

# SOUTH LEE PREP SCHOOL & NURSERY

## WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

### WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

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Dear Parents,

What another lovely, albeit chilly, week it has been at South Lee Prep! The frosty mornings haven't dampened our spirits, and the children have been busy with all sorts of wonderful activities.

The week started with our annual, first round, poems for our Verse Speaking competition. Pupils in Years 4–8 have been hard at work learning their poems, and if your child has been selected to take part in the final, you should have received an email inviting you to the event next Friday, 29th November, at 9:00 am. We are looking forward to a morning of poetic brilliance! Our Education Governor, Lucy Manning will be judging this year. Mrs Manning is the Head of English at Framlingham Senior School.



We also had the pleasure of welcoming Mr. Thistlethwaite from King's Ely for this term's Martineau Lecture, where he introduced Philosophy to our Year 6–8 pupils. The session was full of big questions—everything from the existence of God to whether our actions are driven by selfishness or selflessness. It was heartening to see the children engaging with these ideas, debating respectfully, and even rethinking their perspectives after thoughtful discussions. It is wonderful to see the children so engrossed in a topic which really gets them thinking.

Our fixtures on Wednesday against OBH and Fairstead House went brilliantly—well done to all our players for their teamwork and effort. The week's other highlight was our trip to Dobbies Garden Centre on Thursday, where some of our Prep School children sang beautifully at their late-night opening. I returned later and was thrilled to hear such glowing compliments from the staff about how well-mannered and charming our children were. It was one of those proud Head moments!

This morning, we had a lovely Year 4 Parent Coffee Morning, and the children thoroughly enjoyed the Year 2 Cake Sale during breaktime. Thank you to everyone who contributed cakes—it's always a treat. A special thank you to the PTA as well for serving up hot chocolate for the children on a cold morning. This will be every Friday until Christmas. It was much appreciated and brought big smiles all around!

Finally, I would just like to thank parents for emailing me with such positive comments about our teaching staff. I have had some really complimentary emails over the last couple of weeks about different members of staff and I can't thank you enough for noticing how amazing they all are.

Wishing you all a warmer and restful weekend.

  
Mrs. Catchpole

# DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

## NOVEMBER 2024

### Week 13: Character Strength for the Week - Perseverance

- Monday, 25th: 13:50 House Meetings  
11:00 - 12:30 Year 3 Visit to Bury Fire Station
- Tuesday, 26th: Year 6 - Year 8 Scholarship Pathway Afternoon  
*10:00 U9 and U11 Cross Country at Thetford Grammar (A)*
- Wednesday, 27th: *14:30 U13 Hockey v OBH (H)*  
*14:30 U13 Rugby v Orwell Park (A)*  
*14:30 U11 Rugby v Orwell Park (A)*
- Thursday, 28th: 12:00 Whole School Pupil Thanksgiving Lunch  
14:00 Governor's Meeting
- Friday, 29th: *09:00 Verse Speaking Final (Year 4 - Year 8)*  
10:45 Year 1 Cake Sale  
14:00 U8 Netball v Culford Festival (A)  
14:30 U8 Football v Brookes UK (A)  
*18:00 PTA Wreath Making Evening*

## DECEMBER 2024

### Week 14: Character Strength for the Week - Creativity

- Monday, 2nd: 14:30 Pre-Prep Dress Rehearsal to the whole School
- Tuesday, 3rd: Year 8 HPV Vaccinations  
*14:00 Pre-Prep Christmas Production*
- Wednesday, 4th: *10:00 Pre-Prep Christmas Production*  
*14:30 U13 Rugby v The Leys (A)*
- Thursday, 5th: Whole School Elf Run  
10:45 Reception Cake Sale
- Friday, 6th: *14:30 Christmas Carol Service at St Edmundsbury Cathedral*

### Week 15: Character Strength for the Week - Courage

- Monday, 9th: 11:00 Upper Prep Carols, Games & Lunch at Nowton Court Village  
*15:00 Nursery Nativity*
- Tuesday, 10th: *10:00 Nursery Nativity*  
11:00 Carols at Stradbroke Court  
14:10 House Matches
- Wednesday, 11th: Nursery Christmas Party  
Reception - Year 6 Christmas activities & Pantomime Trip 'Aladdin'  
Year 7 & 8 Christmas Trip to London 'Wicked'
- Thursday, 12th: Drama Club Pantomime  
Christmas Jumper Day  
15:00 - 17:00 South Lee PTA Christmas Fayre
- Friday, 13th: Non-Uniform Day  
10:30 Crinkly Cup  
12:00 Whole School Christmas Lunch  
14:30 Final Assembly  
TERM ENDS

