



Southway Junior School

# Newsletter

Learning and Achieving Together

February 2025



Dear Southway Families,

I hope that you all have had a restful and recharging half term break. We have made a great start to the new term so far: Year 6 have been on a STEM day at Gatwick, Year 5 are off to Newhaven Fort, Year 4 have started an inspiring writing project based on Mr Penguin The Lost Treasure and Year 3 experienced Fishbourne Roman Palace yesterday.

On Monday, our term started with a very productive INSET day alongside staff from The Gattons. We met and discussed teaching and learning in both of our schools. We are looking forward to more opportunities to work closely on curriculum together later in the year.

Mrs Smith



## British Museum

Before half term, Year 6 took an exciting train and tube journey to London to see first hand artefacts about their topic: Ancient Egypt. The children were captivated by the Rosetta Stone and how it unlocked the mysteries of hieroglyphics; coming up close and personal with real life mummies; and being surprised by the size of the canopic jars.



## Mental Health and Wellbeing Week

Children across the school had a brilliant time celebrating Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week before half term. We came in on Friday in cosy clothing and each year group enjoyed a hot chocolate and a chat with friends. Throughout the week we looked at knowing ourself to grow ourself and our different Islands of Personality - which islands would you have? It was a brilliant week for all children to really think about how they can get to know themselves in order to grow themselves, as they were given opportunities to share ideas and thoughts with others and really think about what they can do to help their own mental health.



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### Year 3 Roman Adventure

The Year 3 children enjoyed a day full of fun and discovery at Fishbourne Roman Palace. The children had Roman workshops, went on a mosaic hunt, explored the museum and hunted through the gardens to expand their Roman knowledge.



### STEM Day Surprise



Following on from the success of winning the Mid Sussex Science Fair Competition last year, Year 6 were fortunate enough to have a trip to the Gatwick STEM Centre. The children were a credit to the school and themselves as they engaged, explored and challenged themselves in a range of STEM activities. This included programming with Lego, engineering a bridge and designing and creating a solar-panelled buggy.

### Dates for your Diary

#### March

- w/c Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Book Week
- Mon 3<sup>rd</sup> – Y5 Newhaven Fort Trip
- Thurs 6<sup>th</sup> – World Book Day – Dress Up as a Book Character**
- w/c Mon 10<sup>th</sup> – Science Week
- Mon 10<sup>th</sup> – Y4/Y5 Handball at TBHA
- Weds 12<sup>th</sup> – Y5/6 Stinger Netball Tournament at Downlands
- Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> – Fire Service visit to Y5
- Fri 14<sup>th</sup> – Hawking Class Assembly to Parents at 10am
- Tues 18<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Maths Challenge Workshop at TBHA
- Weds 19<sup>th</sup> – Y6 Open Afternoon from 2-3pm
- Weds 19<sup>th</sup> – Y3/Y4/Y5 Parent Consultations 3.30-7pm
- Weds 19<sup>th</sup> – Dance Festival at Downlands
- Thurs 20<sup>th</sup> – Y3/Y4/Y5 Parent Consultations 3.30-5.30pm
- Fri 21<sup>st</sup> – Comic Relief Fundraiser / Cake Sale – Dressing Up Day**
- Fri 21<sup>st</sup> Shakespeare Class Assembly to Parents at 10am
- Fri 21<sup>st</sup> – Author Jennifer Killick Visiting Southway

### Noticeboard

Please ensure that ALL items of clothing, bags, water bottles and lunchboxes are clearly named, so that we can return them to their rightful owners, if they are mislaid.  
Thank you!

#### House Points

<b>Beacon</b>	<b>2416</b>
<b>Dyke</b>	<b>2317</b>
<b>Hill</b>	<b>2284</b>
<b>Cliff</b>	<b>2191</b>

#### Attendance

**Whole School**  
**95.7%**

**Class with highest attendance 10<sup>th</sup> February**

**2025 to 28<sup>th</sup> February:**  
**Kahlo (99.2%)**



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# Achievements



These children have been busy in pastimes such as swimming, playing rugby, football, Brownies, winning science awards & taekwondo!

## Could your child be entitled to Free School Meals?

Some children whose families are on a low income are eligible for free school meals. We would urge all families who are not currently entitled, but feel they may meet the criteria, to apply at <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/free-school-meals/>

If your child is eligible for free school meals this will release vital **pupil premium funding** (£1,480 per eligible child) to the school which can be used to support your child; in addition the school can offer the following benefits :

Government funded school holiday food vouchers for a supermarket of your choice (approximately £10-£15 per school holiday week)

Free PE t-shirt and school jumper or cardigan or fleece every year (approximate saving £20)

Free book bag (£5)

50% off the cost of the Y4 and Y6 residentials

Free holiday clubs, including meals using your designated HAF code

If you would like assistance with completing your application, we would be happy to help. Please contact Mrs Frost on [welfare@southwayjunior.co.uk](mailto:welfare@southwayjunior.co.uk) or call the office to make an appointment.