

# SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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Headteacher Mr Paul Jensen B.Ed Grad Dip (SEBD) NPQH



## Friday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024

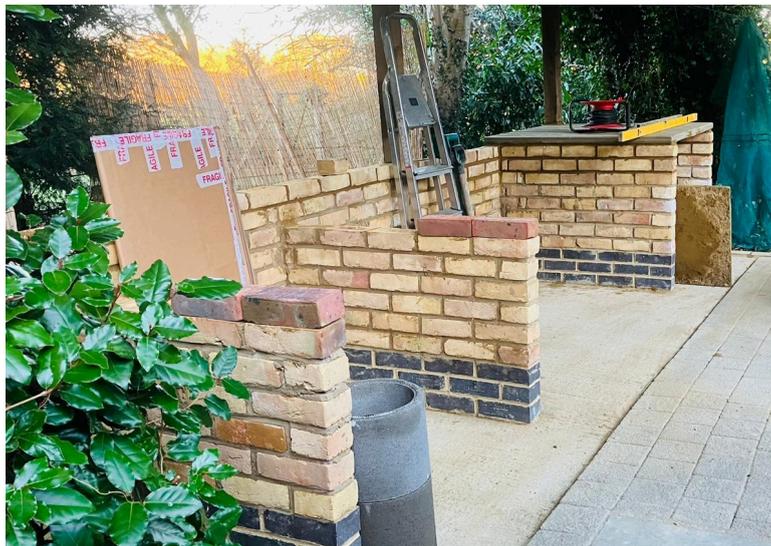
Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

Please be reminded that Sunnydown is, as most schools are, a nut free environment. Please do not send your son to school with anything that contains traces of nuts. This is a timely reminder as we approach the festive season.

All staff and students will have their advent calendars shared with them during form time on Monday morning. A small gesture to get us all in the swing of the festive spirit.

Prior to arriving with great excitement at Christmas itself though, we continue to run a very successful school. Year 11 are preparing for the practice exams which start next week. The timetable has been published with each student and shared via Parent Mail, but offered below for additional reference. I wish all of Year 11 all the very best with this formal rehearsal process.

The outdoor BBQ and Pizza oven continues to rise from the ground and is now taking shape. Huge thanks to Mr Hoad for his time, experience, expertise and patience. Mr Hoad has involved as many students as possible to date but has also worked hard behind the scenes to ensure it is completed efficiently. The build has been funded by a very generous donation from the family of Lucas Abrams, a graduate from 2024, to whom I am incredibly grateful.



Today many staff and students purchased stick-on moustaches, wearing them for as long as they could depending on the strength of the adhesive, to highlight men's health issues as part of Movember. In assembly this afternoon I spoke about testicular cancer in some detail, encouraging our young men to discuss any health concerns they have with an appropriate adult, which can of course include their GP. Mr Wright has added some photos and a brief message further along.

I have analysed the SWOT feedback from staff, parents and students even further to identify common trends amongst each group so that I can seek to address areas of concern but also celebrate our successes.

A strength commonly expressed across each group of responders included the incredible pastoral support afforded every student across our school day by all staff. Many people took the opportunity to record that the caring and supportive environment for students is exceptional with some really personal anecdotes of the impact Sunnydown has had on family lives. Thank you. In addition, the quality of the broad curriculum was identified as a strength. Finally school leadership was recognised as well as our attempts to create a sense of belonging. This of course is linked to our use of the principles of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs to guide our policies, processes and efforts.

Regarding weaknesses, the management and impact of the behaviours exhibited by a small minority of students on the learning of others and the feel of the school was identified by each group of responders. I addressed this in assembly on Monday, explaining that I was aware of some individuals causing concern, and will look more closely at this as it continues to be on the mind of my students, staff and families. In some cases, there will not be a quick win - but there is a commitment to address the underlying concerns. It does need to be stated that the vast majority of young men are compliant and polite, engaged with their learning. To them I say thank you. To those who may be preventing or disrupting others from learning, please be aware of your impact as the school continues to reflect on this.

It should be no surprise that although there are similarities in responses from different groups, there are also differences. Staff for example rightly identify the impact of the absence of colleagues due to illness for example, as having an impact on them and in some cases creating additional work. Parents have called for some improved communication in key areas such as curriculum. Students raised a concern about the change in dining arrangements (missing 5 minutes of lunch so taxis can leave on time and before being impacted by the traffic from other schools) and the fact that we are not a mixed school (boys and girls) as weaknesses.

I said last week and will continue to say it - I welcome the collective insight and will address issues raised in an orderly fashion, as well as championing our strengths, seizing the opportunities and mitigating the risks.

Another form of feedback is a parent survey that follows each Parent evening. Recently Year 9 parents shared their views and some results are shared below.

100% of Year 9 families that responded agree or strongly agree that their son is happy and feels safe at School. In addition, 100% also agree or strongly agree that the school makes sure the pupils are well behaved.

