

# SOUTH LEE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Dear Parents,

Well, the week has flown by, yet again. It was lovely to see so many parents at our pastoral meetings on Monday and Tuesday evening. The academic year has started really well, and the school continues to feel a happy, and vibrant, place to be. I was full of pride this morning showing prospective parents round and each one of them noticed how good the behaviour and manners of our children are.



On Monday, we had our weekly assembly and this was based on 'Kindness'. Mrs T talked about how we can be kind to one another and to slow down and appreciate when someone offers kindness. She also spoke about how we must learn to be kind to ourselves as we are all guilty of being hard on ourselves, when things don't go our way.

The weekly character strength allows us to focus on one strength at a time and it is really lovely that the whole school community is focusing on the same thing each week. Next week we will be looking at 'gratitude'.

On Tuesday we hosted our Year 7 Entry Scholarship Day. I spent the morning interviewing many of our Year 6 pupils who conducted themselves really well and they all gave some thoughtful and insightful responses.

We had a very successful sporting afternoon on Wednesday with four wins and a draw. Yet again all the children from Years 5-8 were involved in some way, a feat which we are always very proud of.

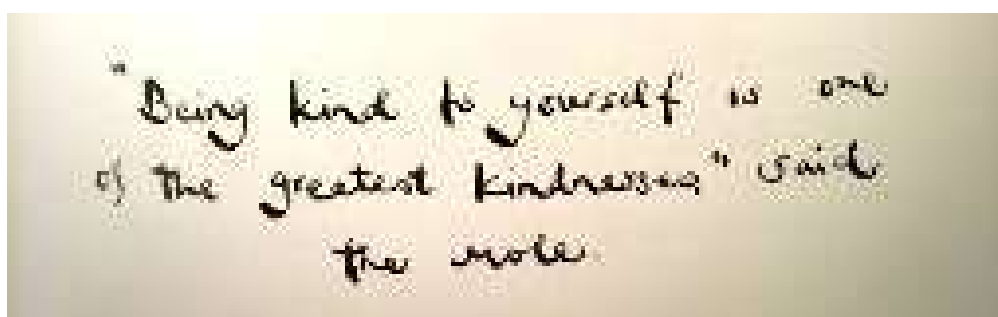
On Thursday, we acknowledged Mental Health Day by wearing yellow. The day got off to a bright and breezy start on the playground as the whole school came together for a short morning workout. Mr C's choice of song was 'Reach for the Stars' by S Club 7 and the lyrics were undoubtedly very poignant to the cause we were supporting. All sections of the school were involved and as we always say South Lee is definitely at it's best when the whole community comes together.

In the evening we hosted 'The Wonderful World of Maths'; an amazing event brought to us by Oundle School. Thank you to all the children and parents who came along to this event – we really hope you enjoyed it.

Next Friday we will be departing for the 'iconic' South Lee Prep School residential to the Hilltop Outdoor Centre in Sheringham. If your child is signed up, all the information, including the kit list, can be found in the weekly newsletter. Please pay special attention to the fact that they need both 'indoor' and 'outdoor' shoes!!

Have a wonderful weekend!

*S Catchpole*  
Mrs. Catchpole



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## OCTOBER 2024

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### **Week 7: Character Strength for the Week - Gratitude**

- Tuesday, 15th:        12:10 Reception Class Parent Lunch
- Wednesday, 16th:    14:30 U11 Rugby v OBH (A)  
                          14:30 U11 Hockey v OBH (H)  
                          17:00 PTA AGM
- Thursday, 17th:     10:00 RHS Cross Country (A)
- Friday, 18th:        Non-Uniform Day: Genes for Jeans  
                          09:30 Hilltop Departs
- Sunday, 20th:        11:30 Hilltop Returns
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### **Week 8: Character Strength for the Week - Humility**

