to claim for Free School Meals. Even if your child already has the Infant free school meals by claiming, it means the school gets £1,300 a year to help towards extra provision, resources and clubs etc.

- 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

Café Church

It's Sunday 2nd April at 11am (Holy Cross) . Coffee, homemade cakes and a family friendly service. We would love children and parents from school to come and support our celebration. Its 45 minutes (depending on how much cake you eat!!)



What's it all about – Night Owls?

We offer after school care from 3-4 (£4) and 4-5 (£3.50) through Active Trowbridge. The member of staff is always Sally who absolutely loves coming to Seend and has just had her contract extended with Active Trowbridge for another year. This is what she has to say about it: *"Hi, my name is Sally and I'm the community play worker at Seend. I come from Active Trowbridge and I run Night Owls. There are lots of activities available for the children. There is fun, laughter, colouring, drawing, arts and crafts and even snacks."*



You can either book in advance using the form on ParentMail or you can call / drop in the office to book a last minute session. Payment can also be made online or by cash / cheque made payable to AToM. So what do the children do in Night Owls? I asked some of the children who attend regularly what they think about Night Owls and this was their answer:

"Night Owls is an after school club for reception to yr 6s every day of the week. Sally, who is really kind and generous, runs the club along with a couple of other people from Active Trowbridge who sometimes come. You can come from 3-4 / 3-5 / 4-5pm on every day. We all really like it. We play games, eat snacks, colour, draw and have fun. You can bring anything to Night Owls and do almost anything you want. We like to read and play games and draw and use the whiteboard. Sometimes Sally even brings in really good arts and crafts equipment for us to make fun things. We have made Christmas decorations, loombands, pots and anybody can do it with Sally. We would definitely recommend it."

Activity Week Success

It has been great to see the children enjoying the Environment themed activity week and exploring the great outdoors whatever the weather. Children have been bird watching and producing graphs of their findings, writing poetry, learning how to draw trees more accurately, making stick men and natural collages, producing dance and drama to name but a few things.



I hope those of you who managed to stop by after school on Friday (it was fantastic to see so many of you) enjoyed seeing what the children have been learning, as much as the children have enjoyed it. Some of the work produced this week will form the art work that will be on show and for sale in the art exhibition on 31st March 2:00-4:00.

Some examples of the activities the children have been involved in and their work will also be put up on the large display board in the hall so keep a look out for that too.

The Big Spring Clean

This was very well timed for Activity Week. School Council members, plus a couple of other children, spent an hour on Friday 3rd picking up litter in the village. One group went from the school to the Lye Field through Dial Close to litter pick there. The other group of older children walked down the hill along the main road, clearing litter in the grass verges and hedges. This



carried on at break and lunch times with other children also checking the school grounds for litter. In the end we collected several bags of rubbish plus some things too large for the bags! Very many thanks to all the children who helped and also to Victoria Bowes, Sonja Nichols (+ Neve), Charlotte Watts, Julie Hall (TA) and Fiona Johnson (Foundation Governor) who came along and helped supervise. Please take a look at the school website to see some photographs of our efforts.

Young worship leaders

I never realised how seriously the children were going to take their responsibility in leading worship. After a few weeks of rehearsal, we were treated this week, to the first fully child lead worship. Tatum, Freya, Amelia, Olivia H, Isabelle, Lily-Mae and Isabella chose the subject of bullying and through a mixture of drama, PowerPoint presentation, question and answering and prayer, they showed what bullying actually was, the effects of bullying and how to deal with it should it happen. I thought I would share their prayer with you:



Dear Lord, We thank you for Seend School and all the children. We thank you for the staff and that no-one is a bully. Help our school to be even more kind to each other. Also can you help other schools. Amen

What other children said about the worship:

"When they were pushing they were being bad."

"I learnt that you are not allowed to bully at Seend School"

"I liked it at the end because they made friends."

"It made me think that if anyone was bullying me I would go and tell a teacher"

"It was good because they made it realistic"

"You learned a lot about what bullying is and the quiz at the end was good"

"It was very creative"

What the group themselves said about the worship experience.

"We started off with lots of ideas but we wanted to come up with something where you learnt something"

"It was fun to do it ourselves without adults telling us what to do."

"Everyone was coming up to us afterwards and saying "great assembly"

We were lucky to be joined by 2 of our foundation governors and 1 of the story tellers. Their comment was: *"A lovely assembly in line with the school's Christian Values and ethos."*