

# **SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2024**



November has flown by and I can't believe that December is here already so apologies that the newsletter has been sent out a little late. With the end of term fast approaching, just a quick update on what has been going on during another busy month.

Miss Luke, Headteacher

## **STAFF UPDATE**

- We welcomed Miss Lucy Humphreys to the staff team. Miss Humphreys will be working with Mrs Wilson in the office in the mornings. I know many of you here have met/spoken to her already.
- Sadly, we have had to say goodbye to Mrs Kathryn Davies this term. Mrs Davies has very much been part of Southdown for many years. I know it was a difficult decision for her to leave but the right one for her and her family. We all wish her the very best and thank her for all her hard work and love that she has given to Southdown.

## **SCHOOL NEWS**

- Thank you again for those of you who have donated towards the Operation Christmas Child boxes. We were able to send off 28 boxes.
- Year 4 enjoyed their trip to The Blue Planet Aquarium -no shark attacks!
- It was lovely to see so many parents enjoying the Coding Workshop -we hope to put on more parent events/workshops as they become available.
- Thank you to Mrs Mocanu who created two beautiful wreaths for Remembrance. Riley and Gracie-May represented Southdown at the Elfed's Remembrance Service.
- Being kind is something we always focus on, especially as it is one of our school rules however Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November was the start of Anti-bullying week. Lots of different activities and learning was completed to understand what bullying is and what we can do to help.
- On Friday 15<sup>th</sup> November, children came to school wearing spotty or own clothes and gave donations to Pudsey. £439 was raised. Thank you so much for all your donations.
- Thank you to Rev. Chris who led two assemblies this month.
- Our School Council (Year 4, 5 & 6) visited County Hall on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November. They had a tour of the Council Chamber and spent time with Councillor Dennis Hutchinson, the Chair of Council. The children had lots of questions for Councillor Hutchinson.
- Film night was a great success and was enjoyed by all. A massive thank you to the Friends of Southdown who organised the event, purchased and cooked all the food on the night. We really couldn't have done it without you. Thank you to all the staff who gave up their own time too to stay.

## **PURPLE DAY**

A grand total of £325.50 was raised for Brain Tumour Research in memory of Aaron on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> November, which would have been his 9<sup>th</sup> birthday. Thank you for your support and generosity.

## **JUST A FEW REMINDERS**

- Dojo is a wonderful app and it really does help us with communication but please remember that anything important like home time arrangements or absence from school should go through the school office.
- Another plea to keep our children and families safe when driving and parking outside school. Please be patient, please be considerate and please consider walking if you can.
- We will be sending home our colour coded attendance letters at the end of this term so please look after them. If your child is unwell and not going to be in school please can you contact the school office on 01244 544473 by 9.15am at the latest.

## **RAFFLE TICKETS**

All raffle tickets and money should be returned to the school office by Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December. The raffle will then be drawn on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December. We have some fantastic prizes including two cash prizes of £300 and £150 so please support us with this. You have to be in to win it! If you would like more raffle tickets to sell please let us know.

## **CHRISTMAS CLASS PARTIES**

Children to come to school in party clothes. Games, activities and party food will be served.

- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> afternoon – Years 5 & 6
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> morning – Year 1 & 2
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> afternoon – Years 3 & 4
- Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> morning – Nursery & Reception

## **FANCY DRESS AND TOYS**

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December is our last day and we invite all children and staff to wear fancy dress of their choice – We are sure there will be some wonderful creations. We would ask that your child has suitable clothes underneath their costumes (where necessary), to enable them to play outside at play and lunchtimes and also go to the toilet! Fancy dress is not compulsory so if your child does not want to participate in this that is fine.

Children can also bring in a toy on this day, making sure they are age appropriate and no mobile phones or electronic items please –we have plenty of iPads/laptops. All items are the responsibility of the children and should go home with them on that day. **(No toys from home for Nursery and Reception children please)**