

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2024



We've had a fantastic start to the new school year. Everyone has now settled in well to our normal routines and we are really encouraged for the year ahead. It has been a busy few weeks so here are some reminders of what we have been up to and what we've got planned for October.

Miss Luke, Headteacher

School News

- We were really pleased that PC Lee was able to return to school this month. He completed a workshop called 'It's your choice' with both Year 6 classes.
- Our new Reception children had their 'First Day of School' photo taken by The Leader. As soon as we know it is being published we will let you know.
- We are very impressed with Mrs Moore and Miss Phoenix who took part in Aaron's Army Sponsored Bike Ride. They are cycled the distance of Buckley to Euro Disney with members of Aaron's Army to raise funds for Brain Tumour research.
- Photo day has been a very busy day! There were lots smiley faces and I'm sure you'll love seeing the photos. The information for ordering will be sent out this week.

Nursery and Reception 2025

Is your child 3 or 4 years old before September 2025? If so they are able to join our Nursery or Reception class in September 2025 and we would love to welcome them to our family friendly school. All applications need to be completed on line at www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions

If you know of anyone who is interested in joining the school and they would like to find out more please let us know or point them in our direction. We will be holding an open morning for **NURSERY 2025** at 10am on 10th and 24th October.

All application forms need to be received by Friday 18th November at the very latest for Reception and Friday 17th February for Nursery. You will then be informed of your place later in the year.

Year 6 -High School Admissions

Applications for High School are now open too. Again, all forms need to be completed online www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions by Friday 4th November. We continue to work closely with both the Argoed and Elfed High Schools and we have another great transition plan in place for the children this year.

Pupil Leadership

At Southdown we foster leadership and strongly believe in giving our children genuine leadership opportunities so they can make decisions about school and their learning. Our leaders this year are:

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|------------------------------|---|
| School Council | Year 1: Catrin, Havana, Lucas Year 2: Ocean, Halle, Jacob Year 3: Lacey-Mae, Mila, Millie, Matilda Year 4: Freya, Isabella, Heidi, Mason Year 5: Axel, Jorja, Ruby, Serenna Year 6: Molly H, Eliza, Kelsey, Amelia |
| Eco Council | Year 1: Eleri, Olivia, Jaxson Year 2: Aurora, Jayden, Savvas Year 3: Kaila, Griffin, Orla, Katie Year 4: Chloe, Ava, Reuben, Noah Year 5: Isabelle, Amber, Learnna, Amelia Year 6: Daisy, Ava, Sam, Kian |
| Criw Cymraeg | Year 2: Enya, Hugo, Cassie Year 3: Jasmine, Hallie, Elsie Year 4: Freddie B, George, Caleb, Poppy, Seren Year 5: Alfie B, Deacon, Sophia, Serenna, Ethan Year 6: Charlie, Eliza, Chase, Harry, Jessica |
| Digital Leaders | Year 2: Ethan, Giles, Axel Year 3: Logan, Darcie, Henry, Anthony Year 4: Skyla, James, Aria, Oliver Year 5: Dion, Jessie, Poppy, Sebastian Year 6: Caden, Finley, Charlie, Kian, Ollie L |
| Year 6 Prefects | Grace, Chloe, Maisie, Eira, Ava, Daisy, Molly N, Perrie-Jay, Benji, Amelia, Oliver, Ella-Mae |
| Year 6 Sports Leaders | Anais, Luca, Henri, Ella |

MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING

On Friday 4th October, our School Council will be holding a coffee morning for parents and the community at 9:15am in the school hall. All money raised will be donated to Macmillan Cancer Support. Donations of cakes would be greatly appreciated! Please can these be brought in on Thursday 3rd October. In addition, if you would like your child to bring a cake home,

please send them in with a donation of £1 on the day. We can't wait to see you all!

HARVEST

We are thrilled that we will be returning to Bistre Church this year to celebrate Harvest on Monday 7th October -this will be for the children only. In conjunction with this we will be collecting items for Flintshire Foodbank. All items can be brought to school and at the moment the following items are needed however I'm sure they will gratefully receive anything suitable – I know toiletries and sanitary products go a long way too.

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| UHT milk | Tinned fish | Tinned ready meals (stewed steak, chicken in sauce). | Tinned Vegetables | Long grain rice |
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PARENTS 'MEET AND GREET'

Monday 7th October from 3.00-5.30pm will be our parents 'Meet and Greet'. This is an opportunity for you to call in to school and meet your child's class teacher and find out a little more about life in class and how your child has settled in this year. No appointments are needed – just pop in and say hi.

HELLO YELLOW DAY: THURSDAY 10TH OCTOBER

As part of our Wellbeing Week we will be celebrating 'Hello Yellow' day. The children, if they wish can come to school that day dressed head to toe in yellow or if they are not feeling as bold just a splash of yellow here and there -yellow socks, hair item etc There is no donation required it is just a bit of fun and to promote the importance of good emotional wellbeing and mental health.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Wednesday 2nd October Friends of Southdown 6.30pm at school
- Friday 4th October Macmillan Coffee Morning (9.30-11.30am)
- Monday 7th October Parents 'Meet & Greet' (3.00-5.30pm)
- Monday 7th October 'Wellbeing Week'
- Thursday 10th October 'Hello Yellow Day'
- Friday 25th October School closes for Half Term
- Monday 4th November School opens and children return to school
- Friday 15th November Children in Need

- Monday 2nd December Phase 2 Christmas Concert 2pm and 5.30pm
- Tuesday 3rd December Phase 2 Christmas Concert 9.30am
- Wednesday 4th December Panto at Elfed High School (Rec-Year 6)
- Friday 6th December Children's Christmas Dinner
- Monday 9th December Phase 3 Christmas Service 2pm and 5.30pm
- Tuesday 10th December Nursery/Reception Christmas Concert 10am
- w/b Monday 16th December Party week - days for each year TBC
- Friday 20th December Fancy Dress: School closes for Christmas

TRAVELLING TO AND FROM SCHOOL

- Only Year 5 and 6 are allowed to travel to and from school independently, and then only if you have given us your consent.
- We have noticed an increasing number of children are not being kind and safe as they walk to and from school. We have reminded them of our school rules: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible and Be Kind, and that we expect this of them at all times. If individual issues continue we will ask parents of Years 5 and 6 to transport their children to and from school. We'd appreciate it if you could remind them of your own expectations as they are also representing you out in the community.
- Please can you ensure that if your child travels to and from school on a bike or a scooter, that they wear a suitable helmet.

CAR PARK AND TRAFFIC

Another plea to keep our children and families safe. The number of near misses is such a worry and is very much in your control. We recognise that outside school becomes easily congested and therefore we are asking you to please be patient and considerate to our neighbours and school families. Some of the solutions are very much in your hands:

- Please walk/cycle to school
- Please park further afield and walk to school.
- Please be considerate with your parking -if you get a space in the parking bay pull up right to the curb to allow cars to pass.
- Please be patient and considerate of pedestrians, residents and other car users. It is a busy and often stressful time of the day, show each other some compassion.
- The school carpark is for staff only -please respect this.