

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER APRIL 2026



We've only had 14 school days in April but as always, we've managed to squeeze in so much -the sunshine has helped too!

CHALLENGE 2026

A massive thank you to everyone who has taken part in the Challenge 2026. We are thrilled with all of your kind donations and it has been a joy to see all the different activities that the children have done to raise their money. We really do appreciate your support with this and look forward to finding out the winners. If you still need to send in any photos or money please do so asap -diolch!

50TH BIRTHDAY

We are looking forward to celebrating our 50th birthday in a few weeks' time. You will have seen that we are looking to collect special memories, photographs, positive stories etc. If you do have anything to share, we'd love to see them so please email them or pop in to school before Friday 8th May.

50 YEARS

Help Us Celebrate
Southdown School!

This year we are celebrating **50** wonderful years of memories, friendships and achievements.

We're collecting special memories, photographs and positive stories from former pupils, parents, staff and members of our community.

- Share your memories and photos
- Help us celebrate our history and community
- We'll share them with the children and our community

EMAIL somail@hwbcymru.net WITH THE HEADER **"50 MEMORIES"** OR BRING INTO SCHOOL

BY FRIDAY 8TH MAY

YSGOL SOUTHDOWN
Together we learn, together we SHINE!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION (GDPR & CONSENT)
By submitting photographs, memories or other materials, you are giving permission for the school to share and display these digitally and within the school as part of our 50th Anniversary celebrations. Materials shared with the school may not be returned.

Thank you for being part of our story!

Monday 11th May and Tuesday 12th May -the children will be 'off timetable' and there will be a 50th Birthday mini topic where the children will take part in a number of different activities linked to Southdown, the number 50, 1970s etc

Tuesday 12th May -we will be having a 'Street Party' at lunchtime. Fingers crossed the weather will be kind to us and we be celebrating and eating our lunch all together outside. The menu that day will be party food provided by Newydd however if you'd like your child to still bring in a packed lunch they can. There will be no hot meals served that day. **The children can also come to school in their party clothes.**

Monday 8th June morning -we will be having a whole school photograph. On this day, all children need to wear their smart, full Southdown uniform. Red jumpers and cardigans only -no hoodies or school fleeces. Afternoon Nursery will need to attend school in the morning only on that day since it is a special event, 9-11.30am. Little Rays will be available in the afternoon for those of you who make use of it.

SCHOOL NEWS

- Congratulations to our swimming team for a successful morning at the Swimming Gala. As always, we are so proud of how they conducted themselves and they all really tried their best.
- Classes continue to enjoy their visits to Buckley Library. This month has been Mrs Mountain, Miss Barclay and Miss Phoenix's class.
- We introduced our final myHappyMind topic for the school year which is 'Engage'. This will help the children understand the importance of goal setting.
- As part of their topic 'Made in Buckley' Year 6 enjoyed their walk along the Buckley Heritage trail and thank you to Buckley Museum for their visit to school.
- Our 'Little Listeners' leadership group led an assembly this month updating all of our children of their important role and how they can help them with their emotions at playtimes.
- Thank you to Mrs Davies for leading her parent workshop today. It was lovely to see everyone and work together to help families understand the importance of play and how to monitor and find a balance when using technology. There were lots of different ideas so we look forward to finding out what different activities everyone tries at home.
- We welcomed our local Police Community Support Officers for lunch. The children are really enjoying spending time with them and getting to understand how the police are there to support and help us all.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Another reminder about the correct school uniform. Jumpers/Cardigans should be red, either with the school logo on or a plain one from another provider is fine. School hoodies should only be worn for PE days only. Shoes such as Converse, Crocs and UGGs are not suitable footwear for school. School footwear should be plain black shoes with laces or Velcro/buckles for those younger children who have not learnt to tie their laces yet.

HAY FEVER MEDICATION

As the hay fever season is fast approaching, and with children soon to be playing on the school field and taking part in Sports Day, please ensure your child has had their hay fever medication before coming into school.

DIGITAL AND ONLINE SAFETY

Online safety is a key part of our curriculum, and the children regularly take part in activities and discussions that help them understand how to make positive choices when using technology.

Recently, we have seen an increasing number of online issues that originate outside of school but are then brought into the classroom. These situations can be time-consuming to resolve and can have a real impact on the children's wellbeing and learning. While we will always support children when concerns arise, we kindly ask for your help in monitoring and guiding their online activity at home so that we can work together to prevent these issues from developing in the first place.

Our Digital Wizards are also working hard to support families by creating a monthly online safety newsletter, offering practical tips and advice to help you stay informed about the latest apps, games, and trends. We truly appreciate your partnership in helping us create a safe, positive environment for every child—both in school and online.

CAR SAFETY

You may have noticed a police presence outside school this week. This followed concerns raised on social media about children not being safely secured in appropriate car seats or seat belts. We are grateful to the police for supporting us, as this is very much a matter for them to address. I know that they did warn a few parents.

As always, our priority is the safety and wellbeing of every child. We kindly remind all parents and carers that it is your responsibility to ensure children are correctly and safely strapped in before travelling. Thank you for helping us keep our children and community safe.

DATES

- **Monday 4th May:** Bank Holiday: School Closed
- **Tuesday 5th May:** Year 5 trip to Greenfield Valley
- **Thursday 7th May:** Class Photographs -**school uniform only including red jumper or cardigan**
- **Monday 11th May:** Celebrating Southdown's 50th Birthday!
- **Tuesday 12th May:** 'Street Party' lunch -wear party clothes
- **Wednesday 13th May:** Year 6, 3-day residential at PGL
- **Wednesday 20th May:** Year 4, 3-day residential at Plas Menai
- **Wednesday 20th May:** National Numeracy Day
- **Friday 22nd May:** Cross Country event
- **Friday 22nd May:** Finish for Half Term