

Simonside Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Hills



Friday 28th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

More about attendance!



We will be launching more attendance incentives through Advent, up to the end of term.

Woolsington Parish Council have kindly bought a beautiful Christmas tree, which takes pride of place in our library at the front of school.

There are lots of numbered baubles on the tree. Every day we will pull some names out of the register at random of children who have been in school and on time. They can find the bauble for the correct day of Advent and claim their prize. Make sure you are 'In it to win it!'

Our daily school attendance keeps dropping very low. It's been below 94% and even below 90%. Every day that we have whole school attendance above 94% there will be prizes for all the children e.g. extra playtime, juice and biscuits, stickers and much, much more! We are keen to take ideas from the children about prizes.

There will also be class prizes for the top three attending classes including a trophy full of chocolates and sweets!

You may have received a letter regarding your child's attendance recently. This is because we are following the Local Authority procedures and policies for attendance. We really are here to help you though. Please reach out if you are struggling with attendance.

Our overall attendance: 93%

This week's attendance: 91.5%



Artsmark
Silver Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England



PROUD TO BE A
MUSIC MARK
SCHOOL



Top attending class this week:

Year ¾ (Mrs Bonnar) ~ 97.1% This is FANTASTIC!

2nd place:

Y2F (Mrs Frizzell) ~ 96.3% This is BRILLIANT!

3rd place:

Reception (Mrs Brennan's class) ~ 95.6% AMAZING!



All the classes are working hard to prepare and practise for their upcoming Christmas performances. It's really difficult for children to catch up when they miss rehearsals due to absence from school. It's also really difficult for other children who need them to play their part. **Please, let's work together to achieve at least 94% attendance every day in the run-up to Christmas.**

Prime Minister Update



In her Election Manifesto, Yasmin promised that she would host a hot chocolate afternoon for children who have excelled at being Rights Respecting. Last week, EYFS and KS1 children were chosen for this and today KS2 children enjoyed hot chocolate. Well done to those children who impressed their teachers with showing respect to each other.

This week our Article of the week is Article 28: The right to an education.

Christmas Fair

I'm delighted to tell you that we raised £354.49. This is an amazing amount of money to raise in one hour! Thank you so much for your support and generosity. This money will be used to benefit all the children and we are keen to hear your views on how it should be spent. We still have a lot of money to spend from the Summer Fair last year. We would like to use it to pay for a show for all the children to be held in school. More details to follow.



New Website

I am in the process of refreshing our school website and giving it a new look. For that I need some quality photos of the children. If you have any objection to your child's photograph being used for the website, it's vital that you let us know via the google form that was sent out a few weeks ago gaining consent. Thank you.

Farewell

We're sorry that it is Mrs Mapplebeck's last day with us at Simonside today. She has been a fantastic member of our school community and will be missed so much by the staff and children. We wish her all the best in the next chapter of her life.

Have a lovely weekend,

Mrs Hills
Headteacher

Please do read the Friday Class Dojo post that your child's class teacher writes. These posts provide so much information about what your child has learnt and how you can support them at home.