- Monday, 21st:       16:30 Teatime Tunes
- Tuesday, 22nd:      08:40 House Meetings
- Wednesday, 23rd:   17:00 PTA Halloween Disco (Pre-School)  
                          17:30 - 19:00 PTA Halloween Disco (Reception - Year 8)

## **Thursday, 24th October 2024 - Friday, 1st November 2024: INCLUSIVE HALF-TERM**

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## NOVEMBER 2024

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### **Week 10: Character Strength for the Week - Self-Discipline**

- Monday, 4th:        13:50 Diwali Celebration Assembly
- Tuesday, 5th:       12:50 Catchpole Club Lunch
- Wednesday, 6th:    14:30 U13 Rugby v Framlingham Prep (A)
- Thursday, 7th:     Upper Prep Skills and Enterprise Morning  
                          12:50 Year 1 Parent Lunch
- Friday, 8th:        08:30 PTA Meeting  
                          08:30 Year 6 Parent Coffee Morning  
                          14:30 U9 Netball Tournament at OBH (A)  
                          14:30 U9 Hockey Tournament at OBH (A)
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### **Week 11: Character Strength for the Week - Integrity**

- Monday, 11th:      Anti-Bullying Week  
                          10:50 Remembrance Day Assembly
- Tuesday, 12th:     12:50 Year 2 Parent Lunch
- Wednesday, 13th:   14:30 U13 Rugby v Thetford Grammar and Brookes UK (A)  
                          14:30 U11 Hockey v Thetford Grammar and Brookes UK (A)  
                          14:30 U11 Rugby v St Joseph's College (A)  
                          14:30 U11 Hockey v St Joseph's College (A)
- Thursday, 14th:    Non-Uniform Day (Bring a Christmas Jar)
- Friday, 15th:       08:30 Year 5 Parents' Coffee Morning  
                          10:45 Year 3 Cake Sale  
                          14:30 U9 Netball v Fairstead House (A)  
                          14:30 U9 Football v Fairstead House (A)
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Regular Font: Pupils Only

*Italic Font - Parents' Invited*

# USEFUL REMINDERS

## Pupil Absence Request

For a child to reach their full educational achievement a high level of school attendance is essential. South Lee Prep is committed to providing an education of the highest quality for all our pupils and we endeavour to provide an environment where all pupils feel valued and welcome. Parents and pupils play a part in making our school so successful. Every child has a right to access the education to which he/she is entitled. Parents and teachers share the responsibility for supporting and promoting excellent school attendance and punctuality for all.

For children to take full advantage of the educational opportunities offered, it is vital that children are at school on time, every day the school is open unless the reason for the absence is unavoidable. The routines children develop around attendance and punctuality at school are the same as the expectations of any future employer in the world of work. High attainment, confidence with peers and staff and future aspirations depend on good attendance.

We are of course aware that family holidays are experiences that are important especially with our busy lives. If you do intend on taking your child/ren out of school, please complete the following form to request absence: [Absence Request Form](#)

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## Pupil Bake Sale

We are pleased to announce our upcoming pupil bake sales. Kindly send your child in with £1 to purchase a delicious homemade treat. Your generosity will encourage our pupils' creativity and help support our school community initiatives. Please ensure all baked goods are nut-free. Thank you for your continued involvement and support.

**15th November: Year 3 Bake Sale**

**29th November: Year 1 Bake Sale**

**22nd November: Year 2 Bake Sale**

**5th December: Reception Bake Sale**

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## Parent Coffee Morning

We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming Coffee Mornings, offering an opportunity for informal discussion, camaraderie among parents, and a chance to connect with the wider school community. Please email the office to confirm your attendance at [office@southlee.co.uk](mailto:office@southlee.co.uk).

