

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

Southover CE Primary School

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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 November 2024

Dear Parents, Carers and the Community of Southover,

We were delighted to share the recent inspection report from the Church of England Education Team. They visited near the end of last term and saw a good school that provided a wealth of opportunities and great care. Thank you to the parents who shared their thoughts with the inspector and to the children and staff he met on the day.

The start of this term has seen a focus in assemblies on Anti-Bullying Week and 'choose respect'. We have talked about respecting the opinions of others, everyone being different and how you should stand up for others if you don't think they are being treated right, even if it is your friend who is being unkind. I asked them what we should RESPECT and the answers can be [seen here](#).

Sadly, we say goodbye to Gemma Atkins who has been working at Southover for nine years as a TA and MDSA. She has been a smiling, caring face for many children but leaves on Friday 22nd Nov to take up a different role. We say a big thank you to Gemma for her hard work for the children.

We would love to invite others to use our lovely library so we have a pre-schoolers' session on **Friday 29th November 9-9:30am**. Please come along with any little ones to share a book and enjoy the library experience. This invite is open to all little ones in Lewes so spread the word!

Continuously Developing the School – part of our School Development Plan *we have a healthy mind, body and spirit to allow us to 'Live, Love, Learn'.*

We have some more successful SEND Parent/Carer meetings planned for this term. All Welcome!

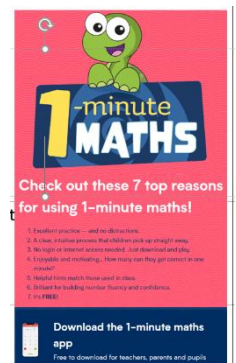
Wednesday 27th November at 9am **Neurodiversity**

Parent/Carer Forum: 'Supporting a neurodivergent child at Christmas' coffee morning (ESPCF) where you can ask questions and hear advice and experiences from others in a safe and supportive environment.

Tuesday 3rd December at 9am **Help with anxious children?**

Parent/Carer Presentation on Anxiety led by Sally Siggs, Senior Mental Health Practitioner

Want to keep your child's maths buzzing? Try this easy access and curriculum linked app. You can go online or use the app for 1-minute maths from White Rose Maths.



Enrichment - we *inspire each other* to learn through a *vibrant curriculum*



Heron class had a lovely time celebrating the Diwali story for our celebration topic. We made Diya lamps to help Rama and Sita find their way home and Sita even sent us some samosas as a thank you!



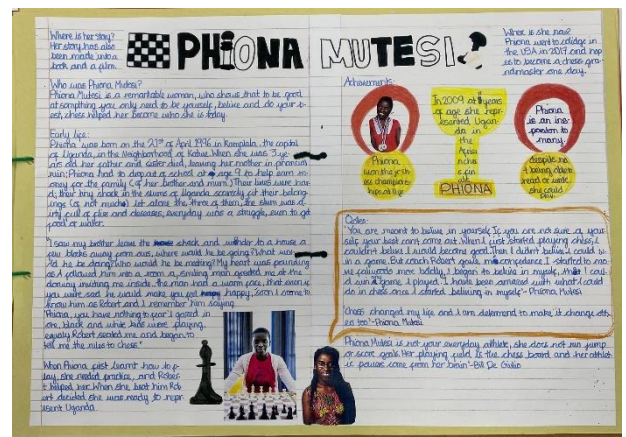
In year 1/2 we started our new English topic with a nature walk to the bank. Our task? To find the perfect stick! Sticks chosen, we headed back to the classroom and created our own Stick Man. After that, we listened to the Stick Man story and discussed our favourite parts and the plot. We then retold the story in the first person to our partners and some of us even performed in front of the class. We have used our senses, thought about Stick Man's feelings and written a postcard as Stick Man. Our next challenge is to create our own story using Stick Man for inspiration!



In English in Year 3/4 the children have been working hard on their persuasive writing skills. Children have combined their knowledge of the local area of Lewes, to write leaflets about Lewes town. Persuasive techniques including exaggeration, the rule of three and alliteration, have been applied to their writing: 'Booming Bonfire' and 'Glorious, Great Grange Gardens' are some examples of their super sub headings.

All classes in Years 5 and 6 have been enjoying Forest School and love being part of the natural environment. They've made wax leaves, clay models, and amazing stick creations! In Science, they have put their knowledge of electrical circuits to excellent use and produced some impressive electrical wire games – you may well want to have a go at home! We are well underway with our Christmas rehearsals and will soon be able to demonstrate our show-stopping three-part harmonies to you all. In PE, all classes have been making great use of the new play trail, developing their balance skills and creating imaginative sequences.

