

Dear parents & carers,

I trust you all had a good half term break and enjoyed some time with family and friends.

The new term has started well and our South Enders are back in classes eager to learn. Year 5 and Year 6 had an exciting introduction to The Tudors and Homefront 1940s through a visit from History Off A Page. The children were thoroughly inspired on both days.

This term, we have already celebrated Halloween and bonfire night. Our celebrations will continue with Diwali, Hannukah and, of course, Christmas. We look forward to our Christingle service at St. Mary's Church with our Year 3 parents and carers. Year 4 will be taking to the stage with their Christmas carol event. More details on both events will follow.

Remembrance Day will be led by Year 6 who will be visiting the Rushden war memorial this week with several other local schools. Head boy and girl will lay a wreath on behalf of SEJ. On Friday, we will be closing the week with a special remembrance assembly.

The JLT are busy with their 'Can Campaign'. All cans donated will be collected by Rushden Foodbank. Thank you to all families who have already donated their cans. JLT are also busy making plans for Children In Need.

Please keep an eye on the calendar tab on our website (<u>www.southendjunior.com</u>) for all upcoming events. We are excited about our whole school visit to the pantomime in December. This is the first time many of our children will be experiencing a live theatre show. What an amazing opportunity for all our SEJ children. More details on this whole school event will follow shortly.

A reminder that our school day begins with registration at 8.40am. We still have a number of children who are arriving to school after registration. Children are welcome to go straight into class from 8.35am. The playground is not supervised until 8.30am.

A huge thank you to all parents and carers who met with their child's teacher - either face to face or on the phone - last term. 94% of you made contact to share your child's successes; thank you.

Later in the term, I will circulating our annual parent survey on ParentMail. Please try your best to respond as your opinions do matter. The children will also be asked their views via a children's survey too. The outcome of both surveys will be shared later on in the term.

A plea from all of us: please encourage your child to complete their spelling home learning. This is the only compulsory home learning that we currently set as it is supportive of the needs of the pupils. All children need to complete 15 games on Spelling Shed that is set as an assignment. The completion window runs from Monday at 8:30am to Monday at 8:30am. Any pupil who has not completed at least 15 games for the week will complete three spelling practices at lunchtimes the following week.

The SEJ team look forward to seeing some of you in school during the coming weeks. Many thanks for your continued support.

G Kaur

Headteacher