**8th November: Year 6 Parent Coffee Morning**

**22nd November: Year 4 Parent Coffee Morning**

**15th November: Year 5 Parent Coffee Morning**

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## Reception Class Parent Lunch

Reception Parents are warmly invited to join us for the Reception Class Parent Lunch on **Tuesday, 15th October 2024, at 12:10pm**. This is a wonderful opportunity for you to spend time with your child and experience a typical lunchtime here at South Lee. It will also be a great chance to meet and chat with other parents, as well as members of the staff. We kindly ask that you confirm your attendance with the [school office](#) in advance, so we can ensure everything is in place for an enjoyable afternoon.

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## PTA AGM

The PTA AGM will be held on **Wednesday, 16th October 2024, at 5:00pm**, and all are warmly invited to attend.

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## Non-Uniform Day: Genes for Jeans

**Friday, 18th October 2024**, will be a non-uniform day, and pupils are welcome to wear their favourite pair of jeans in support of Jeans for Genes. This initiative raises awareness and funds for children with genetic disorders.

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## Teatime Tunes

Parents are warmly invited to Teatime Tunes on **Monday, 21st October 2024, at 4:30pm**, where children taking peripatetic lessons will be showcasing their musical talents. We look forward to seeing you there!

# USEFUL REMINDERS

## Hilltop Residential Trip

Our residential trip to Hilltop **departs on Friday, 18th October 2024 at 9:30am**, for the children of Years 4 - 8. You'll find a handy kit list below to help you prepare.

### Children will need to bring the following:

- Sleeping Bag
  - Pillowcase
  - Towel
  - Toilet Bag
  - Trainers/ Outdoor Shoes
  - Pyjamas
  - Torch & Batteries
  - 1 Complete change for evenings
  - Underwear
  - Socks
  - Slippers/ Indoor Shoes
- \*\* A tracksuit is best

### These may get muddy/ wet:

- 2 sets of old clothes (e.g. t-shirt, trousers/ tracksuit, trainers, waterproof coat)
- Thick socks, hat, gloves
- Baseball cap/ hat
- A plastic bag for your wet kit

### Activities include some of the following:

- Big Zipper
- Mountain bike riding
- Climbing (outdoor wall)
- Archery
- Bush craft
- Assault course
- High ropes
- Agility course
- Team tasks
- Aerial slide
- Super swing
- Caving

*All activities are led by Certified Instructors and adhere to the most stringent protocols.*

Children may bring up to £10.00 in pocket money (preferably in coins if possible). Souvenirs are available for purchase, and there is a tuck shop with a limited allowance for sweets. We kindly request parents to limit sweet packs to one, as we aim to promote healthy eating habits among the children.

**Please note that we are scheduled to arrive back at South Lee on Sunday, 20th October 2024 at 11:30am. When picking up your child, please park at the Victory Grounds to allow the coach easy access to the driveway.**

## PTA - Bags2School Collection

We are organising a Bags 2 School collection on **Monday, 21st October 2024** as part of our fundraising efforts. The school receives money based on the weight of the items collected. This is a great opportunity to clear out your wardrobes, with the company collecting bags of clothes from the school, weighing them, and donating funds based on the total collected. For more information, you can visit their website at [bags2school.com](https://bags2school.com).

They accept belts, socks, jewellery, clothes, shoes, bags, hats, bras, and scarves/ties. *However, they will not take duvets/blankets, pillows/cushions, carpets/rugs, soiled or ripped clothes, school uniform (with or without logos), or corporate/work clothing.*

**If you have any bags of clothes to donate, please bring them to the school office before Monday, 21st October 2024.**

## PTA Christmas Fayre - Stall Holders Wanted

The PTA would like to invite any parents **interested in having a stall at the Christmas Fayre on 12th December 2024 to get in touch**. If you have anything you'd like to sell, whether it's homemade items, food, gifts, jewellery, or if you run a small business, we'd love to hear from you.

Please email [ptachair@southlee.co.uk](mailto:ptachair@southlee.co.uk) to express your interest and secure a spot at this festive event.

