

SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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



Friday 12th January 2024

I am always amazed on a Friday afternoon, standing in assembly, with just how quickly a week goes by. Time is such a precious commodity and I hope that you can all enjoy some precious and memorable moments together this weekend.

Some snow is predicted for the middle and end of next week, depending on which source you follow. Please keep this in mind as there may be disruption to school. All decisions are made with the best interests of students, staff, and the wider community (taxi drivers, parents) in mind. Thank you for your understanding in advance should we need to modify our day here at Sunnydown at any point.

Mr Lord has undertaken substantial work on two whole school projects in recent months. These include a close look at Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and the other is around Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity (ADH/ADHD).

It is evident that there is a high degree of parent involvement in these initiatives, and this close working relationship can only benefit the entire school community.

One aspect of EDI involves protected characteristics which include:

- Age
- Disability
- gender reassignment
- marriage or civil partnership (in employment only)
- pregnancy and maternity
- race
- religion or belief
- sex
- sexual orientation.

As these are protected characteristics, they cannot be used to make another person feel discriminated against. This means that jokes about being 'gay', or 'that is women's work' are completely inappropriate. We will continue to work hard as a school to demonstrate that we have no tolerance of discriminatory comments and will not accept 'it was a joke' as justification. Thank you for your support in this endeavour.

Regarding ADHD, I am aware that some staff are exploring the impact of our diet on our ability to manage our own behaviours. I am confident that the kitchen will be involved in months to come, so that our lunch offerings contribute in a positive way to concentration, behaviour and classroom readiness. I noticed large blocks of chocolate and packets of sweets in the possession of some students recently. While there is some contention regarding the impact of sweets and chocolate on behaviours, we do not serve these from the school menu and ask for parents to support us by not sending in sweets as part of a packed lunch, or as treats throughout the day. This is of course relaxed when it comes to sharing a special occasion such as a birthday. I actually give all the children chocolate at easter and advent calendars prior to Christmas - there is a time and place.

I understand that the Ski Trip information has been published and that there is a genuine buzz about this experience. I look forward to updates regarding registrations of interest from Mrs Pletts.

Have a wonderful weekend.

Paul Jensen

Poetry by Heart

Poetry by Heart is a national speaking competition that is run at school but presented via video performances, with the chance of performing at The Shakespeare Globe, London. The competition is now running. Pupils that are interested please talk to Miss Thomson. Parents who wish for more information please contact: l.thomson@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk

POETRY BY
HEART



Poetry by Heart is a national poetry speaking competition

Choose a poem

Learn it by Heart

Perform it out Loud



Competition is running
If interested please speak to Miss Thomson

Opportunity to go to The Shakespeare Globe, London.



@Sunnydown Whole School

Children's Commissioner for England

The Children's Commissioner for England has been overwhelmed by the response that 'The Big Ambition' survey has received. Over 300,000 children, young people, parents and carers have participated, making it one of the largest surveys of its kind!

This is their final push to hear from even more children before the survey closes. It is so important that every child in England has an opportunity to tell policy makers what they want and need ahead of the General Election.

By sharing this survey with pupils and parents or carers, they can make sure that the children and young people of Surrey are fairly represented in the results.

Children and parents or carers can complete the survey here: www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigambition

Food Tech - Reminder

Students need to have their cooking hats and aprons each week for the F&N lessons. Also many students have come home this week with clear plastic containers which we would like returned to school at their earliest convenience. Thank you.

Mrs Hull

Upcoming Science Assessments

Year 11 – The Earth’s early atmosphere: Monday, 15th January.

Science - Keywords of the Week

For KS3: ‘Relative motion’ – A measure of how fast an object is travelling compared to another object.

For KS4: ‘Carbon footprint’ – A total amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases emitted over the full lifecycle of a product, service or event.

Attendance

Congratulations to 8C and 7P for achieving 100% attendance during the weekend ending 5th January 2024.

Online Safety

Please see the flyer at the end of this newsletter for more information on ‘What Children & Young People Need to Know about Free Speech Vs Hate Speech’.

Mr Cassim

Thought for the Week **(W/C 8th January 2024)**

Why do we need to look after our health?

Thought for the Week **(W/C 15th January 2024)**

Who is Martin Luther King?

<p><u>Mathematician of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipient of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Webb is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Kamauri Craig (8C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For excellent work on Algebraic Expressions</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Class 7C</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For excellent behaviour, engagement in the lesson & completion of worksheets by the whole class. Well done 7C</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">& awarded by Miss Thomson</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Alfie Wilson (10T)</p>
<p><u>Scientist of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipient of Scientist of the Week, awarded by Mr Cybuch is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lithar Po-Ba (9O)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Callum Jordan (9O)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For cooperation</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">& awarded by Ms Hristova is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Ollie McEvaddy (11C)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For his ambition, resilience & achievement over the last assessments</i></p>
<p><u>Musician of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipient of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mr Smith is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Freddie Ponsford (8W)</p>
<p><u>Writer of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipient of Writer of the Week, awarded by Mrs Wermig is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jack Bristow (8W)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For excellent class discussion about 'Boxing to Argue'</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Awarded by Miss Newcombe is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Harry Vaughan (10D)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For continued dedication to completing & improving his homework</i></p>
<p><u>Chef of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jonathan Edwards (9O)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For focus & independence</i></p>

<p><u>Employability Award</u></p> <p>James Dean (11M)</p> <p>For using his initiative & being self motivated</p>	<p><u>Baton Award</u></p> <p>Alfie Tharle (9O)</p> <p>For independence</p>
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<u>House Points</u>	
Felix Drummond	850 House Points
Andrew Hendry Smith	800 House Points
Varen Estwick	750 House Points
James Hall	700 House Points
Kieran Kirk	700 House Points
Max Gibbins	650 House Points
Charlie McSorley	650 House Points
Toby Chapman	550 House Points
Kamauri Craig	500 House Points
Robert Hall	500 House Points
Callum Truttero	450 House Points
Freddie Dunne	400 House Points
Callum Dowie	350 House Points
George McGookin	150 House Points
Kye Lawrence	150 House Points
Milo Baker	100 House Points
Sam Walsh	100 House Points

Forthcoming Events 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
Tuesday 16 th January 2024	Year 11 Final food assessment
Wednesday 15 th - Friday 17 th May 2024	Year 9 residential trip
Thursday 20 th June 2024	Scheduled formal graduation event 🎓

What Children & Young People Need to Know about

FREE VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's not the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right not to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demonising and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.

GLOBAL
EQUALITY
COLLECTIVE

The
National
College

NOS
National
Online
Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/legislation/2010/11/04/equality-act>
<https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/legislation/2010/11/04/equality-act>



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A registered charity in England/no. 1161873

Dedicated Drama Workshops
for ages 5 - 16+ with SEND

12 & 13 February 2024



Drewshearne Barn,
Crowhurst Lane End,
Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9NT

Drama Workshops

Have Fun, Make Friends & Learn New Skills

Drama, fun games, sing & sign, craft activities,
role play and improvisation in a friendly &
accessible space. Explore character and
encourage creativity and communication



Monday 12 February | 10am - 12.30pm | ages 16+ | £20

2pm - 3.30pm | ages 10-15 | £12.50

Tuesday 13 February | 10 - 11am | ages 5-9 | £10

- Free parking on site
- Cafe
- Sensory Room
- Disabled toilet
- Hygiene room facilities



SCAN QR CODE

To visit and book online

h2hsensorytheatre.com

Contact us reception@h2hsensorytheatre.com

01883 725 264