Year 6 have been researching aspirational figures from Black History and creating double-page spreads; they are now embarking on writing some gripping chase scenes which will have you all on the edge of your seats! In English, Year 5 have been excited to learn all about Ernest Shackleton and his expedition to Antarctica on board the Endurance. We will continue to practise diary writing over the next few weeks, eventually writing an entry all about being stuck on an ice floe and how they survived!



Music

The Choir are currently rehearsing for the 'One Voice' Christmas performance at Glyndebourne and were treated to a visit from an opera singer from Glyndebourne this week. The Choir really enjoyed their coaching session and then the whole of Key Stage 2 were treated to an amazing performance from the opera singer as well as the Choir themselves. In addition to singing at Glyndebourne, the Choir will also be performing at our Christmas Fair on 6th December.

Sport we have a *healthy mind, body and spirit*

Our footballers had a great day at the Lewes School's Cup Competition with 25 children taking part. We had a mixture of children playing their first tournaments and a strong group of experienced Y5 footballers. The girls and boys worked hard and were pretty tired by the end. Two teams finished 5th and 6th in their group and one team managed to get to the semi-final and then the final where they came out as winners with a goal in extra-time.

Well done to the super footballers:

Lenny	Layla	Nico
Leo	Dylan	Remy
Bertie	Vincent	Robin
Jacob	Mila	Edwin
Abraham	Florence	George
Alfie	Joseph	Cassius
Noah	Woody	Gabriel
Brooklyn	Logan	Buster
	Locryn	

Netball

Our netballers have been training on a Friday morning at 8am with Ms Miller. They were excited for some of the squad to play in the first round of the Lewes league.

The girls were initially nervous when they saw the other teams. They took it in turns leading the pre-match warm up by playing games Miss Miller had shown them such as "netball feet". They played with bags of enthusiasm and really enjoyed the experience. "We need to work on our marking" was their takeaway.

The netballers were: Bea, Ella, Annie, Sophie, Freya and Naiah

Office News

CLUBS: Please can we remind parents/carers to carefully check finish times of after-school clubs as we have noticed quite a few regular late pick-ups after clubs.

If you email the school please put always write which class your child is in as it makes it easy to quickly forward on a message.

If you pay for your child's school lunch at Southover can we politely remind you that all school lunches must be paid for in advance and via your online ParentPay account.

To ensure your balance is always in credit to cover lunches booked and to prevent it from falling into arrears, you can set up an alert to keep you updated. Please use the link below to help.

<https://support.parentpaygroup.com/hc/en-gb/articles/4409658040593-Payer-guidance-How-to-set-up-email-and-text-alerts>

Looking Ahead... Friday 20th December – 1:15pm finish & INSET Days – Monday 6th January 2025, Tuesday 22nd April & Monday 2nd June.

Governors Update - *We all work together* —children, parents, staff, Trinity Church and the community.

A note from the governors.

We were pleased to have a successful SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) report and thank all staff for their continued hard work and commitment. This follows the successful Ofsted inspection in January this year. The provision of all-round support and educational achievements are evident in both of these statutory reports which should be a great encouragement to everyone involved with the school.

As governors, we remain committed to the continued progress of our school. One of the ways we do this is by having designated link governors to different areas of school life. Please follow the link below to find out more information about our work and the particular roles of individual governors:
<https://www.southoverceprimary.co.uk/governors/>

With December fast approaching, we are looking forward to meeting you at one of the many pre-Christmas events.

Best wishes

Susi Pollard (Chair)

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

We have raised £237.66 for this year's poppy appeal – thank you!

Our Harvest Festivals were lovely occasions and the children read, acted and sang beautifully. Thank you for the massive turnout from families in the church. We sent off a huge harvest to the Lewes Foodbanks and £61 in fresh produce donations for Save the Children.

Keeping our children safe - a safe environment that meets the *needs of all*

Support for parents

Whatever family life brings, we're here to help

children.

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/>

Roblox: **Steps to keep your child safe**

Set a parent PIN so you have control of the safety settings

Go to 'Settings': In **browser**, this is a gear icon in the upper-right; On **mobile**, tap the 3 dots icon

Select the 'Parental Controls' tab; Toggle to turn PIN 'On'; Create and confirm your new PIN

Set controls on interactions

Change settings to control who can chat to your child (set their date of birth) or send them messages.

To do this, go to 'Settings' (as above), then: Select the 'Privacy' tab

Adjust the 'Contact Settings' and 'Other Settings'

- For children under 13, you can choose either 'Friends' or 'No one'

We are continuously working to ensure the safety of our children. Please speak to the Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL) – Noel Fadden - if you have questions or concerns. **Please see the attached Roblox guide for more info.**

Visitors to the school cannot use mobile phones in the building (this includes outside the office) unless guided by staff to a suitable space. If you are entering the school building you must sign in at the office and receive a lanyard. This means you cannot take your child into class if late – please bring them to the office.

These are all part of our safeguarding procedures.

Yours sincerely,



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

