Everyone at Southover achieves their potential, is valued for who they are and knows they belong

Southover CE Primary School

Headteacher: *Noel Fadden*

www.southoverceprimary.co.uk

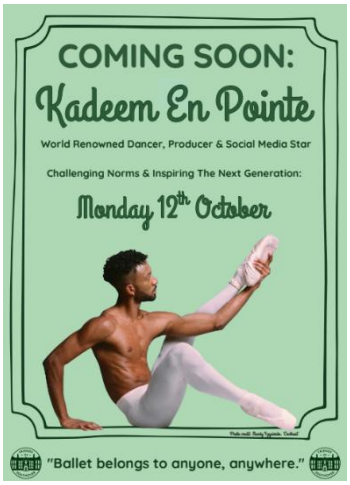
At Southover Church of England Primary school:
We all work together —children, parents, staff, Trinity Church and the community.
We inspire each other to learn through a vibrant curriculum, set within a safe environment that meets the needs of all children.
We gain strength from the love of God and our love for one another; we feel we belong to Trinity Church.
We value: Trust, Compassion, Friendship, Hope, Thankfulness and Fellowship.
We have a healthy mind, body and spirit to allow us to 'Live, Love, Learn'.

Newsletter October 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and the Community of Southover,



Thank you all for coming to support the children in the Harvest Festivals. The children read and sang so well and the generous contributions will go to the Lewes Foodbanks. For many children (and adults), speaking in front of a few hundred people is very daunting and a real achievement; well done to those children who read in the church. The choir showed their prowess and will do so again later in autumn as they perform at Glyndebourne. Our Southover Value this term is Hope and our theme on Harvest and the Climate is one where we need hope and action.



Our assemblies have had the themes of Black History Month as well as looking at managing our emotions. We had a great visit from Kadeem En Pointe who talked about his ballet work and showed that ballet can be for anyone.

Thank you to the Friends (PTA) team for organising such a great disco. The Goodies and Ghouls disco raises money and spirits – both necessary to a successful school. The next big event will be the Christmas Fair on Friday 4th December. November 6th is an INSET day so families get time to recover from Bonfire although staff will be in school. Children are welcome to wear their bonfire jumpers to school on November 5th. We will be prompt out at the end of the day but we will not finish early.

Play a part in our Success

Volunteers are so important in helping us offer the extras that make a difference. We are always grateful for the help with events, weekly reading or forest school and would love more volunteers. These could be you, a family member or a neighbour. Regular volunteers fill out a volunteer pack and we apply for a safeguarding check (DBS) as part of our safeguarding policy. Think about if you can help in school and speak to the office, Mrs Short or myself.

Southover CE Primary School,
Potters Lane, Lewes,

"Everyone achieves their potential,
is valued for who they are
and knows they belong"

We are proud of our high achievement, an enriching and engaging curriculum and a caring environment.

We are delighted to welcome you to visit our school to meet the head teacher, staff and children on our Open Days

Wednesday 4th November 9.15am
Tuesday 10th November 9.15am
Thursday 12th November 9.15am
Wednesday 25th November 9.15am

Live, Love, Learn!

Contact the office to book a place:
01273 473015 or office@southover.e-sussex.sch.uk
Check out: southoverceprimary.co.uk





Parking Concerns

We are very concerned about the safety of everyone in the area due to dangerous and inconsiderate parking.

The car park is **not** for parents and has had a lot of cars blocking in staff and stopping emergency service access. We have also had local residents complaining about the parking near the shop. Do not park on double yellow lines and do not park blocking access and paths. The council have been contacted to monitor this. Walk/scoot/cycle to school if possible or park further away and walk in.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal



The Royal British Legion Poppy box is in school once again this year. What has worked well previously, and we will continue this year, is older children will take the boxes to classes on Tuesday and Thursday this week for any children wishing to purchase a Poppy, wristband etc.
The suggested donations are -
Poppy Reflector - 50p
Pencils - 50p
Wristband - £1.00
Snap band - £1.50
The paper and sticker Poppies are however much you wish to donate

Enrichment at Southover we have a healthy mind, body and spirit

Football
We were delighted to send two teams to play in the Premier League Primary Stars tournament at Brighton's Elite Training Complex: a mixed and a girls' competition. The teams played the keenest footballing schools in Brighton and Sussex. They enjoyed the experience and learnt a lot both in football and character building. The teams did not win but worked hard and gained valuable experience. The teams were: Robyn, Flossie, Sophie, Brooke, Evie, Ava, Imogen, Annabelle, Joseph, Yaser, Owen, Rex, Josh, Winston, Edward, Archie, Arlo.

Back in Lewes, two Y5/6 teams played against LOGS. We had four matches and won three and lost one. The aim of the matches was to enjoy the game and they certainly enjoyed scoring goals and making tackles. The goalies made some super saves on both sides. For some children, this was the first time they had played in a football team.





Clubs galore have started with: football, netball, choir, French, Spanish, Taekwondo, Karate, badminton, Morris Dancing, chess, coding, book, Outdoor Project, Art, Drama, Ballet and a new 'multi-sports' club on Thursday with Mr Zobbo.