When faced with the statement 'The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year', 60% strongly agreed and 40% agreed. Based on this and the SWOT analysis, it is my intention to make our curriculum offer even more apparent to parents and students.

I wish everyone a wonderful and safe weekend as we welcome and embrace December in all of its glory.

Paul Jensen

### **Surrey Special Schools Sports Association - KS3 Badminton Tournament**

On Monday, eight of our finest KS3 athletes travelled to the Guildford Spectrum to compete in the Surrey Badminton Tournament. The group played some outstanding matches and narrowly missed out on the bronze medal match on points. Congratulations to the entire team as not only did they play some fantastic badminton throughout the day, they conducted themselves incredibly well, displaying sportsmanship and even helped the event organiser tidy away equipment at the end of the day.

**Players' Player of the Day** - Eddie Smith & Jacob Ryan

**The Team** - Zac Hoad, Thomas Emms, Harrison Williams, George McGookin, Eddie Smith, Matthew Marenga, Frankie McSorley & Jacob Ryan.

**Mr Wright**

## Exam Timetable

### Week beginning 02/12/24

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM		English Lang 1 hr 45 mins (+ extra time)	Biology - Homeostasis 1 hr 15 mins (+ extra time)	PE 1 hr 30 mins (+ extra time)	
PM	DT 1hr 45 mins (+ extra time)			Maths (Non Calc) 1 hr 30 mins (+ extra time)	

### Week beginning 09/12/24

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
AM	Maths (Calc) 1 hr 30 mins (+ extra time)	English Lit (MacBeth and A Christmas Carol) 1 hr 45mins (+ extra time)		Physics - Waves 1 hr 15 mins (+ extra time)	
PM					

## Come Dine with Me

On Wednesday night a group of our Year 11 boys welcomed girls from Limpsfield Grange for a Come Dine with Me event. The boys cooked a lovely 3 course meal of cheesy nachos to start, quesadillas for main and a beautiful gooey brownie with ice cream for dessert. After dinner the boys invited the girls into the Common Room where they completed a Logo Quiz in teams. They were the perfect hosts to the young ladies and they all should be really proud of themselves. All of their hard work paid off and the feedback from Limpsfield Grange has been very positive both from the staff and the girls who visited.

A huge well done to Alfie Wilson, Teddy Foster, Nathan Small, Toby Chapman, Freddie Phillips, James Hall and Charlie McSorley. Next week we look forward to welcoming Limpsfield Grange school back for the Year 10s turn to host.





Miss Thompson & Miss Kiddier

## Friends of Sunnydown

### REMINDERS

**Christmas Shopping Day** - Is always a highlight for the boys. They all really enjoy choosing gifts for their loved ones and having them specially wrapped to take home.

**Donation/Mufti Days** - We are holding donation days on **Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December** and **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** at school, ahead of the boys' Christmas shopping day and would gratefully receive any good condition and unwanted gifts which can be suitable for women, men or children and sweet treats for the Tombola. The boys can wear Mufti on these days. In return for their donations can we ask for the following:

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December** - Wrapped chocolates/sweets (for the boys' Tombola)

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** - Gifts ready for Christmas shopping

**Christmas Staff Fund** - If you would like to donate to the staff fund so that every member of staff receives some Christmas love as a token of our appreciation, then you can do so online or via online banking. Follow this link: [Friends of Sunnydown Christmas Staff Fund 2024](#) or email: [friends@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:friends@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk) for banking details (don't forget to send your note of thanks for the staff Christmas poster).



We would like to remind you that we have started a **Friends of Sunnydown Community WhatsApp Group** so that we can keep you in the loop with what's going on. This group will purely be for us to post announcements and keep you up to date, this is not a group where you can comment or converse. If you haven't joined yet but would like to receive reminders about what's happening and when, scan the QR code on the attached flyer and jump in.



### Online Safety

Please see the attached online safety flier 'What Parents and Educators need to know about Snapchat.'

**Mr Cassim**

### Movember Fundraiser

Today we were proud to support Movember, raising awareness and funds for men's health. Stick-on moustaches were sold and worn today for just 50p each and we raised just over £30! All proceeds will go towards this fantastic cause. 8H enjoyed celebrating ...



**Mr Wright**

## Thales Early Careers Newsletter



**Our Graduate and Apprentice Roles for September 2025 intake are now live - Click [here](#) to apply!**

### Want to learn more about Thales?

Why not register on our Future Talent Platform. You can learn about:

- Thales and what we do
- Our Apprentice and Graduate opportunities
- Virtual work experience
- Applying for a role and what happens at an assessment centre
- Connect with a digital buddy



This is the ideal place to be if you are ready to apply for an apprenticeship starting in September 2025, or if you are thinking about an apprenticeship for future years. Our Early Careers team, apprentice and graduate buddies are ready to answer any questions you have.

