

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER JUNE 2026



We are officially in the final stretch of the school year. June has been a busy and rewarding month, and we have been so proud of how well our children stayed focused and positive through the recent heatwave (more on this in a bit!) Whilst we will make the most of these final weeks of the term, we are also well underway with our preparations for a smooth transition into September.

Miss Luke, Headteacher

Heatwave!

Last week's heatwave certainly brought some unique challenges to the school day, but the whole school handled it so well. We are incredibly proud of our children, who showed lots of resilience and kept their spirits high despite the soaring temperatures. A massive thank you goes to our fantastic staff, who worked tirelessly to keep classrooms as cool, shaded, and comfortable as possible. We were also treated to some much-needed cooling relief thanks to two very special deliveries: a round of delicious ice lollies from Mrs. Patchen one afternoon, followed by another wonderful batch from the Friends of Southdown the next day! Those icy treats were a huge hit and brought smiles to everyone's faces. Thank you all for helping us beat the heat! We are sure that there will be more on the way!

Wellbeing Week

Our recent Wellbeing Week was enjoyed by all, focusing not only on the '5 Ways to Wellbeing' but also on deepening our understanding of diversity, respect, and tolerance. Lots of fantastic activities took place across the school to explore these themes. As examples, our Nursery children celebrated what makes them unique by crafting individual flowers, which are now proudly displayed in their window. Reception took inspiration from the artist Reggie Laurent, with each child creating a distinct piece of art that fits together into a beautiful whole—perfectly conveying that every shape, and colour belongs equally and makes us whole. Meanwhile, Year 5 used the World Cup to explore different countries and cultures, sparking some mature and important conversations about respecting differences and tackling racism. We are so proud of how our children engaged with these topics, and we truly appreciate your support at home as we work together to encourage kindness, understanding, and respect for everyone.

School News

- A big well done to Reception and Years 1 and 2 for their fantastic Sports Days, and congratulations to Alun for winning the Years 3 to 6 event! Due to the heatwave, the Nursery Sports Day has been moved to July, and we look forward to celebrating with them soon.
- Reception had a wonderful time at the Blue Planet Aquarium and Years 1 and 2 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Xplore! A number of year groups have continued their regular visits to Buckley Library.
- Years 3 and 4 travelled back in time for a fantastic Egyptian Day, and we were so impressed by their amazing costumes.
- Years 4 and 5 visited Elfed High School this month for some valuable transition work.
- We were thrilled to receive the 'Poppy Appeal' shield once again for raising the most money of all the local schools. We think that there is only 1 year out of over 20 that we haven't won it!
- Well done to our cricket team for a fantastic tournament. The final was sadly postponed due to the heat, but we hope to have it rearranged very soon.
- We recently gathered for our whole-school photograph. It was a lovely experience seeing everyone together, and we are so pleased with the final print which we will add to the ones taken over the years.

Trim Trail

As we shared recently, our Challenge 26 event was a huge success, and we were thrilled with the total that was raised. The children also remain incredibly proud of their achievements and enjoy looking at our display in school sharing what everyone got up to. We have already confirmed that these funds are going directly towards the cost of our new trim trail. Sadly, it won't be installed before the summer holidays as we had originally hoped, however, it is definitely something for everyone to look forward to in the new school year. This success wouldn't be possible without the incredible Friends of Southdown team. We owe a massive thank you to them for their hard work and support in putting on so many fantastic events throughout the year. They are a brilliant team who consistently ensure our children have fun whilst raising vital funds for our school.

A few reminders

- The trim trail and hill are out of bounds at the end of the day. Children are only allowed to use these areas when supervised by a **school** adult.
- Please remember that once children have been 'handed over' to you at the end of the day it is your responsibility to supervise them when on the school site.
- Do not park near the roundabout including at Breakfast/After School time.

Transition Day

On Thursday, we held our 'Moving Up' morning. The children were full of excitement as they met their new teachers and enjoyed spending time in their upcoming classrooms. Meanwhile, our Year 6 pupils had a fantastic and successful day at their chosen high schools.

Below is the list of our new classes for September:

Current Class	New Class
Nursery Morning: Mrs Maddox	Reception -Mrs Evans
Nursery Afternoon: Mrs Maddox	Reception -Mrs Hollinrake
Reception: Mrs Evans	Year 1 -Miss Phoenix
Year 1 and 2: Miss Barclay	Year 2 and 3: Mrs Moore
Year 1 and 2: Mrs Davies	Year 2 and 3: Miss Barclay
Year 1 and 2: Miss Phoenix	Year 2 and 3: Mrs Davies
Year 3 and 4: Mr Godwin	Year 4 and 5: Mrs Mountain
Year 3 and 4: Mrs Moore	Year 4 and 5: Miss Gardner
Year 3 and 4: Mr Smith	Year 4 and 5: Mr Godwin
Year 5: Miss Gardner	Year 6: Miss Say
Year 5: Mrs Mountain	Year 6: Mrs Mathieson

Mrs Dunn and Mrs Hughes will be teaching PPA cover.

Dates for your Diary

- Wednesday 1st July: Year 4 visit to Elfed High School
- Wednesday 1st July: School Fair after school
- Thursday 2nd July: Nursery Sports Day -10.45am and 2.15pm
- Tuesday 7th July: iRock Concert
- Wednesday 8th July: Llangollen Eisteddfod: Criw Cymraeg/Choir
- Friday 10th July: End of year reports to be sent out
- Monday 13th July: Nursery and Little Rays to Park Hall Farm
- Monday 13th July: Report Drop In @ 4pm-5pm
- Tuesday 14th July: School Closed -Buckley Jubilee
- Wednesday 15th July: Year 6 Bowling
- Thursday 16th July: Year 6 Leavers Assembly @ 9.15am
- Friday 17th July: School Closes for Summer

- Wednesday 2nd September: Back to School