

Sutton Valence Primary School

Encouraging respect, inspiring resilience and building positive relationships...



Year 5 — Science Trip

Year 5 enjoyed a fascinating (although chilly!) day at Herstmonceux Science Observatory last week linking to our science topic this term, which is Space.

We had lots of time to explore different exhibits in the centre including light, motion and solar system areas. A particular favourite of the children's was a lift chair powered by a Hoover and seeing the gas planets swirling!

We were very lucky and were able to experience the roof opening and twisting in the main observatory dome giving us a real experience of being astronomers and the amazing pictures the huge telescopes can take.

Everyone had a great day, children and adults included, and the children were an asset to the school. We are now looking forward to writing our recount of the day in English.



Year 3 — Stone Age

Last week, Year 3 travelled to Kent Life for an exciting Stone Age experience day.

The children took part in a range of hands-on workshops, including creating their own cave art using charcoal and grinding grain to make flour. One of the highlights was meeting Claw, a real Stone Age character who taught the children about how he survives.

The class also discovered how trading and early farming worked during the Stone Age. In the weapons workshop, the children even had the chance to try paper slingshots; much to their delight! It was a fantastic day full of learning lots of new information about the Stone Age.



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Protect your child from flu this festive season

Flu cases among children are rising earlier than usual this year and health experts are warning that this season could be particularly severe. Latest UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) data shows flu activity is **three times higher than this time last year**, with a sharp increase among school-aged children.

Flu is not just a bad cold. It can make children very unwell and is more likely to lead to complications such as pneumonia, bronchitis and ear infections. In severe cases children may become so unwell they need to be admitted to hospital.

Children with long-term conditions like **asthma or diabetes** are at even higher risk. Flu can trigger asthma attacks and make diabetes harder to manage, increasing the risk of serious complications.

Why vaccination matters

The nasal spray flu vaccine is quick, painless and the best protection against flu for children under 16. Vaccinating your child not only protects them but also helps stop flu spreading to vulnerable family members, such as grandparents or babies.

If your child is unable to have the nasal flu due to medical or cultural reasons, they can have an alternative porcine free injectable option.

What to do if your child hasn't had the flu vaccine

Missed the school session? Book a catch-up appointment at a local community clinic

Book a flu injection at a local community clinic if needed for cultural or medical reasons.

Children aged two to three years can be vaccinated at our community clinics, at their GP surgery or participating pharmacy.

Please call 0300 123 5205 or visit <https://family.kentcht.nhs.uk/>

100 Things — Art In Nature

Andy Goldsworthy is a British sculptor and photographer known for creating installation and sculptures using existing materials of nature such as rocks, leaves, branches, ice, thorns, and mud among others. He then documents how his artwork changes through photography.

Can you create a piece of art in the style of Andy Goldsworthy using nature?

You could collect items and glue them to paper or make your art outside and photograph it to send in.



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PTFA Events — Behaviour

Following recent events, the following will be added into our schools behaviour policy regarding PTFA events:

Unacceptable behaviours:

- Physical harm
- Threatening behaviour to peers
- Threatening / aggressive towards adults
- Safeguarding concerns

If one of the above behaviours occurs, the following will happen:

- Parent called to collect child from event
- The child may be unable to attend future events — on HT/DHT discretion in discussion with PTFA

There will be a member of staff present at each event who will be responsible for implementing the above procedure.

Notices

- Please can we ask that you make use of the whole drive during drop off in the morning. This is to make sure the flow of traffic continues, the main road doesn't get clogged up with traffic and more children are able to exit their cars in one go. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, you are still able to drop them off at the end of the drive and an adult will be there to ensure your child walks to the KS1 and Reception gate.
- **Please can we remind you to use the paths around school and NOT walk on the drive at drop off or pick up.**
- Please can we remind you to park at the village hall and walk down when picking your child/ren up from school. Thank you to all those who do this already, it is greatly appreciated.
- Parents and Carers should only be parking up in the school car park if you are collecting your child/ren from wraparound care.
- Please can we remind you to enter and exit the village hall car park using the correct entrance and exit.
- Please be mindful about parking when not using the village hall car park. Avoid parking on other people's driveways, or parking so paths are blocked as children are having to walk in the road.

Key Dates

Friday 5th December	PTFA Non-Uniform Day <i>Raffle donation</i>	Tuesday 9th December	iRock concert
Wednesday 10th December	KS1 Christmas Show AM	Thursday 11th December	KS1 Christmas Show PM
Monday 15th December	KS2 Christmas Show PM	Tuesday 16th December	KS2 Christmas Show PM
Wednesday 17th December	KS1 Christmas lunch	Thursday 18th December	KS2 Christmas lunch PTFA Christmas Movie Night
Friday 19th December	Last day of term	Monday 22nd December — Friday 2nd January	Half Term
Monday 5th January	First day of term		

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CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

THURSDAY 18TH DECEMBER
3.15-6.30PM

£10 Per Child

Ticket includes: Food, Small Craft, Popcorn, Party Bag & Movie

Please pay online via the link or cash in an envelope into the PTFA postbox by 16th December.

Please bring a change of clothes and a pillow