

SOUTH LEE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents,

Happy New Year!

Our staff have completed their termly training, including essential safeguarding updates, ensuring we are thoroughly prepared for the term ahead.

The new term began on Tuesday with a whole school assembly where we explored the importance of fresh starts and positive beginnings. Our January Joys initiative is now underway, and I have attached a list of the engaging activities our dedicated staff are leading during breaktimes and lunchtimes to brighten the winter weeks.



With the weather turning particularly chilly, please ensure the children are wrapped up warmly. That said, we know how resilient they are, embracing outdoor play and activities with enthusiasm.

On Wednesday, Mr. C held the first School Council meeting of the term. The children contributed some excellent ideas for enhancing their playtime experience, including swings, new play equipment, and buddy benches. It is wonderful to see such creativity and care for the school community.

Later that day, I had the pleasure of watching some outstanding football and netball matches. The level of skill and sportsmanship on display was truly impressive.

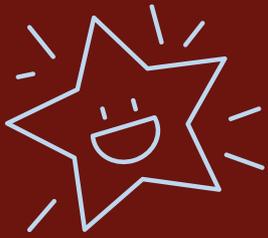
Thursday saw our delightful Year 5 Parent Lunch, with every child accompanied by an adult to share a lovely meal together. Today, we hosted our Reception class coffee morning and held our first whole school celebration assembly of 2025 – a weekly highlight where we come together to acknowledge achievements across the school.

I have just come away from a Catchpole Club Lunch with our Year 7 and 8 pupils. The conversations are always engaging, and it is inspiring to hear their thoughtful insights and perspectives.

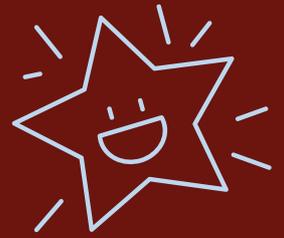
As C.S. Lewis wisely said, "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."

Thank you for your continued support. Have a restful weekend.

Best regards,
Mrs Catchpole



JANUARY JOYS!



TUE, 07TH:	DISNEY KARAOKE	AM BREAK
WED, 08TH:	HIDE & SEEK WITH Y8 OUTSIDE	AM BREAK
THU, 9TH:	LOOM BANDS	AM BREAK
FRI, 10TH:	HAMA BEADS	AM BREAK
MON, 13TH	FREESTYLE TO YOUR FAVOURITE FRENCH/ SPANISH TUNES	AM BREAK
TUE, 14TH:	MAKING POPCORN IN THE FOOD TECH ROOM	AM BREAK
WED, 15TH:	TOWER BUILDING COMPETITION	AM BREAK
THU, 16TH:	LISTENING TO A STORY AND MINDFUL READING	AM BREAK
FRI, 17TH:	SCAVENGER HUNT	AM BREAK
MON, 20TH:	HIT THE BUTTON CHALLENGE - BEAT THE TEACHER	LUNCHTIME
TUE, 21ST:	DISCO DANCING FREESTYLE	AM BREAK
WED, 22ND:	DRAW WITH ROB	AM BREAK
THU, 23RD:	MR A'S BIG QUIZ!	AM BREAK
FRI, 24TH:	SOUTH LEE EARLY MORNING WORKOUT	8:40AM
MON, 27TH:	BEAT THE TEACHER AT TABLE TENNIS IN THE HALL	AM BREAK
TUE, 28TH:	HOT CHOCOLATE AND A CARTOON	AM BREAK
WED, 29TH:	SARDINES WITH MR. M	AM BREAK
THU, 30TH:	BOOMWACKER BAND YOGA (YEARS 3-8)	AM BREAK LUNCHTIME
FRI, 31ST:	HOOK-A-DUCK	AM BREAK

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

JANUARY 2025

Week 3: Character Strength for the Week - Nurture

- Monday, 13th: NSPCC Assembly
Year 2 Swimming begins
- Tuesday, 14th: 12:50 Pillar Lunch
Year 1 Swimming begins
16:00 - 17:00 Reception Class Roadshow
- Wednesday, 15th: *14:30 U13 Netball v Thetford Grammar (H)*
14:30 U13 Football v Thetford Grammar (H)
14:30 U11 Football v Ipswich High (H)
- Thursday, 16th: *12:50 Year 4 Parent Lunch*
- Friday, 17th: *08:30 Year 1 Parent Coffee Morning*
14:30 U8 Tag Rugby v Barnardiston Hall (A)
14:30 U9 Rugby v Barnardiston Hall (A)
14:30 U9 Hockey v Barnardiston Hall (A)

