



# Southway Junior School

# Newsletter

Learning and Achieving Together

February 2025



Dear Southway families,

I sincerely hope you have had the opportunity to read our recent OFSTED report. We were all very pleased with the positive feedback from the inspectors and look forward to continuing to work on our School Development priorities.

We are currently looking for a parent governor and a co-opted governor to join our Governing Body. You don't need any special qualifications or skills – but a keen interest in the school and the commitment to getting the best for our children are essential. If you have any queries about the role or your eligibility to apply, do get in touch as I shall be pleased to talk to you. We are particularly keen for one of our new governors to have skills and experience in finance – if that's you or someone you know, please consider getting involved.

This year's World Book Day celebrations will be taking place on **Thursday 6th March 2025**. A letter outlining all the planned events including competitions, book swaps and buddy reading will be sent out this Monday.

Best Wishes Mrs Smith

## Safer Internet Day



On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> Feb, we will be celebrating Safer Internet Day. The children will have an assembly from our computing lead Miss Tay on this year's theme, which is **'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from scams online'**. This Safer Internet Day we will assess the real scale of this issue and allow young people to share their experiences and ideas on how to tackle the problem. We aim to raise awareness of issues such as phishing and pharming.

## How Safe is WhatsApp for Children?

WhatsApp is one of the most popular instant messaging apps, used by over 2 billion people in 180 countries. It allows you to send and receive messages, as well as make voice and video calls. You can connect with people individually or join group chats where lots of people can contribute. All you need to set up a WhatsApp account is a phone number. However, children and young people can easily subvert the restrictions placed on its access. Although rated at 13+, all that is required is a phone number. All it takes is one child in a class to be on whatsapp, and all the others will wish to join. This can lead to increased vulnerabilities for child users. The NSPCC has released its own analysis about the dangers of the app. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/online-safety-blog/2023-01-12-is-whatsapp-safe-for-my-child/>



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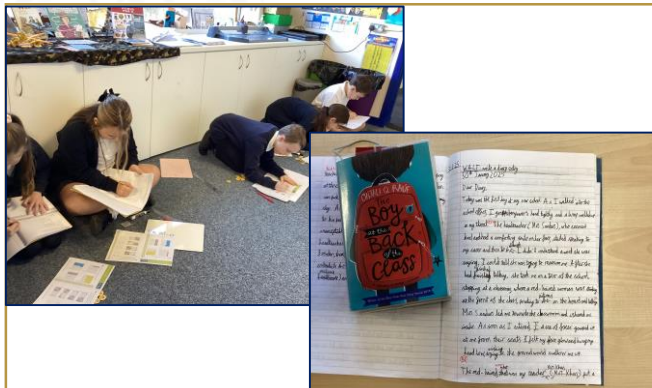
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Year 5 have been busy learning all about fractions and their equivalent decimals in Maths this week and in English they have been writing diary entries in role as Ahmet from 'The Boy at the Back of the Class' (our current class reader). Year 3 children went out on a walk to observe the links to Roman times in our area and created brass rubbings of the Roman road plaques in Burgess Hill.

Seven schools from across Mid Sussex, Crawley, and Brighton came together for an exciting afternoon of inclusive sports at the School Games Inclusion Festival at the Triangle on Thursday. The children took part in various activities, including cricket with Sussex Cricket, parkour with Crawley Parkour CIC, and dance with DanceHub. A good time was had by all!



## Dates for your Diary

### February

- Mon 10<sup>th</sup> – Book Fair in School for Y3/Y4 – 3.15-4.15
- Tues 11<sup>th</sup> – Book Fair in School for Y5/Y6 – 3.15-4.15
- Tues 11<sup>th</sup> – Safer Internet Day
- Tues 11<sup>th</sup> – Y5 Curling & Boccia event at the Triangle (pm)
- Tues 11<sup>th</sup> - Y3 Parents invited in to read with children 2.50-3.05pm
- Weds 12<sup>th</sup> – Y6 British Museum Trip
- Weds 12<sup>th</sup> – Book Fair in School for all Year Groups 3.15-4.15
- Thurs 13<sup>th</sup> – Book Fair in School for all Year Groups 3.15-4.15
- Fri 14<sup>th</sup> – Golden Awards Assembly to invited parents – 10am
- Mon 17<sup>th</sup> – Fri 21<sup>st</sup> – Half Term Holiday – School Closed
- Mon 24<sup>th</sup> – INSET DAY – School Closed
- Tues 25<sup>th</sup> – Back to School
- Weds 26<sup>th</sup> – Y6 STEM Event at Gatwick
- Weds 26<sup>th</sup> – Netball 'A' Team at Downlands (pm)
- Thurs 27<sup>th</sup> – Y3 Fishbourne Palace Trip

### 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
- w/c Mon 10<sup>th</sup> – Science Week

## Noticeboard

I regularly receive emails from parents and residents complaining about inconsiderate parking and driving around our school. This week we met with councillors to consider possible improvements for pedestrians to keep all safe. If you drive to and from school, please consider your role in keeping Southway children safe.

### House Points

|               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| <b>Beacon</b> | <b>1829</b> |
| <b>Dyke</b>   | <b>1788</b> |
| <b>Hill</b>   | <b>1761</b> |
| <b>Cliff</b>  | <b>1635</b> |

### Attendance

**Whole School**  
95.6%

**Class with highest attendance** 27<sup>th</sup> January to 7<sup>th</sup> February:

★ **Kahlo (98.4%)** ★



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# Achievements



Our children have been very busy again, enjoying activities inside & outside of school. They have been doing lots of reading, playing rugby & football, swimming, diving, doing gymnastics, Taekwon-Do, modern dance & karate, as well as excelling at maths, earning Brownies badges & being a zoo-keeper for the day!

Some children from Y3 & Y4 attended a basketball festival at Haywards Heath College on 23<sup>rd</sup> January. They learned lots of new skills & had fun playing against other schools in the locality.



Ruaridh from Turner Class managed to bag himself **TWO** special Ruby Noses this week!



Layla from Curie Class also managed to buy a Ruby Nose!