

Smallthorne Primary Academy Half-Termly Newsletter

October 2022



The more we smile, the harder we work, the brighter we shine!



Contact Number: 01782 235265 **Email Address:** smallthorne@clt.smallthorne.coop **Facebook:** smallthorneprimaryacademy

Message from Mrs Steele:

I can't believe we are at the end of our first half term already. It doesn't seem like 5 minutes ago we were welcoming the children back after the summer break. Once again, I am so impressed with how the children returned to, and continue to come to, school every day. I want to thank all of the parents and carers who send their children into school every day, on time and with the correct uniform. It really does help us to do the very best for all of our children when we work together. A huge thankyou to all of you that supported us for the Dougie Mac Coffee Morning and Christmas card sessions. We do enjoy having you all on site and I know the children love inviting you into school. The new EYFS playground is well under way and we should see the children enjoying their new equipment very soon. With the run to Christmas fast approaching, please keep an eye on Seesaw to see what exciting things your children are involved in. If you have not yet connected to your child's Seesaw account, then speak to your child's class teacher or pop into the office. Have a lovely half-term week and we will see you back in school on Monday 31st October when the gates open at 8.30am.



Uniform

Here at Smallthorne we are eager to encourage our children to be 'Ready to Learn' all day every day. Part of this is coming to school smartly dressed in their full school uniform. Research shows that if children dress smartly, they will think smartly.

Over the past half term we have noticed standards of uniform slipping slightly.

Please see below a reminder of our uniform policy. Children will not receive their 'Ready to Learn' points if they are not wearing full school uniform.

Early Years

- Grey/black trousers/skirt
- Navy blue polo shirt
- Navy blue badged sweatshirt
- Black school shoes—no trainers

Years 1—6

- Grey/black trousers/skirt
- White shirt/blouse (this can be a navy blue polo shirt for Year 1 until October)
- Navy blue badged sweatshirt
- Navy blazer (Year 6 only)
- House colour tie (these can be purchased from the school office)
- Black school shoes—no trainers



P.E

Please see below the timetable for P.E.

The children can come to school in their P.E kits, but please make sure it is the correct kit.

- Plain white t-shirt.
- Plain navy/black shorts/leggings.
- Plain navy/black hoodie.
- Trainers



Nursery—Monday

Reception—Tuesday

Year 1—Thursday

Year 2—Monday

Year 3—Wednesday

Year 4—Wednesday

Year 5—Thursday

Year 6—Wednesday

Important Dates

Monday 31st October

Year 6 Parent's Meeting — 3:30pm or 5:00pm

Thursday 3rd November

Photo Day (more information to follow)

Friday 4th November

Family breakfast for the 'Ready to Learn' winners

Friday 4th November

Reading reward trip to Waterstones for half term reading winners

Tuesday 15th November

Progress Evening for all year groups—3:00—8:00pm (more information to follow)

Friday 18th November

Children in Need Non-Uniform Day—Parents will be invited in to school to join us for some Children in Need fun (more information to follow)

Thursday 24th November

Non-Uniform Day (Donations for Christmas Fayre)

Friday 25th and Monday 28th November

INSET Days — School closed for pupils

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd December

Bikeability for Year 5

Friday 2nd December

Non-Uniform Day (Donations for Christmas Fayre)

Tuesday 6th December

Nursery Christmas Performance at 9am

Wednesday 7th and Thursday 8th December

Early Years/KS1/Year 3 Christmas Performances (timings to follow)

Friday 9th December

Christmas Jumper Day

Friday 9th December

Christmas Fayre — 3:00-4:30pm

Tuesday 13th and Wednesday 14th December

Year 4-6 Christmas Carol Concert (times to follow)

Thursday 15th December

Christmas Dinner Day

Friday 16th December

Whole School Behaviour for Learning Treat

Friday 16th December

School closes for Christmas

Tuesday 3rd January

INSET Days — School closed for pupils

Wednesday 4th January

School open for pupils



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Seesaw

We are continuing to use Seesaw as the main platform for sharing messages, key information and a direct contact between you and your child's class teacher.

QR Codes were sent out at the start of the half term which allows you to set up your own parent accounts.

Please make sure you are checking it daily to ensure you don't miss out on the exciting things happening at Smallthorne!

If you are having any difficulties please contact Miss Fox in the school office.



WISH

Our WISH team are dedicated to keeping your children safe. If you need to speak to Miss Goodwin (Safeguarding Lead) or Mrs Dalton (SEND Lead) regarding any concerns at home or school, please contact the school office. We endeavour to do everything we can to support you in the best way possible.



Reading

We are continuing to highlight the importance of reading as a way to support learning across the curriculum and would like to remind you that the children should be reading and having their diary signed at least 4 times a week.

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Every time they do this, they will receive a house point and raffle ticket where they could be in with a chance of winning a bookmark, pencil or keyring.

If you have any questions about reading at home with your child, please don't hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher.



Homework: Each week, your child will be given homework on a Friday for them to complete and return by the Thursday. This will include:

- Reading (as discussed above)
- Spellings
- Maths
- Topic (optional)

HOMework

If you have any questions regarding the homework, then please speak to your child's class teacher.

Attendance

We are now sending out weekly updates regarding attendance on Seesaw.

Please try and send your children in to school every day. We always aim for over 96% each week. If there is a reason why your child cannot attend school, please ring the school office with the reason why.



Our Sporting Superstars

Some of our Year 5 and 6 children took part in a friendly football match against the other primary school in the trust, Mill Hill Primary Academy. We are so proud of their behaviour and how well they represented Smallthorne and we are even more proud to say that they beat Mill Hill, 5-3. Well done to you all!



As well as footballers, we are also developing our talented runners. Some of our KS2 children took part in the city-wide Cross Country competition at Endon High. As always they were amazing. Audra managed to secure second place out of the girls and a couple of the boys managed to secure top 10 places. Well done to all!



If those events weren't enough, our Year 5 and 6s also took part in a football tournament at Powerleague. As always they did us proud and won one of their matches. Go Team Smallthorne!



PTFA and Charity Work



On Friday 30th September, we held the Douglas Macmillan Coffee morning. It was lovely to see so many of you joining us for coffee and a cake. From your generous donations, we raised a fantastic £224! Thank you so much. This money has gone towards a wonderful charity!

On Friday 18th November, we will be inviting you in to school to help us raise money for Children in Need. We would love for you all to come and join us and enjoy a range of 'spotty' activities with your children!

Information regarding timings will be sent to you after half term via Seesaw.



Smile, Strive, Shine

