



20th July 2017

Dear Parents,

It has been another great year for SJA! We have had numerous sporting achievements; we have shown our expertise in the computing world; our Y6s dazzled the audiences at The Capitol with their acting, singing and dancing prowess; the 'Big Bang' was staged at the school and exceeded everyone's expectations with the level of scientific thinking which the children showed; we are firmly embedding our values of working hard, kindness and resilience and of course there is the 'daily mile'!

We are once again delighted with our KS2 results as shown below. The children and staff worked tirelessly to prepare for the week of tests. It paid off with results considerably above the National Average in all subjects.

Meeting Age related Expectations in Y6 (ARE)

Reading		GPS		Mathematics		Writing (TA)		R,W and M	
NA 2017	SJA 2017	NA 2017	SJA 2017	NA 2017	SJA 2017	NA 2017	SJA 2017	NA 2017	SJA 2017
71%	82%	77%	92%	75%	80%	76%	82%	61%	69%

NA = National Average; GPS = Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling; TA = Teacher Assessment

The relationship between children, parents and staff is key to the success of the Academy. We could not do what we do without your support. Thank you as well to all of you who offer your time in class. It is a wonderful sight to see adults scattered around the school listening to children read. We are also very grateful for our gardeners! They are doing a great job trying to tame the wilderness like flower beds!

As the term ends, we are sad to be saying 'Goodbye' to Miss Hofton, Mrs Whittaker, Mrs Coles, Mrs Kitchener and Mrs Reed. They have given so much to the Academy in the time they have been with us and we will miss them. We are confident that they will be back in some guise in the future! On that note, we welcome back Mr Cooper and also welcome Miss Mackness, Mrs Whapham and Mrs Thompson to the staff team. We hope that they will enjoy their time at SJA and benefit from all the opportunities which the Academy offers.

We are excited about the reading challenges that have been thrown out across the school. It is so beneficial to the children to keep their reading going over the summer period, particularly if they find reading difficult. Reading regularly will mean that they will be ready to hit the ground running in September.

I wish you all a much deserved happy and safe holiday and look forward to welcoming you back in September. For those of you who are moving on, I wish you a bright and fulfilling future.

With my best wishes
Anne Ratsey

Governors' Corner

As another Summer term ends it is time to reflect on what has been another fantastic year. Congratulations to all the Year 6 pupils! We wish you every success and boundless opportunity as you progress to secondary education.

We are incredibly proud of the Academy:-

- another highly successful year academically
- a sustained breadth of curriculum including many non-academic enrichment activities
- a wealth of sporting achievements including the Gold Sports Mark
- continued success in music, art and drama
- recognised excellence in our SEND practice including reaccreditation of the Dyslexia Award
- recognised excellence in teaching with both Mrs Johnson and Mrs Burke now Specialist Leaders of Education
- recognised excellence in Leadership & Management practices

We thank you for your support of this great school and look forward to continue working with Mrs Ratsey and all staff again in the autumn.

Pirates versus Mermaids

On Thursday 13th and Friday 14th July, the Year 6 children once again took over the Capitol Theatre to perform the pantomime 'Pirates versus Mermaids. The children entertained the packed audiences by working their magic with catchy songs, spectacular dancing and of course a plethora of appalling jokes! The show was yet again directed by the phenomenally talented Sarah Esser, who managed to bring out the very best in every child. With Mr Mark Dudeney adding his talent on the piano and academy staff working tirelessly behind the scenes, this year's production was another triumph for SJA. What a wonderful opportunity for the children! Who knows where this will lead?

Horsham Gaming Competition Final

Two teams from Years 5 and 6 entered the 'Horsham Gaming Competition' at Tanbridge House School on Tuesday 11th July. The task was to design and video game in Scratch and a controller for the game using a 'Makey Makey' kit. The Year 6 team – Ollie, Luke, Harry, Daisy and Rae created a cooking game, hosted by their character



'Chef McJeff', and used cooking ingredients as their controller!

Our Year 5 team - Ellie, Sean, Izzy, Lily, Tom and Sue designed a zombie maze game, with a dance mat style controller complete with a bow and arrow to defeat the zombie with!



Both teams had great fun constructing their games and controllers. Overall, Year 5 won the 'Best Controller' award and Year 6 emerged as the overall winners of the competition – 'Gamers of the Year!' Both teams also won MicroBits each for

the school. Well done to everyone involved.



Sports Update

What a year our pupils have had! They have completely exceeded all of our expectations and enjoyed the most successful year in terms of achievements this school has (probably!) ever had. We have also managed to be more inclusive this year, giving 244 of our pupils the opportunity to represent the school, something we haven't been able to do before. It's been fantastic to see so many of our pupils experiencing the competitions/matches/tournaments, and it's definitely something we will look to build on over the next few years.

