

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2025



The month started with our termly Wellbeing Week. Wellbeing is something that we take seriously and obviously focus on every day but it is always good to have an opportunity to focus on our 5 Ways to Wellbeing – Connect, be active, take notice, keep learning and give. The children were very busy completing lots of different activities throughout the week. The one I always love the most is 'Give' as we help the children understand that to give isn't about money or gifts it can be about doing something nice for someone, giving time or a compliment. Giving can make us all feel happy and valued.

IN OTHER SCHOOL NEWS...

- Nursery and Reception had a visit from the Canal & River Trust where they learnt about water safety through a song and story workshop.
- Year 5 had so much fun one morning as part of their Loose Parts Play session.
- Year 4 and Miss Barclay's class have enjoyed their visits to Buckley Library.
- Year 6 completed a Financial Education workshop with HSBC.
- Well done to all our Phase 3 gymnasts who took part in the Gymnastics festival this week. Lots of medals received.
- It was also lovely to celebrate World Thinking Day with those children in the Girlguiding or Scouting organisations wearing their uniforms proudly in school.
- There have been some delicious aromas around school every Friday afternoon as some of our parents and their children have taken part in the Cooking Workshop.
- The whole school had a wonderful morning when Shannon from iRock came to school to tell us about the opportunity of joining a rock and pop band. Shannon emailed Mrs Davies to say that our Southdown children were not only super enthusiastic during the assembly but also incredibly polite -we are the best school! Lots of children have signed up for the iRock sessions so we are looking forward to having our own little Rock bands in school soon.
- Safer Internet Day was celebrated across the school and thank you to Miss Say and the Digital Wizards for a wonderful assembly. There is still time for the children to complete the 'Unplugged' competition -I wonder which class will win!?

Safer Internet Day has also allowed us to think about how we use our devices safely. Please can we encourage you to monitor your child's use of both online gaming, social media and mobile phones. We'd also advise that mobile phones are not kept in bedrooms over night as many of our children are telling us that they are using them and/or gaming late into night, early hours. As you can imagine this is having an impact on their wellbeing, their readiness to learn and also their friendships. Thank you for your support.

WORLD BOOK DAY We will not be dressing for World Book Day (Thursday 6th March) this year but we will still be marking the day with lots of different activities across the school.

EISTEDDFOD We will be holding our annual school Eisteddfod the first week back, Friday 7th March and the children are allowed to come to school in any of the following that day:

- Traditional Welsh Costume
- Welsh Flag colours -red, green and/or white
- Welsh Rugby shirt/kit (No other rugby shirts will be permitted)
- Welsh Football shirt/kit (No other football shirts will be permitted)
- School uniform if your child does not want to 'dress up'

The Eisteddfod will be carried out in the school hall with all classes presenting in the morning. There will be lots of welsh activities during the afternoon so it will be a fantastic day for everyone and we are looking forward to it.

RED NOSE DAY We will not be dressing up for or collecting for Comic Relief this year either as we want to focus on our main charity this term. We are still hoping to sell Red Noses during the week which can then be worn on the day. When we have more information, we will let you know.

DATES FOR MARCH AND APRIL

- **Monday 3rd March:** Back to School
- **Thursday 6th March:** World Book Day
- **Friday 7th March:** Eisteddfod
- **Thursday 13th March** Year 5 Science and Numeracy at Elfed
- **Friday 21st March:** Red Nose Day
- **Friday 21st March:** Year 4 Sports Festival at Elfed
- **Mon 24th -Wed 26th March:** Year 6 Cycling Proficiency
- **Mon 24th – Tue 25th March:** Parents Evening 3.15-6pm
- **Wednesday 28th March:** Non-uniform Day for Easter Bingo
- **Wednesday 2nd April:** Easter Bingo after School.
- **Friday 11th April:** Easter Serve at Bistre Church
- **Friday 11th April:** Finish for Easter