

# 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
- Staff Spotlight: Mrs. Catchpole
- Photo Highlights: This Week's Best Moments

Dear Parents,

I hope this letter finds you well. It has been a busy and productive week here at South Lee Prep, and I am delighted to share some of the highlights with you.

We began the week with our Eco Warrior assembly, led by Mrs Carter. As part of our commitment to sustainability, we have introduced a more rigorous recycling system, ensuring that food waste, general waste, and recyclable items are correctly separated. To reinforce this initiative, we have removed general waste bins from classrooms and offices, and I am pleased to report that the children have embraced this change with enthusiasm and diligence.

On Tuesday, we were delighted to welcome Year 7 and Year 8 parents to our Parent Lunch. It was wonderful to see so many of you enjoying a delicious meal together, featuring Chinese Chicken Chow Mein with vegetables. In the evening, we held our first Spring Term Parents' Evening, which provided an invaluable opportunity to discuss pupils' progress and achievements.

Despite the disappointment of having to cancel our home fixtures on Wednesday, Mr James took a team to Orwell Park for a hockey match, where they returned victorious and undefeated—an excellent result!

Thursday saw our Year 6 Parent Lunch, which was another enjoyable occasion. The feedback on Chef Rachael's culinary skills was outstanding, with particular praise for her homemade Yorkshire puddings, which I highly recommend trying if you have the opportunity.

Today, our Under-9 pupils represented the school in fixtures at Ipswich High and St Joseph's, demonstrating great sportsmanship and teamwork.

Mr Catchpole received some truly outstanding news regarding one of our Year 8 pupils. Luke S recently participated in the Intermediate Maths Challenge, a competition primarily designed for Year 10 and 11 students, and achieved a Silver Award. To our knowledge, this is the best result ever attained by a South Lee pupil in this competition. This is an extraordinary achievement for someone of his age. We are immensely proud of Luke's accomplishment and the dedication he has shown.

Looking ahead to next week, we have a number of exciting events planned, including Year 3 Viking Day, World Book Day celebrations, Pancake Racing, and the Book Fair.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of the importance of considerate driving and parking etiquette on the school driveway. We appreciate that pick-up times can be particularly busy, and I kindly ask that you remain patient and mindful of others. If you arrive early, please pull up to the bottom of the driveway. During peak times, the middle lane may be used, but we must ensure that Mayfield Road remains unobstructed. We have arranged for new road markings to clarify the flow of traffic and will be introducing additional parent parking spaces, though please be aware that these may result in temporary blockages. Alternatively, parents who require more time at school are welcome to use the Victory Ground car park and walk over. While we may not have perfected the system, we continually strive to improve it, and we greatly appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable weekend.

With warmest regards,  
Mrs Sarah Catchpole



# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MARCH 2025

---

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

- Saturday 1st & Sunday 2nd: *Suffolk Festival of Performing Arts*
- Monday, 3rd: Year 3 Viking Day  
Local Author - Lucy Stuteley leading Pre-Prep and Prep Assemblies  
*16:30 - 19:00 Years 4 - 8 Subject Parents Evening*
- Tuesday, 4th: 10:45 Inter House Pancake Race  
*15:00 U11 Netball Tournament (H)*
- Wednesday, 5th: *14:30 U13 Netball v Orwell Park (A)*  
*14:30 U11 Football v St Margaret's (A)*
- Thursday, 6th: World Book Day  
Usborne Book Fair  
12:10 Whole School Book Day Launch  
13:50 - 14:10 Academic Focus Group
- Friday, 7th: *08:30 PTA Meeting*  
Mother's Day Glass Fusing Workshop
- Saturday, 8th: Ski Trip departs - Pra Loup (France)

---

## Week 11: Character Strength for the Week - Integrity

- Monday, 10th: British Science Week
- Thursday, 13th: Year 3 Parent Lunch
- Friday, 14th: 14:00 U9 Hockey v Littlegarth Festival (A)  
14:00 U9 Rugby v Littlegarth Festival (A)
- 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: House Netball & Football Matches
- 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)*

---

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](http://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.

---

## South Lee Jute Bags

**Our stylish South Lee jute bags are now available for just £5.00 each!**

These eco-friendly bags are perfect for carrying your essentials and are a great way to show your school spirit. Available from the office, they're ideal for shopping trips, daily use, or as a thoughtful gift. Don't miss out—pop by the office to grab yours today!

---

## Year 3 Viking Day

On **Monday 3rd March 2025, Year 3 will have Viking Day**, with activities led by a Viking expert. Students can wear Viking costumes (ideas attached), and we will also make shields and helmets in class. Activities include Viking board games, a learning walk, artifact exploration, and a Viking battle re-enactment.

The cost, subsidised by the school, is **£15.00 per child**. Please make payments to **South Lee School Ltd, Lloyds Bank, Account Number: 00388098, Sort Code: 30-91-49**, and email Mr. Abbott or the office once paid.

---

## World Book Day

We look forward to celebrating **World Book Day on Thursday, 6th March 2025**. Children are invited to dress as their favourite book character, with an Eco-Warrior prize for the best homemade costume.

We will also host an Usborne Book Fair, where children can purchase a book—please send them in with money if they wish to take part. A special World Book Day lunch will be served.

---

## Glass Fusing Fun – A Handmade Surprise for Mum!

The PTA is organising a Glass Fusing Workshop for pupils from **Reception to Year 8 on Friday, 7th March 2025**. This is a fantastic opportunity for children to try something new and create a unique Mother's Day gift.

Letters and forms have been sent home via satchel post. If your child would like to take part, please complete and return the form to the school office. **Payment should be made directly to the PTA account (Account No: 6083 8624 | Sort Code: 20-16-12)**.

