NEWSLETTER

23rd October 2026

Monday 2nd November	**INSET DAY: SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CHILDREN**
Tuesday	**P.E. day Squirrel Class** **Hugo here for worship**
Wednesday	**Forest School Morning: Fox Class please bring a change of clothes and a spare pair of shoes.** **Forest School afternoon: Owl Class please bring a change of clothes and a spare pair of shoes.** **FOOTBALL CLUB run by Mr Rogers for children signed up**
Thursday	**P.E. day Squirrel Class** **Golden Book Treat from last half term!**
Friday	**6 weeks in appointments for Reception Parents with Mrs Whittle: All day – sign up on MCAS**

Date for Year 5/6 Families

Attendance and punctuality data for this half term

Class	Attendance	Unauthorised absence	Punctuality: Lates
Squirrel	96.54	0.34	1
Fox	96.40	0.59	8
Owl	95.58	0	6
Whole school	96.18	0.22%	15

Parents Evenings

Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended our Parents' Evenings this week. We greatly value these opportunities to strengthen the partnership between home and school. While some children happily share every detail of their day, others can be a little more selective!

Parents' Evening provides a valuable chance to hear about your child's learning, progress and experiences from school. Thank you also to our wonderful staff team, who gave up their time after a full day of teaching to prepare for and attend the meetings and to Miss Roberts for ri8nging the bell and being on front door duty. Their dedication and commitment to every child is greatly appreciated.

Worship This Week: Thankful for the little things

This week in worship, we reflected on being grateful for the little things that are often easy to take for granted. I shared a photograph of my family, a glass of water and my glasses; simple things that I rely on every day and am thankful for, yet can easily overlook. We also heard the Bible story of the ten lepers whom Jesus healed. While all ten were cured, only one returned to say thank you. This helped us think about the importance of gratitude and taking time to appreciate the people and blessings in our lives. On Thursday, we explored the power of good manners and how simple acts such as saying "please" and "thank you", showing kindness and treating others with respect can make a real difference and help make the world a better place to live.

Harvest Collection

A huge thank you to everyone across our partnership for their generosity in supporting this year's Harvest collection. Thanks to the kindness of our families, the donations have now been collected by a Singleton parent on our behalf and delivered to the Trussell Foodbank and My Sister's House. We are incredibly grateful for your support in helping local people and families in our community.





Residential and Resilience

Our Year 5 and 6 children have had quite the adventure this week, along with experiencing plenty of different weather conditions! Thankfully, Thursday brought beautiful sunshine and dry skies, meaning the children were able to get out on, and in, the water!

Throughout the week, they have enjoyed a wide range of activities on both land and sea. As resilience and challenge are key themes for us this year, the residential has provided the perfect opportunity for children to step outside their comfort zones, face their fears and discover what they are capable of achieving.

We are incredibly grateful to Mrs Pendle and Mr Pullan for giving up their days and nights to make this experience possible, and to Mrs Whittle and Mrs McIntyre for providing invaluable evening support.

As a teacher with many years of experience, I have noticed that resilience in both children and communities has changed over time. Understandably, the pandemic altered our perception of the world and we continue to live through uncertain times in many ways. As parents, carers and educators, our instinct is often to protect children from discomfort or worry.

As teachers and parents, our instinct is often to protect children from worry or discomfort. Yet schools are about more than learning maths and English. They are places where children learn to cope with setbacks, embrace challenge and develop resilience.

I am grateful that my own parents encouraged me to do difficult things and taught me that worries are a normal part of life. Looking back, I am sure those experiences helped prepare me for the challenges of Headship!

One of the greatest gifts we can give children is the confidence that they can overcome difficulties. Resilience grows when children are supported to face challenges rather than avoid them.

This week, our Year 5 and 6 pupils have shown exactly that spirit. We are incredibly proud of every one of them. 😊

As we reach the end of our first half term, I would like to thank all of our staff for everything they have done to make it such a positive and successful start to the year. Over the past eight weeks, children across the school have enjoyed a fantastic range of opportunities, including working alongside children from our partnership school through shared events, learning experiences and visits. Staff have also valued the opportunity to work more closely together, strengthening the collaboration that benefits both of our schools.

I hope you all have a wonderful half-term break and look forward to welcoming everyone back on **Tuesday 3rd November**. Have a restful (as much as possible!) week. 😊

Theresa Smyth and the Boxgrove Team