

SOUTH LEE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

As the days grow brighter and the first hints of spring appear, there is a real sense of energy and excitement in school. It has been wonderful to see the children making the most of the sunshine during break times and outdoor lessons - long may it continue!

Monday provided a particularly exciting start to the week as **Year 3 pupils stepped back in time for Viking Day!** Dressed in fantastic costumes, they fully immersed themselves in the experience - learning about Viking life, handling replica artefacts, and even trying their hand at some traditional skills. It was a brilliant way to bring history to life, and the children's enthusiasm made the day a huge success.



We also welcomed local author and illustrator **Lucy Stuteley**, who spoke to the children in assembly about the power of imagination. Her inspiring talk encouraged the pupils to think creatively and embrace storytelling in new and exciting ways.

Tuesday brought one of the highlights of the term—our ever-popular **Inter-House Pancake Flip!** With the sun shining down, the children showed off their flipping skills with great enthusiasm. It was great to see the older pupils on hand to support the younger ones, making sure our Pre-Prep and Pre-School children were fully involved.

Later that day, the school was buzzing with energy as we hosted the **West Suffolk Under-11 Netball Tournament**. We were delighted to welcome teams from a variety of local schools for fantastic afternoon of competitive sport.

On Thursday, we **celebrated World Book Day**, and once again, our children (and staff) did us proud, showing off a wonderful array of costumes. It was fantastic to see such creativity, from classic literary characters to modern favourites. The excitement continued with a fabulous whole-school lunch to mark the occasion. Do take a moment to check out the photos in this newsletter and on our social media pages!

Today, the **PTA hosted a glass fusing workshop**, run by the fantastic **Mrs. Mallen**, giving the children a chance to create some truly special **Mother's Day gifts**. Their designs were both creative and thoughtful, and we are sure these will be treasured by their recipients.

Excitement has also been building as, in the **early hours of tomorrow morning, 20 of our Prep School pupils**, accompanied by myself, **Mr. James and Miss Gross**, will be heading to the **French Alps** for a **week of skiing**. This is a fabulous opportunity for some of our pupils, and we know they are in for an unforgettable experience on the slopes. We look forward to sharing some great photos and video footage as the week progresses—so keep an eye on our updates!

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend!

With warmest regards,
Mrs Sarah Catchpole

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 2025

Week 11: Character Strength for the Week - Integrity

- Monday, 10th: British Science Week
- Thursday, 13th: Year 3 Parent Lunch
- Saturday, 15th: Ski Trip returns - Pra Loup (France)
13:15 East Anglian Prep School Cross-Country Championship (A)

Week 12: Character Strength for the Week - Optimism

- Monday, 17th: *14:30 U13 and U11 Football v Framlingham Prep (H)*
- Tuesday, 18th: Year 6 & 7 visit to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle
- Wednesday, 19th: *13:45 U11 Hockey v Orwell Park (A)*
14:30 U13 Football v Brookes UK (H)
14:30 U11 Netball v Brookes UK (A)
- Thursday, 20th: *16:30 Teatime Tunes*
- Friday, 21st: *14:30 U8 Tag Rugby v Fairstead House (A)*
14:30 U9 Hockey v Fairstead House (A)
14:30 U9 Rugby v Fairstead House (A)

Week 13: Character Strength for the Week - Perseverance

- Monday, 24th: Shakespeare Week
- Tuesday, 25th: 08:30 Upper Prep Senior Duke Expedition
Pre-School and Reception Parent Evening
- Wednesday, 26th: Year 1 visit to Great Cressingham Victorian School
14:30 U13 Football v Ipswich High (A)
14:30 U11 Netball v Fairstead House (A)
14:30 U11 Football v Fairstead House (A)
Pre-School and Reception Parent Evening
- Thursday, 27th: 09:00 Shakespeare Assembly
- Friday, 28th: *Pre-Prep Verse Speaking Final*
Easter Egg Hunt
TERM ENDS

APRIL 2025

Week 1: Character Strength for the Week - Resilience

- Tuesday, 22nd: Staff and Nursery INSET Day
Nursery Closed
- Wednesday, 23rd: Staff INSET Day
Nursery Open to All-Year-Round Children Only
- Thursday, 24th: **SUMMER TERM BEGINS**
Clubs Begin