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](#)

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## The Fiver Challenge

The Year 7&8 children have begun their 'fiver challenge' and will be selling their goods at breaktimes and lunchtimes. Items on sale are as follows:

**Snack Shack** – selling American snacks ranging from £1 - £2 | **Fidgets** – selling fidget toys ranging from 50p -£1  
**Slushy Slush** – selling slushies Ranging from £1 -£2 | **3D printed toys** - £3 | **Sweet bags** - £1

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## New Instrument Lessons Starting January

Starting in January 2025, we are introducing flute and clarinet lessons for pupils interested in expanding their musical skills. These lessons offer a great opportunity to explore a new instrument under professional guidance. For more details or to express interest, please email [Mrs Combes](#).

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## Pupil Bake Sale & PTA Hot Chocolate

We are pleased to announce our upcoming pupil bake sales and PTA Hot Chocolate sales. Kindly send your child in with £1 or £2 to purchase a delicious homemade treat and/or hot chocolate. 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.

**29th November: Year 1 Bake Sale** | **5th December: Reception Bake Sale**

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## Pre-Prep Christmas Production

Thank you to all parents who have already contacted the school office to reserve tickets for the Pre-Prep Christmas Production, which will take place on **3rd December 2024 at 2:30pm** and **4th December at 10:00am**. If you have not yet booked, we kindly encourage you to do so soon, as seats are filling up quickly. **Each child is entitled to two tickets per show, per day**. Please email the [school office](#) to reserve your seats. This year, we are inviting donations for St Nicholas Hospice Care in Bury St Edmunds in support of their valuable work.

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## South Lee Prep Elf Run 2024

Our Christmas Elf Run is on **Thursday, 5th December 2024**, with all pupils from Reception to Year 8 taking part. This festive event will raise funds for The Children's Trust, supporting children with brain injuries.

We invite you to support this cause by making a donation through our JustGiving page: [South Lee Prep School Elf Run 2024](#). For a glimpse into the difference your support makes, read [Hubert's Story](#), which highlights the impactful work of The Children's Trust.

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## South Lee Prep School & Nursery Christmas Carol Service

We invite parents to join us for our annual Christmas Carol Service, a highlight of our festive season, taking place at the beautiful St Edmundsbury Cathedral on **Friday, 6th December 2024, with the service beginning at 2:30pm (\*please note the change in time)**. This special event brings our school community together to celebrate the spirit of the season with traditional carols, readings, and reflections. We look forward to sharing this special tradition with you.

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## Nursery Nativity Performance

Thank you to parents who have already booked tickets for the Nursery Nativity, taking place on **Monday, 9th December 2024, at 3:00pm, and Tuesday, 10th December 2024, at 10:00am**. For parents who haven't yet booked, please email Mrs. Williams at [k.williams@southlee.co.uk](mailto:k.williams@southlee.co.uk) to secure your tickets. **Each child is entitled to two tickets per day**.

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## Reception - Year 6 Pantomime Trip

**A friendly reminder for parents of Reception to Year 6 pupils: our much-anticipated Pantomime trip to the Theatre Royal to see Aladdin will take place on Wednesday, 11th December 2024.**

The cost of the trip is £18, and if you have not yet made the payment, we kindly ask that you do so at your earliest convenience to ensure your child's place. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact the school office.

# USEFUL REMINDERS

## PTA Silent Auction: Christmas Trees

In the spirit of sustainability, this year South Lee is generously offering up its three Christmas trees for a silent auction.

We have two 7ft Nordmann Firs and one 10ft Nordmann Fir available. If you would like to make a bid for one, two, or all three trees, please email your bid to [ptachair@southlee.co.uk](mailto:ptachair@southlee.co.uk) by **9th December**.

The winning bidders will be notified by email on 10th December, and the trees will be ready for collection on the last day of term.

