



Dear Families

Recently my attention was drawn to the following stark headline, supported by research.

‘Those who fall behind in reading tend not to catch up’

In February 2020, GL Assessment published some illuminating research – *‘Read All About It’* – looking into children and young people’s reading. This large study involved analysis of the reading abilities and GCSE results of more than 370,000 secondary school students during 2018/19, and contains a hugely important finding: **“Children who are weak readers will struggle as much in maths and science at GCSE as they do in English and in arts subjects.”** In other words, being able to read holds the keys to success across the curriculum, not ‘just’ in English.

“Our study showed that there is a significant correlation between reading ability. Even the more expressive subjects – art, drama, music – have strong correlations to reading ability. Creativity, in effect, will be enhanced by reading.” ... and GCSE results across all subjects”

In terms of reading age distribution, the study finds that, nationally:

A quarter of 15-year-olds have a reading age of 12 or below. One in five pupils aged 15 have a reading age of 11 or below, and **1 in 10 pupils have a reading age of 9 and below** 20% of 11-year-olds have a reading age of 15 or above.

Whilst we don’t teach secondary age children at Southway we do recognise the need to focus on the love of reading, instill that in our children and prepare them for their futures. We invest heavily in reading materials and resources and we are always looking for innovative ways to encourage and celebrate the written word.

On a separate note we look forward to seeing many of you at Monday’s rescheduled sports day and family picnic. Fingers crossed that the weather doesn’t upset our plans again.

‘There is only one corner of the universe you can be certain of improving, and that’s your own self’ **Aldous Huxley**

In the meantime have a lovely weekend
Mr P Newbold

Dates for your Diary

- Mon 4th July – Sports Day & Family Picnic 9.10am-1pm
- Weds 6th July – Transition Day
- Weds 6th July – Meeting for current Y2 parents 9am-10am
- Thurs 7th July – Y5 Survival Day at Southway
- Sun 10th July – Gattons Summer Fair – 12pm-2pm
- Weds 13th July – Y6 Leavers Production Performances to parents - 1.30 & 6pm
- Thurs 14th July – H S A AGM – 3.30pm – All welcome!
- Thurs 14th July – Y6 Leavers Production Performance to Parents – 6pm
- Fri 15th July – Y6 Leavers Party 5.30-7pm
- Weds 20th July – Golden Awards Assembly for invited parents 10am
- Thurs 21st July - Y6 Leavers Assembly to Parents 11am-12pm
- Thurs 21st July – Last day of term – school finishes at 1.30pm**

Noticeboard

Sports Day – Monday 4th July

Gates will open at 9.10am & will remain open all morning.

All children will need their *PE kit, trainers, sun hat, sun screen & water bottle.*

Please join us for a family picnic on the field, once the activities have finished.





Out of School Achievements



Chloe from Shakespeare has now reached Level 6 in trampolining. Here she is with her certificate & badge.



Alex from Picasso & Josh from Turner Class recently won medals for taking part in a football tournament in Southwick with their team, Southdowns.

Alberta from Picasso won this badge for dancing well & answering questions in her dance rehearsals.



Seb from Picasso won the Bert Askew award from the 8th Burgess Hill Scouts, after being nominated by his whole pack.



Scarlett from Turner has reached Level 2 in her swimming – here she is with her certificate & swimming hat.



Seb from Picasso won a medal in a recent football tournament, after taking part with Lower Beeding & Handcross Football Team.



Caleb from Einstein & Finley from Curie play football for Marle Place. Both boys won a replica World Cup trophy for playing well this season. Finley (on the right) is Team Captain & is also holding the League Winners' Trophy. Caleb (on the left) was awarded a special trophy by his teammates' parents & is also holding Finley's medal for winning the Mid Sussex Cup.



Arden from Picasso has reached Level 4 in swimming & can now swim 10m in each of 4 strokes.



Out of School Achievements



Zachary from Dali Class is doing really well in his swimming lessons & has been awarded his 100m certificate!



Charlie from Einstein has been awarded one of our School Values Certificates, having been nominated by his teacher, Miss Saumtally.



Nikita from Hawking has also been awarded a School Values Certificate by her teacher, Miss Tay.



Here is James from Hawking Class, with his teacher, Miss Tay & his School Values Certificate.

These children from across the school each won a book in our recent Book Raffle.

