

SOUTH LEE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Mrs Catchpole's Review: Highlights from the Week
- Dates for your Diary
- Useful Reminders
- Awards of the Week
- Photo Highlights: This Week's Best Moments

Dear Parents,

After an incredible week away in the French Alps, I am delighted to be returning to school and sharing the many wonderful experiences we have all had. Our ski trip began in the early hours of Saturday morning, with a 2.00am departure to Stansted, followed by a five-hour transfer to the beautiful resort of Pra Loup. It has been an absolute privilege to accompany 21 children from Years 4 to 8 on this unforgettable journey. We are due to be back at 2.00pm on Saturday.



The progress they have made on the slopes since Sunday has been truly remarkable. Residential trips, while undoubtedly exhausting, offer something incredibly special—friendships deepen, resilience is tested, and the support they have shown each other has been nothing short of inspiring. Of course, there have been falls, moments of homesickness, tiredness, and the occasional illness, but these have been far outweighed by the laughter, achievements, and sheer excitement of the experience. These are the moments that will stay with us all for a long long time. A huge thank you to Mr James for organising this amazing trip and to Miss Gross for accompanying us too. These kinds of trips just can't happen without staff who are willing to organise them.

A huge thank you to Mr. C, Mrs. T, and Mrs. Martineau for holding the fort in my absence. I have, of course, been in daily contact, and it has been wonderful to hear about all that has been happening back at school. Monday saw the Pre-Prep Verse Speaking heats take place, and on Thursday, British Science Week activities provided a fantastic opportunity for hands-on learning—thank you to Mrs. Carter for organising such an engaging event. Our Year 3 Parent Lunch was also a great success, with every child having a special guest to share a meal with them.

Today, we celebrate Pi Day, with Pre-School, Pre-Prep and Prep pupils coming together to enjoy a special 'maths' lunch of Chicken and Bacon Pie, courtesy of Chef Rachael—I have asked Mr. C to save us some! I'm hoping the children will be able to tell you all about PI.

Looking ahead, our penultimate week before the Easter break, brings more excitement, with Years 6 and 7 heading to Stansted Mountfitchet on Tuesday, and our much-anticipated Tea Time Tunes on Thursday. I am very much looking forward to being back in school and seeing everyone again—I will hopefully catch many of you on the drive first thing on Monday morning.

With warmest regards,
Mrs Sarah Catchpole

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 2025

Week 12: Character Strength for the Week - Optimism

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

Week 13: Character Strength for the Week - Perseverance

Monday, 24th:	Shakespeare Week
Tuesday, 25th:	<i>Pre-School and Reception Parent Evening</i>
Wednesday, 26th:	Year 1 visit to Great Cressingham Victorian School <i>14:30 U13 Football v Ipswich High (A)</i> <i>14:30 U11 Netball v Fairstead House (A)</i> <i>14:30 U11 Football v Fairstead House (A)</i> <i>Pre-School and Reception Parent Evening</i>
Thursday, 27th:	09:00 Shakespeare Assembly
Friday, 28th:	<i>09:00 Pre-Prep Verse Speaking Final</i> 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

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**](#)

USEFUL REMINDERS

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.

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 4:30pm**, 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

Pre-Prep Verse Speaking Finals

We are looking forward to welcoming you to the Pre-Prep Verse Speaking Finals on **Friday, 28th March at 9:00am**. Emails have been sent to the parents of the finalists—if your child is taking part, we would be grateful if you could confirm your attendance by emailing the [school office](#). Thank you, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Damage to Vehicle

Sadly, a **red vehicle registration no: EJ60HFK** belonging to a member of staff, was accidentally damaged this morning at the front of the main building. This may have been a parent or a delivery, we are unsure. If you know anything or saw anything please let the office know. Thank you

AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Pupil of the Week

Henry D for his extraordinary leadership in the Egg Landing Project, making sure all his group members felt valuable.

Artist Award of the Week

Jameson T for creating a wonderful mirror drawing of himself in Maths.



Drama Award of the Week

Paul C and Eliot C for fantastic concentration in LAMDA.



Musician Award of the Week

Freya F for super sight reading and playing in a new key on the piano.

Style Award of the Week

Charlotte B for always looking smart in her uniform.



Linguist of the Week

Samantha L for always working very hard, productively, neatly and independently, allowing her to complete extension tasks. This week, she was able to understand food orders from a menu and work out what the bill was going to be in euros, writing the numbers in French.

AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Head's Award

Pre-School: **Niamh C** for fantastic communication in circle time. | **Reception:** **Flynn L** for excellent perseverance with his sentences. | **Year 1:** **Daphne B** for brilliant perseverance when memorising her verse speaking poem. | **Year 2:** **Jack J-W** for getting involved with class discussions and making good progress in his writing. | **Year 3:** **William J-W** for amazing engagement in the Egg Landing Project. | **Year 4:** **Ruby R** for amazing engagement in the Egg Landing Project. | **Year 5:** **Isaiah N** for amazing engagement in the Egg Landing Project. | **Year 6:** **Sener W** for amazing engagement in the Egg Landing Project. **Year 7:** **Derrick D** for amazing engagement in the Egg Landing Project. | **Year 8:** **Maggie P and Luke S** for amazing engagement in the Egg Landing Project.



Learning Disposition Awards

Pre-School: **River B** for showing kindness to all her peers and **Theodora R** for showing fantastic concentration in her Art lesson. | **Reception:** **Anastasia B** for her excellent concentration in our Maths lessons and **Eva T** for always being kind and helpful. | **Year 1:** **Mateo V** for brilliant curiosity when learning about the 5-series and **Lincoln T** for growing independence across the curriculum. | **Year 2:** **Reuben T** for having perseverance with his handwriting and **Shonagh O'S-J** for having fantastic levels of concentration in her Maths lesson.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Year 8 have been making some noise—literally! From strumming strings to blasting brass, they've been exploring the science of sound and how different instruments create music. A lesson full of vibrations, pitch, and plenty of fun!



Our skiers set off for a week of adventure in the stunning French Alps and they're already making the most of it — whizzing down the runs, mastering new skills, and soaking up the stunning mountain views.



PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



A wonderful afternoon of good food and great company at our Year 3 Parent Lunch!

It was a pleasure to welcome our Year 3 families to share a meal, laughter, and conversation with their children. Moments like these make our South Lee community so special!



It was all about creativity, teamwork, and a bit of balloon power as our pupils took on the Egg Drop Challenge! Using newspapers, balloons, tape, string, straws, and plastic bags, they designed and built the ultimate landing systems to keep their eggs safe.

Then came the big moment... a dramatic drop from the fire escape! Would their eggs survive, or was it a scrambled disaster? A cracking day of problem-solving, innovation, and hands-on science fun!

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



Our very own Maggie P had the honour of unveiling Denbury's new show home at the St Edmunds Gate development. Maggie's winning children's bedroom design for the townhouse has been brought to life, and it looks fantastic. Well done, Maggie – we are so very proud of you!



*Happy Pi Day!
Today, we're celebrating the wonders of mathematics with all things π - whether it's problem-solving, fun activities, or even a slice of pie!*

