



Dear SSAS parents and carers,

It's hard to believe that we are already at the end of another school year! Over the past week, there have been smiles and tears as we look back over the success of the past year while also saying goodbye to some dear members of staff and, of course, our Year 6 pupils. As Year 6 move on to secondary school, we would like to say a special goodbye to those children and families who are leaving SSAS for the last time. Some of our Year 6 families with older siblings have been a special part of our school family for many years, and we will miss them all.

It is almost too difficult to pick out the highlights of this half term from so many. Our Key Stage 2 children were inspired by a visit from Victoria Ohuruogo, the medal-winning British sprinter. She spoke to us about the importance of patience and determination. Our sponsored circuits with Victoria raised over £1000 for new sports equipment and to support the Sports for Schools charity.

Children from EYFS to Year 6 continued to showcase their sporting skills at our well-attended Sports Days. Luckily, the rain held off! Mr Wallace was delighted to announce at the end of term that SSAS has been awarded the School Games Gold Mark Award. 108 pupils across the school have successfully competed in tournaments, bringing home a range of medals, trophies and awards.

All of the classes really enjoyed their final topics of the year and have been lucky enough to go on lots of trips to enrich and deepen their learning. Year 3 learnt about everyday life in prehistoric Britain during their trip to Celtic Harmony. EYFS had a fantastic time at Paradise Wildlife Park and got up close to all the wild animals they had been learning about. Year 4 really gained in confidence as swimmers during their two-week intensive course at Hatfield Swim Centre. Year 5 enjoyed a cruise down the River Thames to follow up on their learning about rivers.

Last week on Transition Day, all children visited their new classrooms and met their new teachers. We have decided to rename all of our classes after trees and are looking forward to a great year with:

Acorns, Seedlings and Blossoms classes in Early Years; Elm, Oak, Willow and Cherry classes in Key Stage 1; and Rowan, Chestnut, Beech, Hazel, Cedar, Maple, Lime and Yew classes in Key Stage 2.

Year 2 parents had their tissues at the ready during a wonderful Year 2 Moving On assembly in which the Year 2 pupils showcased their learning and showed us how ready they are to move to the upper site as they join Key Stage 2. Finally, pupils, teachers and Year 6 parents were amazed by Year 6's spectacular performance of the Wizard of Oz. Year 6 are certainly leaving SSAS on a high!



Catholic Life

St Peter and St Paul's House pupils enjoyed celebrating their special Saint's Day in June with worship, singing and a sweet treat! We also celebrated the Year 3 First Holy Communion with a Mass in Church led by Year 3. Finally, the Year 6 pupils took part in a beautiful Leavers' Mass on the last day of term led by Fr Michael and Year 6 pupils.



SATS Results

We are very proud of all of our pupils who have achieved so well academically. Once again, the hard work of all of our teachers and pupils has paid off with our Key Stage 2 SATS results significantly above both Hertfordshire and national averages.

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving at least the Expected Standard: school (2023)	Percentage of pupils achieving at least the Expected Standard: nationally (2023) ¹	Average scaled score: school (2023) ²	Average scaled score: nationally (2023) ¹
English reading	88%	73%	110	105
English grammar, punctuation and spelling	83%	72%	108	105
Mathematics	83%	73%	106	104
English writing (teacher assessment)	81%	71%	N/A	N/A
Science (teacher assessment)	86%	80%	N/A	N/A

PTA News

The PTA's Grow a Pound challenge was a great success and children really showed off their entrepreneurial skills, raising an incredible £4,500! Well done to everyone who took part and a huge thank you to our P.T.A, particularly Mrs Markowitz who organised the challenge.

Online Safety

This half term, pupils have continued to learn about how to keep themselves safe online as part of our PSHE Life to the Full curriculum. Children may be spending more time online during the summer holidays. <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/articles/gaming/#:~:text=Set%20boundaries%20and%20safety%20settings.&text=You%20should%20also%20talk%20with,spaces%20they%20can%20play%20in.> is an article which gives parents and carers helpful information if their children enjoy gaming online.

Reminders

We look forward to seeing everyone back in school on Tuesday 5th September at 8.45. Please be in school promptly. Classroom doors open at 8.45 and close at 8.55 a.m..

Have a wonderful summer holidays with your family. We hope that you are able to spend quality time together, rest, relax and recharge and we wish you every blessing over the next six weeks.

With best wishes,

Ms T. Hackett, Head of School Mr P. Keane, Executive Head