## South Lee Prep Christmas Fayre

The South Lee Prep Christmas Fayre, organised by the PTA, will take place on **Thursday, 12th December 2024, from 3:00pm to 5:00pm**.

The event will feature a wonderful selection of stalls from our local community, including **Absolute Crochet by Nikki, Unique Handcrafted Jewellery, Party Bags by Bev, Sea Arts and Crafts by Hayley, The Book Den, Sparkly Glass, Leonora of Suffolk Candles, Arty-Crafty-Party by Trudi Edmunds, and Jo's Cookie Jar.**

Children can also visit Santa's Grotto, and there will be delicious treats and refreshments available. Friends and family are warmly invited – the more, the merrier!



## SGL Training

SGL Training offers specialist fitness classes and one-to-one personal training sessions at South Lee Prep School. These sessions focus on enhancing fitness, building strength, and boosting athletic performance, complementing our existing sports programmes.

Led by Sam Last, who specialises in child confidence and is also a health and wellbeing coach for adults, the training provides a fantastic opportunity for both pupils and adults to develop both physically and mentally.

To book, visit <https://sgltraining.simplybookit> or call **07765 695049**.

South Lee Prep School & Nursery,  
Bury St Edmunds

**JOIN NOW**

**SGL TRAINING UNLIMITED**

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- OVER 60 CLASSES AVAILABLE
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“ 1:1 and small group Personal Training sessions are also available! ”

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SOUTH LEE PREP SCHOOL  
VICTORY SPORTS GROUND  
BURY ST EDMUNDS, IP33 2BT  
07765 695049  
sgltraining@outlook.com



# AWARDS OF THE WEEK



## Pupil of the Week

**David O'S-J** for being so kind and caring to children in the younger years and showing excellent leadership skills

## Artist Award of the Week

**Alton Roberts** for taking joy in drawing and developing his evaluation skills



## Player Award of the Week

**Harry T** for Rugby (for his fantastic contribution towards his team's success and his positive attitude) and **Mollie P** for Hockey (for her great attitude on and off the pitch as well as her good goal keeping during the match)

## Drama Award of the Week

**Luxmi P** for shining in the Pre-Prep rehearsals



## Musician Award of the Week

**Malakai A-W, Raif W, Ethan T and Amalie C** for fabulous commitment to rehearsals and performances of Noye's Fludde in the Cathedral at the weekend

## Style Award of the Week

**Lily Girgis** for always looking smart in her uniform



## Language Award of the Week

**Percy B**

# AWARDS OF THE WEEK



## Head Awards

**Pre-School:** **Cassian T** for showing fantastic concentration when making his own Christmas card | **Reception:** **Eva T** for persistence and progress in reading | **Year 1:** **Lincoln T** for his outstanding work in our Maths experiment | **Year 2:** **Greer P** for making incredible progress in her swimming lessons | **Year 3:** **Saoirse L** for outstanding instruction writing in English | **Year 4:** **Thomas W** for being a really good friend | **Year 5:** **Sophia R-C** for her resilience and determination in English | **Year 6:** **Harry R** for his enthusiasm and focus in making a lino cut in Art | **Year 7:** **Lola G** for displaying a mature and positive attitude in all aspects of school life | **Year 8:** **Molly Fayers** for continuing to lead by example and take every opportunity to contribute to the school community



## Learning Disposition Awards

**Pre-School:** **Maya S** for showing curiosity when meeting Elvis the Elf (*Monty the Meerkat*) and **Niamh C** for showing independence when putting her own shoes on (*Kitty the Cat*) | **Reception:** **Winnie H** for showing great comprehension when reading (*Bobby the Bee*) and **Flynn L** for great perseverance across all the curriculum (*Derrick the Dinosaur*) | **Year 1:** **Oliver T** for showing curiosity during our tree treasure hunt (*Monty the Meerkat*) and **Darren D** for demonstrating his fantastic communication skills during partner talk (*Bobby the Bee*) | **Year 2:** **Luxmi P** for having great concentration and focus in her fractions lessons (*Ellie the Elephant*) and **Edison L** for being empathetic and a great listener to his friends



# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## ROUGHAM HALL NURSERIES

A big thank you to Rougham Hall Nurseries for their generous donation of three Christmas trees for our school, plus an extra tree for our Christmas Fayre! They offer a range of freshly cut, locally grown trees, including Norway Spruce and Nordmann Fir, from 4ft to 10ft.

