



Southway Update

**Autumn Term
2021**

'Keeping you informed'



Dear Families

We have had another busy and exciting term at Southway and I can't believe how quickly the time has flown by. We have faced a lot of challenges as a school, coping with the ever changing situation, advice and guidance we receive on a daily basis. I would like to think we have made the right decisions, keeping the education, safety and welfare of the children at the heart of all decision making. I would like to thank you for supporting the school during these times.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our year 3 children and families and hope you have had an enjoyable and rewarding start to Southway.

This term I have been genuinely bowled over by the sheer generosity of our school community. Not only did Children in Need raise over £1,400 but our Giving Tree (although slightly different this year) was full of presents for local children in need. And I haven't even mentioned the food collection on behalf of Burgess Hill Foodbank during harvest. What a remarkable effort and one we are all really proud of.

This term we have, as a teaching staff, spent a lot of time redesigning and refining our foundation curriculum. This encompasses all subjects other than reading, writing and maths. Our broad and exciting curriculum is something we are very proud of and we are continuing to find new ways to teach children skills that will serve them well in later life.

We are continuing to improve the facilities for our children and the pond decking and wooden gazebo are now complete. We have scheduled work to install a new adventure trim trail in the small playground, new planting and flower beds at our Poveys Close exit and a new clamber stack for the school field. All of this will further encourage outdoor activities for the children and encourage a healthy lifestyle.

Finally I would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all staff at Southway as well as the continued support of our Governing Body. We all remain dedicated to doing the best for your children.

Have a wonderful Christmas break and we look forward to seeing you next term.

Warm regards

Mr P Newbold, Headteacher



Year 3 – Me and My World

Year 3 have settled into Southway and have been learning all about the world around them. They have completed some geography fieldwork around Burgess Hill looking at the different features of the local area. They have written postcards as Sunny the meerkat from Southway to the Kalahari desert and visited Drusillas zoo to learn all about animals and how they are adapted to their surroundings. They even met and touched a snake and armadillo!



Year 4 – Victorians

Year 4 have immersed themselves in Victorian life this term.

In September, we headed off to Brighton and the children enjoyed their Victorian trail, finding out about all the aspects of Brighton which hold Victorian heritage. They had a brilliant fun-filled day out including a ride on the Volks electric railway and enjoyed doughnuts on the Pier! They have taken part in a Victorian school day,



and had a visit from Rainbow Theatre. Throughout this term, the children have been really enthusiastic to explore the lives of both rich and poor Victorians, what it was like to work in a workhouse and even enjoyed baking some delicious Victorian sponge cakes!

Year 5 - Power and Palaces

This term we have been learning all about the Tudors, the Battle of Bosworth and King Henry VIII. In September, the children visited King Henry VIII's home, Hampton Court Palace to find out how the Tudors lived. They studied Tudor medicine, learnt about Henry VIII's six wives and the reformation. The children had the opportunity to design and make their own quiche tartlets and create portraits of Henry VIII in water colour for their art lessons, they re-enacted the Battle of Bosworth and were asked to make a raw egg survive a 3 metre drop – although not many did survive the fall! Curie class have have ended the term with their class assembly showing what they have learnt since September.



Year 6 – Frozen in Time

Many children took part in our Year 6 residential to PGL Osmington Bay in Weymouth and had a wonderful time experiencing new challenges and overcoming fears. Other children spent a fantastic week at Southway taking part in a whole host of activities including apron decorating and making a delicious afternoon tea. Year 6 have been learning about survival in Antarctic conditions this term. During Survival Day they made a hearty soup, built shelters in the woods, and scaled the 24ft climbing wall. We have also had a brilliant visit to Brighton in November, with a flight on the i360, visit to the Rampion Centre to learn about the energy created by the wind farm, finished off with some delicious chips on the Pier!





Have a lovely Christmas holiday!