To register follow the link [here](#) or scan the above QR code

We have a variety of apprentice roles available, ranging from Level 2 up to Level 6, including:

- Engineering roles (in all different areas and different levels)
- Manufacturing
- Project Planning
- Procurement
- Data & Digital
- IT
- Cyber
- Finance
- Business

We also have a variety of graduate roles.

Thales are located across the UK. Our main sites are:

- Belfast
- Bristol
- Cheadle
- Crawley
- Doncaster
- Glasgow
- Reading
- Templecombe

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Check us out online!

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- Thales Group
- The Thales Group
- @ThalesCareers

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### Thought for the Week (W/C 25<sup>th</sup> November 2024)

Tolerance - How to tolerate each other

### Thought for the Week (W/C 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2024)

Racism - Respecting differences

### Mr Peters' Award For Progress At Lunch Time Football

Loui Salliss

### The Baton

Luke Dean

**Sportsmanship Award**

**Isaac Benn**

<b><u>Mathematician of the Week</u></b>	The recipients of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Webb are <b>Luke Luo</b> <i>For always working hard &amp; for great work on sequences this week</i> <b>Kye Lawrence</b> <i>For excellent work on sequences</i> & awarded by Mr Wright are <b>Freddie Collins</b> <b>Noah Atkins</b>
<b><u>Scientist of the Week</u></b>	The recipient of Scientist of the week, awarded by Ms Hristova is <b>Zack Harrison</b> <i>For his excellent recent classwork &amp; assessment results</i>
<b><u>Writer of the Week</u></b>	The recipient of Writer of the Week, awarded by Miss Palmer is <b>KS3</b> <b>Kamauri Craig</b> <i>For being conscientious &amp; always trying his best</i> & awarded by Miss Newcombe are <b>KS4</b> <b>Charlie McSorley</b> <i>For his excellent continued dedication to his English GCSE</i> <b>Ollie Taylor</b> <i>For his active learning when completing a language analysis</i>
<b><u>Chef of the Week</u></b>	The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull is <b>Oscar Gregory</b> <i>For taking care with his cooking and presentation</i>
<b><u>Reader of the Week</u></b>	The recipients of Reader of the Week, awarded by Miss Newcombe are <b>Charlie Histed</b> <i>For making the most of his dedicated reading time</i> <b>Oscar Gregory</b> <i>For completing his Accelerator Quiz independently</i>
<b><u>Musician of the Week</u></b>	The recipient of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mr Smith is <b>Eddie Smith</b>
<b><u>Artist of the Week</u></b>	The recipients of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle is <b>Charlie Histed</b> <i>For active learning and effort in the drawing lesson this week</i> <b>Sam Lopes</b> <i>For his concentration &amp; progress with Photopea</i>
<b><u>Computer Scientist of the Week</u></b>	The recipients of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle are <b>Eddie Smith</b> For independence & concentration in Computer Science <b>Thomas Illman</b>

**House Points**

<b>House Points</b>	
Charlie McSorley	850 House Points
Kasra Alavi	750 House Points
Jayden Peters	700 House Points
Jack Gregory	400 House Points

**Forthcoming Events 2024-2025**

<b>Autumn Term 2024</b>	
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	November Day
Wednesday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	KS4 Come Dine With Me (3.30pm - 7.00pm)
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	KS3 Fulham football
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> December 2024	KS4 Badminton
<b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b>	<b>Christmas Donation Day - MUFFM</b>
<b>Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b>	<b>Christmas Donation Day - MUFFM</b>
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b>	<b>Christmas Dinner</b>
<b>Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024</b>	<b>Christmas Shopping Event</b>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> December	(1.20pm finish on 20 <sup>th</sup> Dec)
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> December - Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
<b>Spring Term 2025</b>	
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	INSET DAY
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup> January - Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Ski Trip
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2025	Open morning (9.30-11am)
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Year 8 Parents' Evening
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Fulham football
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2025	Year 11 Apprenticeship Show
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> February - Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2025	HALF TERM
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	KS3 Fulham football
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March 2025	Year 7 Parents' Evening
<b>Summer Term 2025</b>	
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> April - Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025	EASTER HOLIDAY (1.20pm finish on 4 <sup>th</sup> April)
Wednesday 30 <sup>th</sup> April 2025	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Year 10 Kenley Bike Challenge
Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Year 11 Kenley Bike Challenge
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Year 8 Kenley Bike Challenge
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	KS4 Fulham football
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	Year 9 Kenley Bike Challenge
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May 2025	Year 7 Kenley Bike Challenge
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> May - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> May 2025	HALF TERM
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Year 10 Work Experience
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Fulham football
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	INSET DAY
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> June 2025	FoS Golf Day
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> - Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	Year 9 Residential
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2025	<b>END OF TERM</b>
Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2025 (Was 4 <sup>th</sup> November 2024)	INSET DAY
Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2025 (Was 14 <sup>th</sup> March 2024)	INSET DAY