

WEST SUSSEX COUNTY COUNCIL  
**SOUTHBOURNE JUNIOR SCHOOL**

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Headteacher : Mrs L. Gasser, BEd (Hons), NPQH



January 2026

Dear parents and carers,

Our topic for the spring term is "How did the arrival of the Romans change Britain?". Most of our learning will be historically based. Britain formed part of the Roman Empire for almost 400 years and during that time it underwent significant changes, which, in turn, set in motion developments that have continued to influence the direction of our country ever since! The children will investigate in-depth questions about some of the important changes that occurred, as well as study aspects of Roman life.

**Science:** Our Science this term will be looking at and investigating States of Matter. The children will have lots of opportunities to explore this knowledge in a range of practical ways.

**Reading:** Reading is a key aspect of our curriculum. It helps to improve vocabulary choices and is a transferable skill. Please continue to read with your child and encourage them to read several times a week. Making reading part of your child's daily routine is a great way to make this achievable.

**Homework:** Thank you to all of you who are encouraging your child to complete their homework. Our homework is always linked to the consolidation of work covered in class, or to ongoing skills. Please also remind your child to practise times tables little and often, this could include reciting facts aloud, writing them down or playing on Times Tables Rockstars. We will be setting weekly challenges on TTRS in preparations for the MTC in June.

**PE:** PE is on **Tuesday** and **Friday** (Spring 1) and **Thursday** and **Friday** (Spring 2). The change of days is due to the fact that we will be having Yoga sessions led by a yoga instructor. A warm pair of tracksuit bottoms and an extra layer on top would be beneficial to have in addition to the usual PE kit. Swimming will start on 16th January until the 27th March, please refer to the separate letter on our school website for more information.

**Events:** We have our trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace on the 24th February. The children will need to meet at school, ready to get the train over. Please see the specific trip letter that will be going out for more details.

Many thanks for your continued support and encouragement.

Mrs Kelly and Miss Alford