

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

INFORMATION NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2026



Blwyddyn Newydd Dda! I hope you all enjoyed a happy and restful Christmas break. Although the new year didn't quite begin as we had planned due to the snow, it has been wonderful to finally welcome the children back into school. They have returned full of enthusiasm and have quickly re-settled into school routines, despite the icy conditions. We are incredibly proud of how well they have adapted after the break 😊

DATES

- **Tuesday 6th January** Weekly Ukulele lessons for Year 3
- **Wednesday 14th January** Year 6 to Mold Police Station (ASB project)
- **Wednesday 21st January** Nursery 2026 Open Afternoon from 1.30pm
- **w/b Monday 9th February:** Wellbeing Week
- **Tuesday 10th February:** Safer Internet Day
- **Friday 13th February:** Finish for Half Term

- **Monday 23rd February:** Back to School
- **Thursday 26th February:** School Disco -TBC
- **Thursday 5th March:** World Book Day
- **Friday 6th March:** School Eisteddfod
- **Thursday 12th March** Year 5 Science and Numeracy at Elfed
- **Friday 13th March:** Red Nose Day
- **Monday 16th March:** Parents Evening 3.15-6pm -to be confirmed
- **Tuesday 17th March:** Parents Evening 3.15-6pm -to be confirmed
- **Thursday 19th March:** Non-uniform Day for Easter Bingo -TBC
- **Friday 20th March:** School Closed -Staff Training
- **Tuesday 24th March:** Year 4 Sports Festival at Elfed
- **Wednesday 25th March:** Easter Bingo after School -TBC
- **Friday 27th March:** Finish for Easter

We will not be dressing up for either Word Book Day or Comic Relief but there will be exciting activities completed during each day.

Dates for the School Disco, Non-uniform Day and Easter Bingo are to be confirmed but have been provided as provisional dates and for you to be aware that these events are likely to happen. The Friends of Southdown will be meeting soon and more information will be provided once they have met.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- **Tuesday:** Year 4 to 6 Running Club with Mr Roberts before school*
- **Tuesday:** Year 5 to 6 Netball with Mrs Mountain after school.
- **Tuesday:** Year 3 to 6 Choir with Miss Gardner after school.
- **Thursday:** Year 1 and 2 Colouring Club with Mrs Evans at lunchtime.

Please register for all after school activities using the form shared on your child's class dojo page. Thank you.

* Running Club will start on Tuesday 26th January, weather dependent.

Miss Say will also be starting a Year 3 and 4 Dance Club after Half Term and Mr Godwin will also start Football Club after Half Term once the weather improves -fingers crossed!

PE KIT

PE lessons will be starting again so this means that for children in Years 1 to Year 6 they need to come in to school in their PE Kit on their PE day.

Reception should come to school in their uniform and will get changed for PE as part of their Personal Social and Development skills.

Can we remind you that the kit is as follows and PE day is not an opportunity to wear non-uniform. The kit is:

- Plain red t-shirt and plain black shorts
- Tracksuit top and bottoms –this should be black or dark colours
- Trainers not pumps
- Velcro would be best for any children that cannot do their laces.
- Black School Hoodie (not essential -a plain black hoodie/jumper will do)

ATTENDANCE

If your child is unwell or absent from school please let us know on the day of absence by 9am. Many of you use Class Dojo but we would encourage you to phone school 01244 544473. Please leave a message if the phone line is busy.

We do pick them up -thank you.

A FEW REMINDERS

- The school car park is for **staff only** and this includes using it during out of hours i.e. for Breakfast Club and After School Club. Please respect this decision.
- Dog are not allowed on the school site and this includes the path down to the gate.
- The grassed areas including the hills at the front of the school should not be accessed during pick up time. All children once collected should be supervised by their adult and remain with them.
- With the colder weather we have school fleeces in stock. Please order them as usual on School Gateway.

COMMUNICATION

The School Gateway app will now be our main way of communicating with you. You will continue to receive emails as normal. Routine messages such as attendance reminders, first aid and general reminders will now be sent through the message section of the School Gateway app.

- School Gateway will be used to send messages to home as reminders – this will appear on your School Gateway app.
- Emails will be sent via School Gateway and can be read in your normal email inbox.
- Only urgent texts will be sent direct to your mobile phone number, all other communication will be through the app.
- Class Dojo will still be available as a communication between home and your child's teacher. School Dojo will also be used to inform you of up and coming events, general reminders and good news stories.

TO ENSURE THAT YOU SEE THESE MESSAGES PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOU HAVE NOTIFICATIONS TURNED ON FOR THE SCHOOLE GATEWAY APP.

If you need us -phone 01244 544473, email somail@hwbcymru.net, Dojo or pop in for a chat!

SCHOOL PLACES 2026

There is only just over 6 more weeks for you to apply for September 2026 Nursery places 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 and we can arrange for them to be contacted with more information. All application forms need to be received by Monday 16th February at the very latest and you will then be informed of your place by in May.

Applications for Reception 2026 should have been in by the end of November 2025. If you have forgotten to apply please still do so or again if you know of anyone who has moved to the local area and is looking for a great, friendly school point them in our direction!