# AWARDS OF THE WEEK



## Pupil of the Week

**Molly F** for always representing the school so brilliantly

## Head's Commendation

**Reuben T** for being brave and showing courage



## Artist Award of the Week

**Iris C** for her enthusiasm and independence



## Player Award of the Week

**Edward F** for Rugby (for his strong ball carrying and ferocious tackling) and **Molly F** for Hockey (for always leading by example and encouraging others around her)

## Drama Award of the Week

**Harry R** for great leadership in his directing work with clear ideas



## Musician Award of the Week

**Darren D** for leading the singing with a huge smile and beautiful voice

## Style Award of the Week

**Samantha L** for always looking smart in her uniform



On Sunday, **Tommy B, Kieran O'S-J, William T, Percy B, William W, Thomas W,** and **Harry T** participated in the Bury St Edmunds Rugby Mini-Festival, joining over 800 players for a brilliant day of rugby action – well done, boys!

# AWARDS OF THE WEEK



## Head Awards

**Pre-School: Jack C** for working so hard in Art creating his own self portrait | **Reception: Eva T** for exploring suitability of materials to create shapes | **Year 1: Beatrice B** for applying herself in every subject. She's a brilliant role model | **Year 2: Axel G** for having a positive and enthusiastic attitude towards reading and writing tasks | **Year 3: Mariah B** for coming in so well in the mornings, ready to start the day | **Year 4: Harry S** for his exceptional curiosity and wonder during Science experiment | **Year 5: Jensen B-S** for conducting his experiment in Science, with precision and care | **Year 6: Sener W** for engaging brilliantly in the STEM roadshow | **Year 7: Evie D** for being so animated in reading her continuing story of the landlady | **Year 8: Maisie B** for being amazing in her academic subjects and really working hard



## Apple Awards

**Pre-School: Florence M** for working so hard in French, learning very hard songs and **Lucia L** for always working so hard at home with her Jolly Phonics homework | **Reception: Emily G** for showing independence with self-care and **Winnie H** for showing such empathy towards her friends | **Year 1: Lincoln T** for his excellent dancing in drama and already learning his nativity line and **Shanmukha S** for his incredible attitude towards learning | **Year 2: Greer P** for writing a beautiful poem about Autumn and **Jack Jefferies-Wilson** for going above and beyond in his Maths work | **Year 3: Beatrice D** for fantastic effort with her times tables and **William J-W** for showing such enthusiasm with his reading throughout the week

# PUPIL SPOTLIGHT

## MOLLIE P



This week, we're excited to highlight the incredible efforts of David and Mollie P, a dedicated father-daughter team who recently completed an 11.5-mile walk to raise funds for their local Scout hut. Their commitment to this important community resource exemplifies the spirit of kindness and support we value at South Lee Prep School & Nursery.

The Scout hut plays a vital role in our community, providing an inclusive, disabled-friendly space for children to engage in various activities. It fosters friendships, teamwork, and personal development among young people. Recognising the significance of such a facility, David and Mollie set out with a goal to raise funds that would help improve and maintain the Scout hut, ensuring it remains accessible and welcoming to all children.

On the day of their walk, David and Mollie were filled with enthusiasm and determination. They tackled the 11.5 miles together, enjoying the beautiful scenery and fresh air along the way. Their journey wasn't just about the distance; it was about the shared experience and the meaningful conversations that unfolded as they walked. Mollie's positive spirit and David's encouragement kept them motivated, reminding them of the purpose behind their challenge.

Through their hard work and perseverance, they successfully raised £230 for the Scout hut! This impressive amount will directly contribute to enhancing the facilities and resources available to the children who use the hut, making it a better space for everyone.

David and Mollie's initiative serves as a wonderful reminder of how we can all make a difference in our community. Their story encourages us to get involved, whether through fundraising, volunteering, or simply supporting local initiatives. We hope their journey inspires other families to participate in similar efforts and foster a sense of community spirit.

We are immensely proud of David and Mollie for their dedication and hard work. Their commitment to supporting an inclusive environment reflects the values we instil at South Lee Prep School.