We finish the year as the school with the most sporting achievements in Horsham for the 4th year running, winning nearly 3 times as many as the next highest achieving school. We were Champions of Sussex in two separate football tournaments, three separate cricket competitions and table tennis. We finished as runners up in the South-East England football finals, and

runners up in the South of England cricket competition. We finished as runners up in athletics, cricket (twice), 3rd in the Sportshall Athletics and came 4th in the Basketball and Tennis County Finals. To get that far in so many different county-wide events, which hundreds of schools compete in, says lots about what we have achieved this year.

Our pupils have played football on a League 2 ground, played at Chelsea at the top ranked indoor facility in the at Sussex CC, competed in a table tennis tournament in London, meeting the number 2 ranked day at Devonshire Park meeting and player escorts for Crawley Town v Portsmouth, competed for Central Sussex at Hickstead race course and at K2! It's been an incredible year, and I hope the pupils that have experienced those amazing times will remember them for a very long time!



a Premier League ground and on FC's training ground, played cricket on the pitch tennis tournament in London, meeting the number 2 ranked day at Devonshire Park meeting and player escorts for Crawley

Thanks for all of your continued support, especially with transportation, and for continually making sure we have the most amount of supporters at tournaments and matches!

Mr Showell

Southwater Junior Academy Orchestra plays to proud parents

On Monday 26th June SJA Orchestra held an open rehearsal for parents and teachers. Under the direction of their conductor Mrs Whittaker, they performed with confidence 'Traffic Jam', Circle of Life and Thank you for the Music. The parents were delighted by the way in which the children played together and were able to follow their individual parts. It was particularly good to see so many players from Year 4 and 5 who will be able to build on their success this year when SJA orchestra reforms in the summer term 2018. Mrs Ratsey was particularly thrilled with the confident sound the children made and the range of instruments involved: violins, oboe, mini bassoons, clarinets, cornets, trombone, piano and a range of percussion. We look forward to rehearsals beginning again next year after Easter. It is always such a positive ensemble to be a part of and to work with.



A Message from SJC

AS SJC comes to the end of its second year, we would like to take this opportunity to reflect back on what has been a busy term. The club is going from strength to strength and we continue to be at capacity.

This term we have managed to make good use of the weather and daylight by taking the children out to play sports. It has been good seeing the children participating in team games. This time of year it is always sad to say goodbye to our Y6 SJC members. The SJC team would like to wish them every success in their new schools.

Reminder for parents – If your child is not attending the club for any reason, please let us know. You can leave a message on our club telephone, with a member of staff or at the front office.

We wish you all a very happy summer and we will see you back at SJC in September.



PTFA

We are delighted to report that so far this year money which has been raised by the PTFA has been spent on iPads to extend our computing curriculum. Thank you to the PTFA for giving up their time to raise these much needed funds.

Safeguarding – If you have a child who cycles to school, please ensure that they wear a helmet at all times.

Do you have any comments about any information in the newsletter? Do you have any suggestions or concerns?

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Parent:

Name of child:

Class

Autumn Term 2017	
Mon, Tues 4 th 5 th Sept	Inset
Wednesday 6 th Sept	First day back at school for pupils
Friday 8 th Sept	Parent Reading meeting 2.15
Monday 11 th Sept	Y4 Curriculum Meetings 2.30 and 6pm
Tuesday 12 th Sept	Y6 Curriculum Meetings 2.30 and 6pm; Parent Reading meeting 9am
Wednesday 13 th Sept	Y5 Curriculum Meetings 2.30 and 6pm
Thursday 14 th Sept	Y3 Curriculum Meetings 2.30 and 6pm
Friday 22 nd Sept	Jeans for Genes Day
Tuesday 26 th Sept	Open Morning – 10.30
Friday 6 th Oct	Y3 and 5 Class Visits
Monday 9 th Oct	Y3 and 5 Class Visits
Wednesday 11 th Oct	Y4 and 6 Class Visits
Thursday 12 th Oct	Y4 Class Visits; Parents' Evening – 3.40 to 7pm
Saturday 14 th Oct	PTFA Fireworks
Tuesday 17 th Oct	Parents' Evening – 3.40 to 7pm
Friday 20 th Oct	Y6 Evacuation Day
Half term	
Monday 30 th Oct	INSET DAY
Wednesday 22 nd Nov	Open Morning – 10.30
Thursday 23 rd Nov	Open Morning – 10.30
Wk of 27 th Nov	Y6 Mock Mocks
Thursday 7 th Dec	Y5 Christmas Concert
Tuesday 12 th Dec	Y3/4 Christmas Performance 1.30pm / 6.30pm
Wednesday 13 th Dec	Y3/4 Christmas Performance 1.30pm / 6.30pm
Wednesday 20 th Dec	End of autumn term
Spring Term 2017	
Thursday 4 th Jan	First day back at school for pupils