

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

Southover CE Primary School

Telephone (01273) 473015

Headteacher: Noel Fadden

www.southoverceprimary.co.uk

Email: office@southover.e-sussex.sch.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 March 2023

Dear Parents, Carers and the Community of Southover,

This term's assemblies have focused on our key value, compassion. We have looked at where we see something that makes us feel sad and we do something to make things better. Children may come up with their own ideas of compassion and how they want to help others. We will do a foodbank collection on Thursday 23rd March to stock up supplies for those who need it locally.

Southover Arts Week 2023 will be May 22nd – 26th. You should have seen the letter inviting the community to come together to make it happen. Please express your interest in helping out as there is so much talent and experience in our community that we can tap into. Please email walker@southover.e-sussex.sch.uk if you are able to offer time or skills to make it a week to remember.

Sadly, we are saying goodbye to some members of staff this term. Jennifer Burrows has been at Southover for twenty years and taught many children in her calm and reassuring manner. She is going to be busy with several other things she does and so will stop teaching Kingfisher class at the end of term. We thank her for her devotion to the school over those years and wish her well in her other projects.

We are also saying good bye to Jo Templeton who has been a TA at Southover for seven years and ably assisted teachers and children in Y6. We thank her for the hard work and great reliability and wish her well in her new role. We are pleased to have Jonathan Freeman joining us to be the teaching assistant in Eagle class for the rest of the year. We also welcome Lucy Powell starting in Y5 as the teaching assistant in Nightingale class.

Supporting Each Other- ***we all work together*** —children, parents, staff, Trinity Church and the community.

Easter at Trinity Church

- **One Way** an interactive experience, using all your senses, on the life of Jesus is open at St John sub Castro, Saturday 1st April, Monday 3rd April to Thursday 6th April, 10.00am – 4.00pm
- Easter Craft Morning, Wednesday 5th April at Southover Church OR Saturday 8th April at South Malling Church. 10.00am – 12.00pm. Book online via our website trinity.org
- Good Friday 'An hour at the cross' 10.30am at Southover Church
- Easter Day: 9.30am at South Malling, 10.30am at St John sub Castro. 11.00am at Southover

New Library

We are planning to have a pre-school library session on Friday mornings: 9:00-9:30 where you can bring your pre-schoolers in to share a book and enjoy the library experience. This will start on Friday 21st April. Please let Lisa Walker or me know if interested.

Safeguarding at Southover

Last week, as part of our safeguarding procedures we practiced what we would do if we had to lock the school down. The children had an assembly about it on the Monday and then on the Tuesday morning we went through what we would do and locked down the school for five minutes. We will use this drill to help with school safety. The children responded really well to the practice. We regularly practice fire drills as part of the safety procedures we have. This reminds us that all visitors must sign in if entering the school building. We will challenge all visitors without lanyards/ stickers.

Please remind your children that the playground equipment is not to be used before or after school – and this includes pre-school children.

Southover Governors

The governors were pleased to see the children return to Southover after half term, and it is always so nice to see them enjoying being back at school after the holidays. Governors have continued to work on a range of issues, including the refining the strategy for the school, monitoring of finance and safeguarding issues, and preparing for Ofsted whom we might expect to visit in the coming year. In team news, we are sadly saying goodbye to Sally Davies who will be leaving the board this week. Sally has been a fantastic and supportive governor for many years, bringing a wealth of HR experience to the role. We also welcome Rhiannon Horton to the board this month, who many of you will know as a parent at Southover. Finally, we will be interviewing for a new Clerk to the board later this month.

Andrew Barnard – Joint Chair of Governors

Southover Chess Competition

The annual Southover Chess competition is taking place at the moment. We have twenty-nine children playing games at lunchtime and winning badges and mascots as they progress. We will have a Southover Champion and the top players will be invited to play in the Sussex regional competition in May/June and may move on to the South East finals and National Finals! Congratulations to all the children taking part as they are building their neural pathways, showing commitment and making friends.

