



Dear Parents,

What another busy and positive week we have had at South Lee.

This week, our character strength has been Patience, and we have spent time thinking about what patience looks like in school, in our learning and in the way we treat one another. It is such an important quality for children to develop, particularly when things do not happen immediately or when something takes a little more time and perseverance.

We also held our Food Committee meeting this week. This is always an important opportunity for our pupils to share their views about the school food, talk about what they enjoy and offer suggestions for future menus. Pupil voice matters greatly to us, and I am always impressed by how thoughtful and sensible the children are when sharing their ideas.

The Book Fair has also been in school this week, which has created plenty of excitement. It is always lovely to see the children so enthusiastic about choosing new books and talking about what they are reading.

On Tuesday, we celebrated European Day of Languages, and the pupils certainly impressed me with their European themed outfits. There were some wonderfully creative costumes, and it was lovely to see the children embracing the day with such enthusiasm. Thank you to Madame Barker for organising this.

I was also very pleased to share lunch with the pupils who received a Pillar Award at our final Celebration Assembly in the summer term. These awards recognise children who consistently demonstrate the values and qualities we hold so highly at South Lee, and it was a real pleasure to spend some time with them over lunch.

Wednesday was a particularly busy day for sport, with both OBH and Fairstead visiting South Lee for fixtures. There was a great atmosphere around school, and it was wonderful to see so many of our pupils representing South Lee with determination, teamwork and excellent sportsmanship.

On Thursday, it was wonderful to welcome so many parents into school for our Pre School lunch. These occasions are always so important, and I know how much the children enjoy having their families join them at school.

Today, we held our Macmillan Parent Coffee Morning, and I am delighted to say that we raised approximately £130 for this very worthwhile cause. Thank you to all of the parents who joined us, donated or supported the morning in any way. I would also like to thank our staff who baked, bought and donated cakes. It was a lovely morning and a wonderful example of our South Lee community coming together to support others.

I have noticed this week that the children are really finding their groove again and are very much back in the swing of school life. There is a real sense of purpose around school, and I feel incredibly proud of the young people we have here. Their confidence, kindness and enthusiasm are evident every day.

Looking ahead to next week, our character strength will be Compassion.

Our Year 7 and 8 pupils will be travelling to London by train to visit the Houses of Parliament, which I know will be a fascinating and valuable experience for them.

On Tuesday, we will be hosting our Scholarship Information Evening for our current Year 5 and 6 parents, giving families the opportunity to learn more about the scholarships available to pupils in Years 7 and 8, and to speak with our specialist staff.

On Wednesday, all pupils must come to school in full formal school uniform, including their blazer, for our annual individual school photographs. If you have siblings at other schools and would like a photograph of them together, you are very welcome to come into school from 8.00am. Siblings who are already at South Lee will be photographed together during the morning.

As we move into another busy week, I think it is important to remember that the South Lee Way is not simply about how we behave when things are easy. It is about having the integrity to do what is right, the confidence to speak up when something matters and the courage to stand by our values.

“The South Lee Way is having the integrity to do what is right and the confidence to speak up, even when it would be easier to stay silent.”

Have a wonderful weekend.
Best wishes,
Mrs Catchpole

25th September 2026

Upcoming Dates

Character Strength: COMPASSION



Key Dates for Next Week:

Monday 28th:

Assembly - Compassion
Year 7 & 8 Trip to London - Houses of Parliament

Tuesday 29th:

16:30 Year 5 & 6 Parents Scholarship Information Evening

Wednesday 30th:

08:00 Individual School Photos (School Uniform)
14:30 U13 Rugby v Barnardiston Hall (H)
14:30 U11 Hockey v Orwell Park (A)
14:30 U11 Rugby v Orwell Park (A)

Thursday 1st:

National Poetry Day

Friday 2nd:

World Smile Day
14:30 U9 Mixed Netball v Fairstead House (H)

Saturday 3rd:

U11 Rugby v OBH Festival (A)

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Celebration Assembly Awards:

Head Awards: Mila P, Hudson E, Joey L, Tiberius B, Arjun P, Aiden M, Ollie T, Axel G, Dominic B, Michael H-A, Charlie L, Tommy B

Learning Dispositions Award: Hamish H, Poppy R, Harry H, Henry W, Poppy O'C, Pheonix F, Alexander K, Akira P, Bea D, Kieran O'SJ, Thomas W, Freddie P, Percy B, Jenson B-S, Callum K, Charlie L, Ruby D

Musician of the Week: Zakaria K

Artist of the Week: Spencer H

Drama Award: Aleksander R

Style Award: Aaron V

Female Sports Award: Samantha L

Male Sports Award: Ethan T



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