Week 4: Character Strength for the Week - Honesty

- Monday, 20th: 13:15 Year 2 NSPCC Workshop
13:50 - 14:50 Years 5 & 6 NSPCC Workshops
- Tuesday, 21st: 13:30 Eco-Warrior Meeting
15:00 U9 Dodgeball Tournament (H)
- Wednesday, 22nd: *14:30 U13 Netball v Stoke College (H)*
14:30 U13 Football v Stoke College (H)
14:30 U11 Netball v Thetford Grammar (H)
14:30 U11 Football v Thetford Grammar (H)
- Thursday, 23rd: Year 5 Entrance Scholarship Day (Current Year 4 Pupils - Academic)
- Friday, 24th: *08:30 Year 2 Parent Coffee Morning*
14:15 U8 Tag Rugby v Framlingham Prep & OBH (A)
14:15 U9 Rugby v Framlingham Prep & OBH (A)
14:15 U9 Hockey v Framlingham Prep & PBH (A)

Week 5: Character Strength for the Week -Empathy

- Monday, 27th: Pre-Prep Verse Speaking Launch
13:50 - 14:10 Academic Focus Group
16:30 - 18:30 Ski session @ Suffolk Ski Centre
- Tuesday, 28th: *10:00 U13 Suffolk Schools Dodgeball Competition (A)*
13:30 Food Committee Meeting
- Wednesday, 29th: Chinese New Year Feast
14:30 U11 Netball v Holmwood House (A)
14:30 U11 Football v Holmwood House (A)
- Thursday, 30th: Enrichment - Egg Cups for Easter & Mothers' Day Mugs
12:00 Pre-Prep Grandparent Lunch
- Friday, 31st: *08:30 Year 3 Parent Coffee Morning*
14:30 U8 Tag Rugby v St Margaret's (A)
14:30 U9 Rugby v St Margaret's (A)
14:30 U9 Hockey v St Margaret's (A)
19:00 PTA Sip & Paint

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](#)

Pupil Photograph Consent

We are currently in the process of updating our photograph consent forms. If you do not wish for your child to be photographed, please email office@southlee.co.uk to update your preferences. Thank you for your cooperation.

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 and let us know of any dietary requirements.

16th January: Year 4 Parent Lunch at 12:50pm

27th February: Year 6 Parent Lunch at 12:50pm

25th February: Years 7 & 8 Parent Lunch at 12:50pm

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

Parent Coffee Morning

We are delighted to invite you to our upcoming Coffee Mornings. This is a wonderful opportunity to meet other parents and chat informally with staff. We look forward to seeing you there!

17th January: Year 1 Coffee Morning at 8:30am

31st January: Year 3 Coffee Morning at 8:30am

24th January: Year 2 Coffee Morning at 8:30am

14th February: Pre-School Coffee Morning at 8:30am

Pre-Prep Swimming

A reminder that swimming sessions for Years 1 and 2 take place on the following days:

- Year 1: Every Monday
- Year 2: Every Tuesday

Please let either [Miss Gisbey](#) or [Miss Sharpe](#) know if your child will be attending and whether you plan to collect them from the pool. Kindly ensure that children bring their swimming kits with them to school on their swimming days.

School String Orchestra Rehearsals

String orchestra rehearsals on **Thursday mornings will now start at 8:00am**. Children who are currently learning the violin or cello, but are not yet part of the orchestra, are warmly invited to join.

Children who are part of the orchestra and have Games immediately after are kindly requested to come in their sport kits, ready to head straight to Games once rehearsals finish.

PTA Sip & Paint

The PTA has organised a Sip & Paint evening with our very own Mrs. T!

This fun and creative event will take place on Friday, 31st January 2025, at 7:00pm.

Places are limited and will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis, so be sure to secure your spot by Friday, 24th January at the latest.

Payments can be made via the PTA account, by cheque, or in cash at the school office.



AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Pupil of the Week

Derrick D for always being so positive and enthusiastic and being a true role model, talking eloquently to a Year 5 parent at lunch.

Artist Award of the Week

William W for working hard to refine his artwork and always being ready to learn in Art and DT.



