



# LOWER JUNIORS NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM 2026

As we come to the end of a fantastic Summer term, the Lower Juniors are excited to begin a new half term full of adventure and discovery. We are especially looking forward to our residential trip to Minstead Study Centre and uncovering the secrets of the past in our local area.

## WHAT'S ON NEXT HALF TERM

### Smuggling (Local History Study)

Children will explore the rich, local history of Buckler's Hard and the role of smugglers along our coastline, discovering how these areas were important in the past.

**Sound (Science)** The children will investigate how sound travels by designing and carrying out their own experiments on distance and sound, exploring how materials can be used for soundproofing.

**Pneumatics (DT)** Children will design and make their own moving mascots, exploring how different mechanisms such as pneumatics, levers and linkages can be used to create movement and bring their creative ideas to life.



[LL Curriculum Overview:](#)  
[Click HERE](#)



## ENGLISH

### Journey to the River Sea

Children will explore characterisation through Journey to the River Sea, writing in the style of Eva Ibbotson using thoughts, feelings, actions and dialogue to develop characters.

### The White Giraffe

Children will explore this cultural text by Lauren St. John, crafting diary entries as 11-year old Martine who forms a magical bond with a rare white giraffe.

### Voices in an Empty Room

Children analyse the poem and then write in a similar style using candlestick dialogue..

## MATHS



- Collect, present and interpret data: pictograms, bar/line charts and tables.
- Draw and compare 2D and 3D shapes.
- Explore symmetry; identify parallel and perpendicular lines.
- Use coordinates to describe position and translate shapes.
- Draw polygons and lines accurately.
- Children will then spend time consolidating skills learnt this year and applying them in problem-solving scenarios,

'That they may have life; life in all its fullness' John 10:10

## SUPPORTING YOUR CHILD AT HOME

**Reading** - we ask that children read 4x per week and that this is recorded in their Reading Challenge. Reading Challenges are expected to be in school every day.

**Homework** - Maths or SPAG/Reading homework is set each Tuesday and checked each Monday. Please check Century for due assignments.

**Spellings** - We really appreciate your support in helping your child to learn their common exception word spellings fortnightly together with practising their dictation sentences for the spelling unit.

**TTRS** - Regular times table practise helps with many areas of the Lower Junior maths curriculum. In Year 3, we encourage children to complete garage sessions and in Year 4, please can they focus on 'Soundcheck'.



CENTURY  
<https://app.century.tech/login/>



TTRS  
<https://play.itrockstars.com/>



### SORA

SORA is a free app from Hampshire's school library service. When you download the app, children will have access to hundreds of quality e-books or audiobooks - perfect for long car journeys or bedtime listening.



### DIARY DATES

Please visit the school calendar regularly for updates.

#### Minstead Visit Dates:

Oak: 13/7/26 – 15/7/26

Hazel: 15/7/26 – 17/7/26

Ash: 20/7/26 – 22/7/26



### Attendance

We monitor attendance carefully as there is a strong link between attendance and achievement. Days off add up to lost learning.

We appreciate your support in allowing your child to access the education they deserve.



### GETTING IN TOUCH



Teachers are happy to help and are generally available at the end of the school day or by email. Please do not try to catch them in the mornings while they are settling the children. Urgent messages can be passed to the school office. Please allow up to 2 school days for email responses as teachers are child-facing during the day.

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