The children in Heron and Puffin Class have settled brilliantly into school life and have already enjoyed so many exciting learning experiences.
This term, we have been exploring what makes each of us special and unique. The children have enjoyed talking about themselves, their families, and the important people in their lives. We have also been learning about support networks and the people who care for and help us.
As part of our learning about the seasons, we have spent lots of time exploring the changes that autumn brings. The children have loved investigating the outdoors, searching for falling leaves, different types of bark, bugs, and signs of the harvest season. We have celebrated harvest by learning harvest songs and creating our own clay vegetables, carefully observing the different sizes, colours, shapes, and textures of real vegetables.
In our creative learning, we have been experimenting with a range of mark-making techniques. The children have explored using sponges, broccoli, paintbrushes and other tools to create interesting patterns and artwork, developing their confidence and fine motor skills along the way.
We have also made a fantastic start in our phonics learning. The children are becoming increasingly confident at listening for sounds in words and can hear the individual sounds in many three-letter words. Many are now beginning their journey into reading and writing, which is wonderful to see.
In mathematics, we have been investigating patterns, comparing and measuring objects, and exploring different ways to represent numbers. The children have shown great enthusiasm and curiosity as they build their mathematical understanding through practical activities and play.
We are so proud of how well the children have settled into Reception. They have approached new experiences with enthusiasm, kindness and confidence, and we look forward to all the exciting learning still to come this year.

The children in Year 1/2 have settled into their new classes well and are becoming increasingly confident in their learning. In History, we have been exploring different forms of transport, learning about how people travelled in the past and comparing these with the methods of transport we use today.
In Science, we have been investigating a range of materials and exploring their different properties through practical investigations. The children have enjoyed carrying out tests to discover which materials float or sink and investigating which materials are absorbent.
In English, we have been immersing ourselves within different stories and enjoying looking at character, setting and adventure! We enjoyed our Harvest Festival performance; celebrating with lots of songs, smiles and enthusiasm. Thank you to all the parents that attended!



It has been a fun and action-packed term so far for Year 3 and 4. The Year 3 children are now settling well into the Juniors and becoming accustomed to their new routines, even learning to wait a little longer for lunch! This term our topic is the Stone Age through to the Iron Age and to enrich our learning, we had a fantastic trip to Brighton Museum. The children took part in a hands-on workshop which took them back in time to life in the Stone Age at Whitehawk Hill. It was great fun and has really helped to deepen the children's understanding of Prehistory. Kingfisher Class have enjoyed their term of Forest School, with lots of opportunities to learn and explore in the great outdoors. Osprey and Skylark class will have this opportunity in the coming terms too. In Maths we have been securing our place value knowledge with plenty of hands-on practise and using apparatus. We are working hard to secure number bonds and key number facts which will in turn support our maths fluency as we progress through the school.

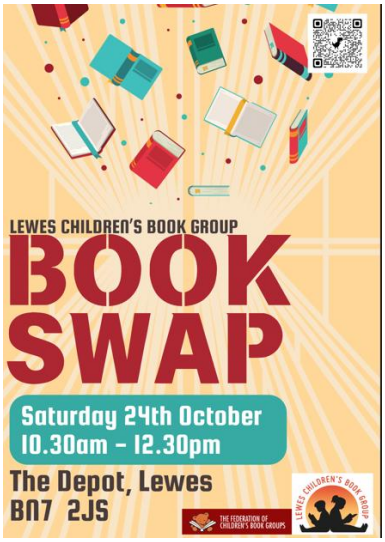
In science, year 5 and 6 have been learning about all things to do with electricity. They have learnt to draw circuits, investigate how changing the number of different components affects the output, created traffic lights using a challenging circuit and have designed and made prototypes of a fan to cool down our classrooms in the summer, which can even operate at different speeds.
This term, Year 5 and 6 have enjoyed an exciting journey into Ancient Greece! They explored fascinating myths and legends, learned about Alexander the Great conquests and delved into the city

states of Athens and Sparta. A real highlight was our Ancient Greek Day, when they dressed up, sampled traditional foods and took part in an immersive Rainbow Theatre workshop, stepping into the shoes of Ancient Greek children and bringing history to life!

Community News - We all work together —children, parents, staff, Trinity Church and the community.

A Message from the new Chair of Governors, Helen Parkyns

On Wednesday 14th October, the Full Governing Board had our second meeting of the school year. We discussed topics including the School's Development & Improvement plan; the initial data on the school's academic performance; and two governor monitoring reports looking at school meals and lunchtime arrangements. We also reviewed and approved eight safeguarding related policies, and the safeguarding governors will be in school after half term reviewing actions arising. Several of the governors will be at the parent/carer consultation evenings in November, please do say hello, or contact us at any time via clerk@southover.e-sussex.sch.uk. Helen Parkyns, Chair of Governors



School Hall for Hire

We like to utilise our resources out of school hours to support the community and to raise funds for the school. We will have the school hall available for hire in holidays from November.

Yours sincerely,

N. Fadden

Noel Fadden

NSPCC Website and Support

You may be interested in the support that the NSPCC can offer through their website at http://www.nspcc.org.uk/ In the section on 'Keeping Children safe' they provide a range of information, advice, and child-friendly animations and activities covering areas such as e-safety, anti-bullying, social networking, safe relationships, advice on talking about difficult topics…and much more! They also run a helpline for parents for help and advice, as well as for reporting concerns about children.

Compliments, Comments, Concerns and Complaints! Have you got something positive you would like to say about the school, or a comment you would like to make? Have you got something which is concerning you or an issue need to complain about? If so, please let us know in person, by letter, by phoning the school office or by email. We have set up an email specifically for this which will be monitored only by the head and the Co-Chairs of Governors: ***cccc@southover.e-sussex.sch.uk***