Regular Font: Pupils Only
Italic Font - Parents' Invited

USEFUL REMINDERS

Pupil Absence Request

Regular attendance is essential for children's learning and development. At South Lee Prep, we work in partnership with parents to support excellent attendance and punctuality, which are vital for making the most of every learning opportunity. If you plan to take your child out of school, please complete the Absence Request Form: [Absence Request Form](#)

MyNametags – Support South Lee Prep School & Nursery

We are pleased to announce our partnership with MyNametags, where you can order personalised labels for your child's belongings. By using our unique **School ID: 8113** when placing your order online at www.MyNametags.com, 24% of each order will be donated back to the school.

Please remember, the School ID is not a discount code but ensures that the school is credited for your purchase. If you use the school name instead of the ID number, the order will not be recognised and the school will not receive the donation.

We encourage all parents to take advantage of this simple way to support South Lee while keeping your child's items organised. For more information, or if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

Year 3 Parent Lunch

We warmly invite our Year 3 parents to join us for a special **Parent Lunch on Thursday, 13th March 2025, at 12:50 pm.**

To help us with arrangements, please RSVP by emailing office@southlee.co.uk with your attendance and any dietary requirements. We look forward to welcoming you!

Years 6 & 7 Visit to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle

Our **Years 6 & 7 pupils will be heading to Stansted Mountfitchet Castle on Tuesday, 18th March 2025** for an exciting trip back in time! This immersive experience will bring history to life as they explore the reconstructed Norman motte and bailey castle.

Letters with full details will be sent home via satchel post, so please keep an eye out.

Tea Time Tunes

We invite parents to join us for **Tea Time Tunes on Thursday, 20th March 2025, at 4:30 pm**, where our pupils taking peripatetic music lessons will be showcasing their talents.

Come along, enjoy some wonderful performances, and celebrate the hard work and progress of our young musicians. To help us with arrangements, please RSVP by emailing office@southlee.co.uk.

Pre-School and Reception Parent Evening

We are looking forward to welcoming **Pre-School and Reception parents for our upcoming Parents' Evening on 25th and 26th March 2025.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to discuss your child's progress and development with their teacher. If you would like to **book an appointment, please kindly contact your child's form teacher directly.**

Year 1 Visit to Great Cressingham Victorian House

On **Tuesday, 26th March 2025, Year 1 will be visiting Great Cressingham Victorian School**, where the children will step back in time and experience what school life was like during the Victorian era. **The cost of the trip is £4.50**, and we kindly ask for payment to be made via bank transfer to:

Account Name: South Lee School

Sort Code: 30-91-49

Account Number: 00388098

AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Pupil of the Week

Mariah B for showing resilience and communicating well with others.

Artist Award of the Week

Charlotte B for her confidence and skill in drawing.



Player Award of the Week

Sener W for Football - the amazing progress he has made through the course of the term and **Iris C** for Netball - for her contribution at the netball tournament and always looking ahead to her next move and positioning herself well on court.

Drama Award of the Week

Iris C for being a credit to the school at the Festival, looking so smart in her school uniform and her amazing imaginative work in her lesson.



Musician Award of the Week

Lincoln T for showing real enthusiasm towards his music lessons.

Style Award of the Week

Hubert B for always looking smart in his uniform.



Linguist of the Week

Maisie B for effort and achievement in our speaking and listening task conducting a survey on when people watch TV.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Head's Award

Pre-School: **Robin D** for settling in to pre-school so well. | **Reception:** **Maxim W** for showing a real zest for learning in our new topic. | **Year 1:** **Wyatt C** for his brilliant attitude towards learning. | **Year 2:** **Luxmi P** for working hard in English and making fantastic progress in her creative writing. | **Year 3:** **Oliver O'C** for hard work and great enthusiasm throughout every lesson. | **Year 4:** **Beau G** for mastering the art of hieroglyphics in History lesson. | **Year 5:** **Sophia R-C** for showing fantastic work ethic in all learning. | **Year 6:** **Charlotte B** for displaying perseverance and pride in her work in Maths. | **Year 7:** **Freddie D** for having a calm and focussed approach to the start of each day. | **Year 8:** **Molly F** for helping out so effortlessly at the West Suffolk Schools Netball tournament.