Well done, David and Mollie! Your efforts are truly inspiring, and we are grateful to have such wonderful role models in our school community!

# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## PTA Halloween Party

Join us for the Halloween Party on **Wednesday, 23rd October 2024**. The schedule is as follows: 5:00pm – 5:30pm for pre-school only, and 5:30pm – 7:00pm for Reception to Year 8.

Children in pre-school to Year 2 must be accompanied by a parent. Tickets are £5 each, payable in advance to the PTA account or by cash/card at the door.

PTA Account Details:

- Account Number: 60838624
- Sort Code: 20-16-12

Snacks, drinks, and sweets will be available for purchase, so please bring some pocket money!



**SGL TRAINING**

EVERY MONDAY - LEGS, BUMS & TUMS £9  
18.30 - 19.15

EVERY THURSDAY - LEGS, BUMS & TUMS £9  
07.45 - 08.30

EVERY WEDNESDAY - CIRCUITS £9  
07.45 - 08.30

EVERY FRIDAY - CORE FUSION £9  
07.45 - 08.30

EVERY WEDNESDAY - PARENT & BABY £10  
10.30 - 11.15

EVERY FRIDAY - CIRCUITS £9  
18.00 - 18.45

1:1 and small group Personal training sessions will also run on Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Sundays! Call to discuss

OPENING 4TH SEPTEMBER!

Sign up here  
<https://bookaby.me/sgltraining>

SGL TRAINING GYM, SOUTH LEE, PREP SCHOOL,  
VICTORY SPORTS GROUND, BURY ST EDMUNDS,  
IP33 2BT  
07765 65049

## SGL Training

We're pleased to announce that SGL Training is now available at South Lee Prep School. They offer specialist classes and one-to-one personal training sessions.

SGL Training will enhance fitness, build strength, and boost athletic performance, complementing our existing sports programmes. Sam Last, who specialises in child confidence and is also a health and wellbeing coach for adults, will lead the sessions.

Book online at <https://bookaby.me/sgltraining> or call 07765 695049.

## School's Out Activities

Looking for something to keep the children busy over the October half-term? School's Out has an exciting range of activities planned, from sports and games to arts and outdoor adventures – perfect for all interests!

School's Out is offering South Lee parents an exclusive 15% discount. Simply use the code **SOUTHLEE15** when booking to take advantage of this offer.

To learn more and secure your child's spot, visit: [School's Out Activities](https://www.schoolsoutactivities.co.uk).

OCTOBER HALF-TERM  
**School's Out**  
Activities

Suffolk's number one Activity Camp is coming to South Lee Prep School this October Half-Term! We can't wait to welcome children from all schools in the Bury St Edmunds area for spooky Halloween themed activities!

DISCOUNT  
Use the code **SOUTHLEE15** for an additional 15% OFF

**SOUTH LEE PREP SCHOOL**  
Victory Sports Ground, Newton Road,  
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 2BT

October Half-Term  
Mon 28th October - Fri 1st November

Winter Break  
Mon 23rd December -  
Thur 2nd January

Scan for info

[www.schoolsoutactivities.co.uk](https://www.schoolsoutactivities.co.uk)



# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



*Year 5 have been exploring the saturation point of water with salt! They showed great maturity, even creating their own risk assessments to keep things safe. Fantastic work, young scientists!*



*On Wednesday, our Year 11 boys hit the field for an exciting rugby match against St Margaret's – a fantastic show of teamwork and determination!*



*Year 2 had a fantastic day learning all about the lively Brazil Carnival! The children created their own colourful carnival masks – a brilliant burst of creativity!*

# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



*We celebrated World Mental Health Day by kicking things off with a whole-school workout!*

*Everyone, from our little ones in Pre-School to our Year 8s, joined in to get moving and energised, setting a positive tone for the day.*

*Together, we raised awareness for #youngminds and showed that taking care of your mental health is just as important as staying active.*