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

Football is in full swing this term and we have had Y5&6 playing games in the Lewes league on Mondays. Thirty-four children have played in matches, performing brilliantly and representing the school so well. We have had lots of hard work and bravery in freezing conditions accompanied by some fine goals.

The children playing have been:

William	Oliver H	Lucas B	Freddy D
Arlo	Evje	Amaya	Leo
Zeb	Raff MJ	Carter	Samuel T
Edie Hastie	Crispin	Lucas A	Joshua
Ossie	Oliver M	Lexi	Sonny
Zayne	Alex B	Lara	William S
Toby	Pearce	Isaac B	Ben D
Finley	Gabe	Ivy	Arthur
Ben H	Raff S	Ben D	Emily B

World Book Day

Southover fully embraced World Book Day with a series of book-related activities. We had online author sessions, book sharing with other classes and lots of reading. Every class read the beautiful and thought-provoking book, *Flotsam*.

There were children and staff dressed for the occasion and an enormous bake off and sale. The sale raised nearly £150 and I even managed to sample a lovely chocolate cake with cherries, a Winnie the Pooh book, a blue-iced cake and a set of novels piled on top of each other; all in a day's work for me! Thank you to everyone for the efforts put in in finding costumes, baking and reading – and thanks to Ms Hayward-Tapp our Reading Lead. We decorated the classroom doors to fit in with the theme – check out the montage of doors and hopefully you will see your class door if visiting for the consultations.



Office Update

Can we remind parents that children off with sickness bugs are to be kept home for 48 hours following their last episode. This is to minimize the spread through the school to children and staff.

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

Our year 1s and 2s had a lovely time last term learning all about China. We wrote diary entries about Paddington's adventures in Beijing, we learned about life in China, including the geographical features and we made and explored sculptures in art. At the end of term, we celebrated with a Chinese Feast. We made and ate spring rolls and feasted on prawn crackers, egg fried rice and bananas in coconut milk for dessert.



Year 3 had a wonderful trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace. They enjoyed exploring the exquisite mosaics, the skeleton and the beautiful gardens. They all took part in a workshop where they learnt to write in Latin and use Roman numerals. Role playing in the Roman kitchen was good fun, but their strength and determination was needed for the grinding of the flour activity. Ask them where the 'toilet' was found!



Year 4 have been busy learning all about the Anglo-Saxons. Have a look at our display in the gym block which shows the Anglo-Saxon settlements the children designed. In science we used eggshells, instead of our teeth, and investigated what happened to them when left in coffee, coke, orange juice and vinegar. It was not pretty! In English the children have written some wonderful poems set in magical places using a variety of techniques.

In Year 5, we have made models of the Earth, sun and moon to understand their movement and made the solar system from playdoh to explore the relative sizes of the planets and their distances from the sun. We have used Oreos to create the different phases of the moon and even tested Martian soil for life! In art, we have explored colour and reflected our findings in our own colour boxes. In Geography we created potato mountains and drew on contour lines. Meanwhile, in English we had fun using persuasive writing effects to write an advert and a poetic rant. Now we are focusing on creating atmospheric effects in a Warning Tale.

Year 6 have been busy writing fast-paced narratives based on a video stimulus called 'Ruin', experimenting with light and reflectivity in Science and starting our new topic 'Crime and Punishment'. They have been rocking out on the ukuleles and enjoyed diving into the world of books on World Book Day. We have been brushing up on our decimals knowledge as well as enjoying some games of seated volleyball in PE. We are particularly excited about seeing everyone's decades day projects and finding out more about the inspirational people the children have chosen. Well done Year 6 on all of your hard work in spring term so far - keep it up!

Times Table Rock Stars - It's important that they use the latest versions of the app and website to ensure they receive the most secure, feature-rich and enjoyable experience of Times Tables Rock Stars. Some are missing out on key updates.

If using the website at home, please visit play.ttrockstars.com/reset to load the latest version in the device's browser or update the Times Tables Rock Stars app from the app store.

Please check out the extensive clubs list we have for this term. We have a new gym club on Mondays now.

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 Chair of Governors: cccc@southover.e-sussex.sch.uk