Player Award of the Week

Ewan B for Football (for his excellent defending in the match) and **Edith A-B** for Netball (for showing great leadership and her positive attitude on as well as off the court towards her team mates).



Drama Award of the Week

Beatrice D for her energy and enthusiasm in drama lessons.



Musician Award of the Week

Thomas W



Style Award of the Week

Anastasia B for always looking smart in her uniform.



Linguist of the Week

Lucas F for recognising the French words for body parts.



AWARDS OF THE WEEK



Head's Award

Pre-School: **Agnes B** for settling so well into her new school. | **Reception:** **Flynn L** for his communication and resilience. | **Year 1:** **Daphne B** for being a brilliant friend and looking after class mates on their first week back. | **Year 2:** **Axel G** for having a positive and enthusiastic return to school. | **Year 3:** **Ezmai B** for a fantastic attitude to learning throughout her lessons. | **Year 4:** **Raif W** for his enthusiasm in History and excellent work ethic. | **Year 5:** **James C** for his positive attitude this week and great teamwork in the football match. | **Year 6:** **Aarun V** for his positive attitude in Maths and Science. | **Year 7:** **Evie D** for her positivity and resilience this week. | **Year 8:** **Oscar T** for an excellent attitude in History, Games and Maths.



Learning Disposition Awards

Pre-School: **Cassian T** for showing **perseverance** when completing a cutting out task and **Annabelle F** for being so kind to our new friend and showing her around - **Empathy**. | **Reception:** **Aiden M** for his growing **independence** and **Archie H** for increased **independence** in all areas. | **Year 1:** **Wyatt C** for showing fantastic **curiosity** in our lesson about the palaeontologist - Mary Anning and **Shanmukha S** for really **concentrating** when learning about questions in English. | **Year 2:** **Greer P** for having great **perseverance** in Maths and **Reuben T** for good **communication** skills during a class discussion in PSHE.

SOUTH LEE COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

We are really excited to re-introduce the **South Lee Community Card**, designed to encourage our parents and staff to support local businesses while enjoying exclusive benefits.

Below are some of the fantastic local businesses that have agreed to participate. If you know of any others who might be interested, please contact the school office.

((BOUNCE)) Fitness

((BOUNCE)) offers trampoline fitness classes with dance, cardio, and yoga-inspired routines.

South Lee parents can enjoy their first class free.



Contact Louise on **07778 990894** to book your session!



Glazing Solutions

Glazing Solutions LTD offers quality window and door installations with over 7 years of experience. *They are offering the South Lee community an exclusive 20% discount on all products and services.*

Contact them on **07703 835792** or email **info@glazingsolutionsltd.com** to arrange a consultation.

Joy Connections

Joy Connection offers activities for families to connect, create, and play. *As part of their partnership with South Lee, they are offering our community a 5% discount on all products and services.*



To book or find out more, contact **hellojoyconnection@gmail.com**.



Letts Swim

Letts Swim is a members-only heated indoor swimming pool, located in the picturesque Suffolk countryside. *They are offering all South Lee parents and staff an exclusive 20% discount on membership.*

For more information, contact **lettsswim@lettspools.co.uk**.

SGL Training

SGL Training offers specialist fitness classes and one-to-one personal training at South Lee, focusing on strength, fitness, and athletic performance. *Parents receive a 10% discount on personal training sessions.*



Contact **s.last@southlee.co.uk** to sign up.

The Windmill Suffolk

Enjoy a luxury retreat at The Windmill Suffolk, just 2 miles from historic Lavenham. *South Lee families enjoy 10% off bookings.*

To book, visit: **<https://www.thewindmillsuffolk.com/booking-online/>**



VR Spehere

Experience virtual reality fun at VR Spehere, the new escape room and arcade in Bury St Edmunds town centre.

South Lee community cardholders receive a free cold drink and snack.

Call 01284 338848 (11am–7pm) to book your session.



PHOTO'S HIGHLIGHT



Welcome back, South Lee family!

It's so lovely to see our happy children back in school, reunited with their friends after a well-deserved Christmas break. Here's to a fantastic spring term ahead!



It was wonderful to see the parents of our Year 5 pupils come together to share lunch with the children today! Thank you for joining us—such special moments!



We held our first Catchpole Club lunch of the year. It was a great opportunity for some of our older pupils to connect with Mr & Mrs C over lunch.