

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2024



So, we have reached the half term holidays at last! We can all have a well-earned rest, following a busy time at school. Enjoy your half term holiday, and your Halloween and Bonfire celebrations – stay safe and see you back in school on Monday 4th November 😊.

Miss Luke, Headteacher

GOODBYE AND THANK YOU

We said goodbye this week to Mrs Neil who has been supporting Mrs. Wilson in the office. She will be moving to be the school secretary at Abermorddu Primary School. Mrs Neil has made such an impact to school during her short time with us; she will very much be missed and I'm sure the children and staff of Abermorddu will love having her in school as much as we have.

SCHOOL NEWS

- We had a fantastic response from everyone to our Harvest collection. The Flintshire Foodbank were extremely grateful -thank you for your support with this. It was lovely to have the whole school together to celebrate Harvest at Bistre Church and as always we appreciate Rev Chris's support and time that he gives us as a school. The singing was beautiful and the Year 6 Prefects did a great job of leading the service.
- Thank you also for those of you that supported the Macmillan Coffee Morning organised by Miss Phoenix and the School Council. A grand total £350 was raised.
- We are always grateful to the both Elfed and Argoed High Schools for offering different workshops for the children throughout the year. This half term Year 4 took part in a Light, Colour & Sound Workshop and Year 6 in a Music and Dance Workshop at Elfed.
- Thank you to Mr Smith Headteacher at Argoed High School and his Student Leadership Team who came to speak to Years 4, 5 and 6 about life at Argoed.
- Year 5 had lots of fun at Jodrell Bank as part of their topic.
- Well done to the Year 5/6 Football team who took part in the Buckley Cluster Schools Tournament.
- Wellbeing is something we do all year round but it was good to celebrate 'Hello Yellow' day as part of our Wellbeing Week. The children and staff continue to follow the 5 Ways of Wellbeing -Connect, Be Active, Keep Learning, Give and Take Notice.

ADMISSIONS

There is still time to apply for places in Nursery, Reception and also Secondary School. Visit the website and complete the application.

www.flintshire.gov.uk/schooladmissions. The closing dates are:

- Nursery: 17th February 2025
- Reception: 18th November 2024
- Secondary: 4th November 2024

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. Over the month I have had a number of complaints from local residents saying that not only are they troubled about the parking but also the verbal abuse that they are receiving if they ask parents/family members to not park across drives, on pavements etc This is a real concern and upsetting that families representing Southdown would speak to our neighbours in this way. I must continue to ask you to please be patient, please be considerate and please consider walking if you can.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

We will be supporting Operation Christmas Child again this year. Your child's class teacher will be in touch explaining what they need and when to make their class boxes. We know that some of you like to make a whole box at home. If this is the case please can you make sure it is in school by Wednesday 6th November and includes the postage fee. Diolch.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

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| • Monday 4 th November | Back to School |
| • Friday 8 th November | Year 4 trip to Blue Planet Aquarium |
| • Friday 15 th November | Children in Need |
| • Wednesday 27 th November | Film Night -Reception to Year 6 |
| • Thursday 28 th November | Wear it Purple Day to remember Aaron Wharton |
| • Monday 2 nd December | Phase 2 Christmas Concert 2pm and 5.30pm |
| • Tuesday 3 rd December | Phase 2 Christmas Concert 9.30am |
| • Wednesday 4 th December | Panto at Elfed High School (Rec-Year 6) |
| • Friday 6 th December | Children's Christmas Dinner |
| • Monday 9 th December | Phase 3 Christmas Service 2pm and 5.30pm |
| • Tuesday 10 th December | Nursery/Reception Christmas Concert 10am |
| • w/b Monday 16 th December | Party week |
| • Friday 20 th December | School closes to Christmas |

Full details about Christmas concerts, parties etc information will be provided after the break.