Learning Disposition Awards

Pre-School: **Alec B** for having **independence** when creating his own story for book week and **Freddie T** for showing **curiosity** when in Forest school. | **Reception:** **Emily G** for showing her **perseverance** in our doubling work and **Aiden M** for his **independence** in literacy this week. **Year 1:** **Daphne B** for displaying brilliant **concentration** when writing narrative sentences and **Donnacha L** for showing amazing **curiosity** when learning about Mary Seacole. | **Year 2:** **Cooper L** for having an increased level of **curiosity** when trying new things and **Emilia L** for working hard on her phonics and improving her **independence** in reading.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Suffolk Festival of Performing Arts

A huge congratulations to our talented pupils for their fantastic achievements at the Suffolk Film Festival!

7 Years and Under - Verse Speaking

1st Place - Greer P
2nd Place - Frida F
3rd Place - Akira P
Commendations: Emilia L, Beatrice B & Lincoln T

8-9 Years Solo - Verse Speaking

2nd Place - Iris C
3rd Place - Ethan T

7 Years Solo - Acting

1st Place - Beatrice B
2nd Place - Akira P
3rd Place - Greer P

8-9 Years Solo - Prose

2nd Place - Iris C

7 Years and Under Duologue Verse

1st Place - Frida F and Akira P

9 Years and Under - Speech Repertoire

2nd Place - Lennon P
3rd Place - Elizabeth C and Agnes L

9 Years and Under - Solo Shakespeare

1st Place - Elizabeth C
2nd Place - Lennon P and Akira P
3rd Place - Agnes L

9 Years and Under - Duologue Acting

3rd Place - Samantha L and Lily G & Shia W-B and Anna C

8-9 Years Solo - Acting

1st Place - Lily G
3rd Place - Malakai A-W
Commendations: Ethan T and Samantha L

10-11 Years Solo - Acting

2nd Place - Derrick D

12-13 Years Speech Repertoire

1st Place - Maggie P

Trophies

7 Years and Under - Solo Verse: Greer P

7 Years and Under - Solo Acting: Beatrice B

7 Years and Under Duologue Verse: Akira P and Frida F

8-9 Years - Solo Shakespeare: Elizabeth C

8-9 Years - Solo Acting: Lily G

Adjudicator's Choice - Most Promising Junior Actor - Lennon P

12-13 Years - Repertoire: Maggie P

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Thank you to former South Lee pupil and local author, Lucy Stuteley from Imagination Education, for delivering an engaging assembly on her book for our Pre-Prep and Prep pupils.



*Our Year 3 pupils travelled back in time for an epic Viking Day!
From exploring Viking traditions to taking part in exciting activities, they fully embraced life as fearless Norsemen and Norsewomen.
What a fantastic day of hands-on learning!*

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



What happens when you mix pancakes, speed, and a bit of South Lee spirit? The ultimate Pancake Race, of course! Our pupils took on the challenge, flipping their way to victory in a hilarious, action-packed run. There were thrills, spills, and some very questionable flipping techniques—but most importantly, there were plenty of smiles!



A huge well done to Raif W (Grade 2 Violin – Merit), Amalie C (Grade 3 Violin – Pass), Lily G (Grade 1 Violin – Merit), and Ethan T (Grade 2 Singing – Merit) on their fantastic music exam results. Our peripatetic teachers work incredibly hard to support and prepare them, and the children have all performed brilliantly. Well done to all!

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Our school was bursting with colour, creativity, and characters yesterday as pupils and staff brought their favourite books to life! From classic heroes to modern favourites, it was a joy to see everyone embracing the magic of reading. Well done to all for making it such a fantastic day!

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



A huge thank you to Mr & Mrs Fang for their generous donation of a brand-new basketball hoop to the school!

The children are absolutely thrilled and can't wait to put it to good use. Your kindness and support mean so much to our school community.



Our talented pupils have been busy designing beautiful Mother's Day gifts at the PTA Glass Fusing workshop! The designs are coming along beautifully, and we can't wait to see the final creations. Such a lovely way to celebrate and show appreciation!