Visit Rougham Hall Nurseries:

A14, Rougham, IP30 9LZ

RHN Plant Centre: Colethorpe Lane, Barrow, IP29 5BE

For more info:

Email: rhnsales@outlook.com

Phone: 01359 270577



**Rougham Hall**  
NURSERIES



## SNOWDASH

A Snow Dash is coming to Nowton Park, Bury St. Edmunds on Sunday, 1st December! Hosted by Brave Futures, this 5K event is open to all ages and abilities, featuring snow cannons, music, festive fun and surprises.

Book now at <https://bravefutures.org/events/snow-dash-nowton-park/> and use code **SCHOOL10** for 10% off! A great day out for a great cause!



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# COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

## Technology and STEM Camp this Christmas

Next Thing Education Camps will be hosting a variety of tech filled activities at South Lee Prep School, on the **16th – 20th December from 9:00am to 4:00pm each day for children aged 5 to 11 years old.**

Our mission is simple: to inspire, engage, and empower the next generation of innovators. We aim to spark curiosity and foster creativity using cutting-edge technology. Here's a glimpse of what awaits:

-  **LEGO ENGINEERING** - Create and build frames with axles and crankshafts that allow you to explore and learn about different functions like spinning or turning back and forth.
-  **FANTASTICAL VIRTUAL REALITY** - With the magic of VR, you can explore breath-taking virtual worlds, design your own adventures, and unleash your imagination like never before.
-  **3D FESTIVE CREATIONS** - Unlock your inner Tech Artist and create mesmerising three-dimensional creations, letting your imagination soar!
-  **LASER TAG** - Step into the action-packed world of laser tag! Engage in thrilling battles and team up with friends in the ultimate test of skill and strategy.
-  **CHRISTMAS CIRCUITRY AND ELECTRONICS** - Learn about electronics with circuit cubes and test your building skills with endless projects possibilities!

Different activities each day, to find your camp specific activities please check out our website!

All staff are DBS Checked and qualified to run the greatest sessions in the safest environment. For more information check out our flyer attached and visit our website to [BOOK HERE](#).

We look forward to seeing you at camp!



**Next Thing**  
NEXT THING EDUCATION CAMPS PRESENTS  
**XMAS TECH CAMP**  
Ages 5-11  
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Engineering  
3D Festive Decorations  
Rocking Robots  
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16TH - 20TH DECEMBER 2024  
£39.99 PER DAY or £175 FOR 5 DAYS  
Ages 5 -11, 9 am - 4 pm daily  
CHILD CARE VOUCHERS ACCEPTED  
FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP ON OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.nextthing.education](http://www.nextthing.education)

**CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS 2024**  
What else is on?  
Light Up Cards  
Magical Minecraft  
Ingenious Inventions  
Comet Crackers  
Festive Filming  
Different activity theme each day, please check our website for your camp activities.  
What to bring ...  
Packed Lunch and Snacks  
Water Bottle  
Medication  
Weather Appropriate Clothing  
HOW TO BOOK  
SCAN THE QR CODE  
FIND YOUR NEAREST CAMP  
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# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



*Well done to Amalie C, Malakai A-W, Raif W, and Ethan T for taking part in the Flooded production at St Edmundsbury Cathedral. With three impressive performances over the weekend, they represented South Lee brilliantly.*



*We were delighted to welcome King's Ely School, who introduced Philosophy to our Year 6, 7, and 8 students. Through thought-provoking questions and scenarios, the children explored topics like the existence of God and whether human actions are selfish or selfless. Drawing on ideas from Greek philosophers, Kant and Bentham, the session encouraged respectful debate, active listening and thoughtful discussion. Thank you, Mr T, for a fascinating session!*



*Our U11 girls celebrated a brilliant win today against Fairstead House! Well done, team!*



# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



*It may be chilly, but nothing stops our Nursery children from having fun at Forest School! Wrapped up warm, they're exploring, learning and making the most of the outdoors. Who needs sunshine when you've got smiles like these?*



*A big thank you to Dobbies Garden Centre for having our Years 4-8 children spread festive cheer with their wonderful carol singing!*

*What a joyful way to entertain shoppers and get everyone into the Christmas spirit!*