At the end of last term our super dancers took part and successfully won the Dancefest competition held out the Assembly Halls, Tunbridge Wells. Please see the children’s reports below.

### Diary Dates – next week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7th May</td>
<td>Netball Match @ SKA</td>
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<tr>
<td>8th May</td>
<td>Football A + B @ Pembury</td>
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<tr>
<td>9th May</td>
<td>Year 3 Trip to Lullingstone Villa</td>
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### 2019 Dancefest Success

On the evening of the last day of Term 4 our Southborough dance squad competed at the 2019 Dancefest competition held at The Assembly Halls, Tunbridge Wells. Thirteen schools from across Sevenoaks, Tonbridge and Tunbridge Wells took part, all dancing to this year’s theme of Freedom. Southborough’s energy, creativity and talent shone through and the expert panel of judges put our talented squad through to the final where we were asked to compete in the dance off against Bidborough and St. James’. After another very strong performance and a nail biting wait while the judges conferred we were crowned the 2019 Dancefest Champions! A huge thank you to Charley Simmons for choreographing the routine and coaching the dance squad over the last 5 months. Thanks also to Mrs Longhurst, Hannah Johnson and Miss Goodchild who supported the squad in weekly rehearsals and helped to prepare props and costumes for the big night. Finally, a huge well done to all pupils who took part and led our squad to victory.

I loved Dancefest so much because I love being on stage and it was exciting. I feel so happy that I could be in the show and take part in it and represent my school. It was brilliant that we won! **Sophia P, D3.**

Dancefest was amazing because we all got to dance with our friends on stage. Then when we got through we had to dance again, it was the best! **Ronnie, W5.**

Being a part of Dancefest was the best feeling, going out on stage with all our friends and dancing together was amazing. When we started to dance we forgot anyone was watching us then when we finished hearing everybody cheer made us so proud to be a part of it. When we were backstage we got really nervous waiting to hear if we got into the finals. Then we got to do it again it went even better than before. To win was the best feeling ever as it was our last time we would be part of Dancefest. **Cassie & Gracie, D6.**

We have also celebrated the launch of our new group ‘Leading Lights’ who help to organise our collective worship and prayer areas. They have also contributed to our new school prayer, which can be found on our website. Some of the group with their new badges designed by **Alice S, N3.**

### Term Value - Joy

Last week we launched our new term value of Joy by thinking its meaning and what brings us joy. As we are still in the Christian season of Easter we also reflected on the joy contained in the Easter story and how we can continue this throughout the year.

**Reception – Christ Church Visit**

Last week our 3 Reception classes went to Christ Church as guests of honour for the Easter party of a local COGS club for sufferers of dementia. We entertained the party goers with a rendition of Spring Chicken which was very warmly received. It was lovely to give our youngest children the chance to make a difference to some more elderly members of the community and we were very happy with our performance. The club organisers reported that their members were still talking about our visit a week later.

**Mr J Kersey**
Year 2 - Special Visitors
To reinforce the learning of the Term 5 Power of Reading text Olga de Polga, in Year 2 we had two special visitors!

“On Monday Beth bought her guinea pigs in, they were called Gingersnap and Buttercup. We fed them celery, broccoli and lettuce and we all loved feeding them. We stroked the guinea pigs. They were really soft and we learn a lot of facts about them.” April S, O2

“We asked Beth’s mum lots of questions about the guinea pigs for example what do they like to eat? Beth’s mum told us that they love dandelions.” Millie A-G, O2

“The guinea pigs came to school and they were soft and fluffy. They were nice and I wanted to spend a lot of time with them.” Lewis L W2

“When the guinea pigs visited our class, we learnt that they like to eat delicious dandelions, ruby red raspberries and amazing apples as treats. They were quite heavy to hold but also cute and furry!” Lily D and Harley H, C2

A special thank you to Mrs Green and Charlotte in Year 5 for helping.

Art - Year 4
A number of us had the opportunity to work with Mrs Clements (a specialist art teacher) to design a special display that represented our school values. When you have a chance to see it finished it will shock you because of its beautiful colours which stand out. Not giving too much away, in the Junior hall, there will be circles that show our values with a patterned background. We hope you have a chance to see our new display once it is completed and enjoy it like we will. Freddie, K and Elizabeth, V Lancashire 4

Mr Kersey runs the London Marathon
Last Sunday I had the pleasure (and pain) of running 26.2 miles around the famous course of The London Marathon. This was my first Marathon and I was very glad to have spent at least 6 months training for it. The conditions on the day were ideal for running being cool and dry. Although I have run some long distances I never quite imagined how difficult it would be to complete the course and yet how amazing it would be to be part of this significant event. I met Mr Theobald, who taught at our school last year, in Greenwich Park and after a long nervous wait we finally set off. The crowds were huge and the support you receive in the form of cheers, shouts and countless jelly babies made a huge difference. The route runs past some major landmarks in London including the Cutty Sark, Tower Bridge, Canary Wharf, The Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace. After the first half of the race my hips started to hurt and my feet felt like they were striking hot coals every time I touched the floor. There were many times when I was tempted to stop and walk but I was determined to run the whole way so although my pace slowed considerably I managed to keep running and finished in 5 hours and 11 minutes. Receiving my medal and meeting the chief executive of Anthony Nolan was very emotional and tears definitely flowed. Thanks to an amazing amount of support from children, parents and colleagues I have managed to raise over £4,000 for this charity. Anthony Nolan have been directly involved in finding a bone marrow transplant match for Charlie Grist, our Y5 hero who is still currently undergoing vital treatment. It was an honour to run with Team Charlie written on my vest and thousands of people were calling his name as I ran round the course. I will never forget this wonderful experience and I hope that in the future many of our pupils will be inspired to take on similar challenges.

I hope you have a very enjoyable long weekend and we look forward to seeing the children on Tuesday 7th May.

Mrs E Savage, Headteacher