---

## Parent Lunch

We warmly invite parents to join their child for a special lunch at school. To confirm your attendance, please RSVP to [office@southlee.co.uk](mailto:office@southlee.co.uk) and let us know of any dietary requirements.

**13th March: Year 3 Parent Lunch at 12:50pm**

# AWARDS OF THE WEEK



## Pupil of the Week

**Luke S** for achieving a silver award in the Intermediate Maths Challenge.

## Artist Award of the Week

**Lily G** for her positive attitude in Art.



## Player Award of the Week

**Derrick D** for Hockey - implementing the stick work skills he learnt in the week and successfully performing them throughout the game.

## Drama Award of the Week

**Freddie C** for for trying hard to learn his lines for Shrek.



## Musician Award of the Week

**Christian M** for bringing into school and performing on the Guzheng (Chinese stringed instrument) to his class. At lunchtime, Christian, Sener and Ewan formed a band!

## Style Award of the Week

**David O'S-J** for always looking smart in his uniform.



## Linguist of the Week

**Amalie C** for making excellent use of the Showbie App to improve her French pronunciation. She posted a second recording with the improvements I had suggested and sounded very authentic. Well done Amalie!

# AWARDS OF THE WEEK



## Head's Award

**Pre-School:** **Fiachra L** for being a great class role model. | **Reception:** **Riyan P** for embracing his first week at South Lee Prep. | **Year 1:** **Olivia P** for her kind, helpful and caring nature within South Lee. | **Year 2:** **Shonagh O'S-J** for demonstrating kindness towards her friends. | **Year 3:** **Mariah B** for excellent work on Perimeter in Maths. | **Year 4:** **Kieran O'S-J** for being really helpful to Mrs. Arnold this week. | **Year 5:** **Iris C** for her polite and respectful approach to conducting a Science experiment, collecting data from teachers and peers. | **Year 6:** **Edith A-B** for for completing some fabulous English and Science homework. | **Year 7:** **Ivanna K** for being a supportive, calm and focussed member of the Upper Prep community. | **Year 8:** **Maggie P** for continually showing zest in all aspects of school life.



## Learning Disposition Awards

**Pre-School:** **Theodora R** for showing empathy and kindness to those around her and **Poppy O'C** for using fantastic communication skills in the classroom. | **Reception:** **Archie H** for being so brave and always trying so hard with his work and **Winnie H** for great independence during her literacy work. | **Year 1:** **Shanmukha S** for showing wonderful curiosity in our Science lesson and **Beatrice B** for showing brilliant empathy when helping her class members. | **Year 2:** **Edison L** for having great concentration during phonics lessons and **Greer P** for empathy when a friend was upset.

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT: MRS. CATCHPOLE



This week, we are proud to highlight Mrs. Catchpole, who, alongside her daughters Ellie and Katie, and her sister Julie, is taking part in the Pink Ribbon Walk to raise funds and awareness for Breast Cancer Now. The event will take place at **Blenheim Palace on 10th May 2025**, and it is a cause close to Mrs. Catchpole's heart.

Breast Cancer Now is an organisation that funds world-class research into breast cancer and provides life-changing care for those affected by the disease. Mrs. Catchpole's family has been deeply impacted by breast cancer, having lost her mother, Lyn Walsh (Ellie and Katie's nana), to the disease over 23 years ago. Recently, her close friend, just 29 years old, has begun her own challenging journey of fighting breast cancer. These personal experiences have made Mrs. Catchpole even more determined to support Breast Cancer Now's important work.

The statistics are deeply concerning - by 2030, it's estimated that 1.2 million women will be living with breast cancer, a stark reminder of the critical need for research and support services. Breast Cancer Now is uniting scientists, healthcare professionals, and supporters to fund research and discover life-saving treatments while offering expert support to those who are affected, every step of the way.

Mrs. Catchpole, Ellie, Katie, and Julie are taking on the Pink Ribbon Walk 2025 to help contribute to this vital cause. The walk is not only a way to raise much-needed funds but also a powerful opportunity to show solidarity with those who are facing breast cancer.

If you would like to show your support, please consider sponsoring Mrs. Catchpole's walk through her JustGiving page: [\*\*Sarah Catchpole – JustGiving\*\*](#). Every donation, no matter the size, will directly support Breast Cancer Now's research and care services. Your generosity will help bring us one step closer to a future where no one has to face breast cancer alone.

We are incredibly proud of Mrs. Catchpole and her family for their commitment to this cause and encourage our school community to get involved and support them however you can.

Thank you for taking the time to visit her page and consider making a difference in the lives of those affected by breast cancer.

# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



*Our Years 6-8 pupils were treated to a brilliant Martineau Lecture, delivered by Mr. Sam Lebbon, Head of Biology at Framlingham College. His engaging talk on biology sparked curiosity, deepened understanding, and left our pupils thoroughly inspired!*

*A huge thank you to Mr. Lebbon for bringing science to life in such an exciting way!*



*This month's Catchpole Club Lunch was extra special as our Years 7 & 8 pupils were joined by their parents for a delicious lunch together. It was a lovely chance to sit down, chat, and share a meal, making it a truly memorable afternoon.*

*A big thank you to everyone who came along—it's moments like these that make South Lee feel like one big family!*

# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



*This month's Catchpole Club Lunch was extra special as our Years 7 & 8 pupils were joined by their parents for a delicious lunch together. It was a lovely chance to sit down, chat, and share a meal, making it a truly memorable afternoon.*

*A big thank you to everyone who came along—it's moments like these that make South Lee feel like one big family!*

---