

# Swallowtail News



## The Swallowtail Federation of Church Schools



*Our Federation's mission is to work together to create successful learners, confident individuals and responsible citizens.*

*With friendship, trust and kindness we fly!*

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## JANUARY 2024 NEWSLETTER

### Message from the Executive Head

Dear families,

Well we have certainly had a busy start to 2024.

Mrs Moore and I have had the pleasure of moderating writing across the three schools over the last few weeks. To say it has blown our socks off is an understatement. It is clear to see the impact CUSP is having in this area. Here are just a few snippets for you to enjoy:

"Nala hastily finished her ugali and chugged down her sweet, black tea. Next, she gently put flower-coloured beads in her dark black braided hair before she went out into the sunshine." (Year 2 pupil).

"Laying in the golden cornfield, listening to the wind while it sung. The sun beamed down on me bringing glistening light to the whole field. Contentedness filled my mind. The corn waved at me as I shut my eyes and drifted off to sleep." (Year 6 pupil).

I am sure you agree that the quality of this writing is exceptional, especially as this is after just one term. Well done to all the staff and children for their hard work. I couldn't be prouder.

We look forward to showcasing more of the children's fantastic learning throughout the year.

**Natalie Butcher**

**Executive Head, Swallowtail Federation of Church Schools**

## **Learning Highlights at Sutton**

Dear families,

Please see below some of our learning highlights so far this year!

### **Grasshoppers Class**

I have liked learning about sharing in maths. I really liked eating the sweets and biscuits!

I have liked learning about Nairobi in geography. I liked watching the videos about the poor families and the rich families. Nairobi is the capital city of Kenya.

### **Bumblebees Class**

The children in Bumblebees class have enjoyed playing and exploring in the Forest School. The children have also enjoyed reading the different books within our CUSP curriculum, including Quangle Wangle's hat.

### **Butterflies & Caterpillars**

Butterflies have been having a lovely few weeks back at school! They have particularly been enjoying leaning all about space, astronauts, rockets and planets through our CUSP Structured Story Time books 'Astro Girl' and 'The Way Back Home'. They have also had lots of fun outside in Forest School, exploring the exciting snowy and icy outdoors!

## **Sutton News**

- We raised a fantastic amount of £553.40 at our Christmas Fayre. Thank you so much to our fabulous FOSIS team and to our families for your continued support.
- Please be reminded that the school car park is to be used by staff only. Families are not insured within this area. May we also remind you not to block the school entrance during drop off/collection times. Thank you for your cooperation.

## **This Month's Curriculum Focus – Computing**

Across the federation we use Teach Computing to deliver computing lessons. Teach Computing has been created by The National Centre for Computing Education (NCCE) which is funded by the Department for Education. This marks a significant investment in improving the provision of computing education in England. NCCE aims to transform the way computing is taught in schools across the country and enable more young people to benefit from studying such an important subject, which in today's technology driven world, will enhance young people's skills and career opportunities.

The Teach Computing curriculum is structured into units for each year group, and each unit is broken down into lessons. Each lesson is sequenced so that it builds on the learning from the previous lesson, and where appropriate, activities are scaffolded so that all pupils can succeed and thrive. There are also exploratory tasks which foster a deeper understanding of a concept, encouraging pupils to apply their learning in different contexts and make connections with other learning experiences.

Every year group learns through units within the same four themes- computing systems and networks, programming, data and information and creating media.

These are the areas each year group covers within these four themes-

<u>Year 1-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Technology around us</li><li>• Digital painting</li><li>• Moving a robot</li><li>• Grouping data</li><li>• Digital writing</li><li>• Programming animations</li></ul>	<u>Year 2-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Information technology around us</li><li>• Digital photography</li><li>• Robot algorithms</li><li>• Pictograms</li><li>• Digital music</li><li>• Programming quizzes</li></ul>
<u>Year 3-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Connecting computers</li><li>• Stop frame animation</li><li>• Sequencing sounds</li><li>• Branching databases</li><li>• Desktop publishing</li><li>• Events and actions in programs</li></ul>	<u>Year 4-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The internet</li><li>• Audio production</li><li>• Repetition in shapes</li><li>• Data logging</li></ul>
<u>Year 5-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Systems and searching</li><li>• Video production</li><li>• Selection in physical computing</li><li>• Flat-file databases</li><li>• Introduction to vector graphics</li><li>• Selection in quizzes</li></ul>	<u>Year 6-</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Communication and collaboration</li><li>• Webpage creation</li><li>• Variables in games</li><li>• Introductions to spreadsheets</li><li>• 3D modelling</li><li>• Sensing movement</li></ul>

### Online safety

Keeping safe online is an important part of both our computing and PSHE curriculums and is visited regularly throughout the year. Children are taught how to use technology safely, respectfully and responsibly and to recognise when something is not right and what they should do.

**Miss Fiddeman- Federation computing lead**

## Diary Dates (all subject to change)

### February:

5<sup>th</sup> -11<sup>th</sup> Children's Mental Health Week

### Safeguarding

Some links for e-safety:

<https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/digital/5-a-day/>

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

### Stay up to date...

Website: [www.swallowtailfederation.co.uk](http://www.swallowtailfederation.co.uk)

Facebook page – Search for Sutton CEVC Infant School



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