

# SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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



## Friday 22nd September 2023

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

Sunnydown is a school, a place of learning. We are set up and funded by Surrey County Council to deliver a curriculum which allows boys to access a number of GCSEs.

Our curriculum is delivered by quality teachers and students are supported in their learning additionally by a dedicated team of Teaching Assistants, Academic Support Assistants and the Pastoral support team.

Our Friday curriculum compliments the traditional curriculum, delivered Monday to Thursday. Opportunities are planned so that students develop skills that prepare them for life beyond education - the ability to communicate sensibly, the ability to follow instructions, the ability to cooperate with peers while exploring their independence, and opportunities to enhance their resilience. These opportunities are provided in an environment that is often not confined to a classroom such as the woods, offsite shopping and cultural experiences, and outdoor and adventurous activities to name a few.

Even our break times are complimented with toast, soup and warm drinks as well as opportunities to play supervised football, electronics clubs and access to the woods for den building. Some young men regularly feed the wallabies and collect the chicken eggs.

Taken in its entirety, what is provided at Sunnydown, and as evidenced by the academic and pastoral progress demonstrated year on year by our graduates, shows categorically that our offer is exceptional and meets the needs of the boys able to immerse themselves in the experiences available.

I am proud to lead the Sunnydown community and recognise the significant contribution of each person who also supports what we achieve, from students to families to staff and governors.

During assembly today, I will have reminded and encouraged all boys to engage politely and constructively with the adults who work here. Your support in maintaining this mantra is appreciated.

I wrote to parents earlier this week to distance myself actively from any behaviours that do not meet the British Values and appreciate those families who reached out in support of the message.

I wish you all a wonderful weekend.

Paul Jensen

## **Local Area SEND Inspection - Surrey**

As mentioned last week, SCC was notified by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) of the start of the Local Area SEND Inspection in Surrey.

A survey was sent to all staff, students and families from Sunnydown, but was also widely available to all schools and wider interest groups.

To those who took the time to complete the survey I am sure that the Inspection team would appreciate it.

Family Voice representatives had the opportunity to meet with some of the inspection team and have published an update and a copy of their slides on their website. A direct link is below.

<https://familyvoicesurrey.org/2023/09/21/local-area-send-inspection-update-21st-september/>

## **Thrive**

We continue to use Thrive as a way to help support your boys with their emotional needs/development. Please find attached a 'Self Care Bingo' that the boys can do independently or you can do as a family.

Have a lovely weekend!

**The Pastoral Team**

## **Friday Curriculum**

Communications with regard to the Friday Curriculum will continue to come out on a weekly basis. This will outline what specific year groups will be doing, whether it is on site or off site and whether there are any specific clothing requirements. In most cases where there are clothing requirements, such as an outdoor adventurous activities trip, the boys will be expected to arrive in uniform and change so that they have clean clothes for the afternoon session and their journey home.

**Jez Lord**

## **100% Attendance**

Congratulations to 7C, 8W and 11C for achieving 100% attendance during the week commencing 11th September 2023.

## **Song of the Week**

This week's Song of the Week was 'Beatbox: Movement, Show, Go' (2022).

**Mrs Cybuch**

## Pet of the Week

Thank you to George in Year 7 for nominating his pet, Amber, who is 3 years old. She likes sleeping on the sofa and chasing squirrels, but she dislikes baths and cats!



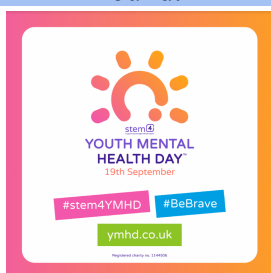
Please do email in any photos you have of your pets ([h.peterson@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:h.peterson@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk)). We would love to see and share them in this newsletter and on our notice board.

**Mrs Peterson**

### Thought for the Week (w/c 18<sup>th</sup> September 2023)

#### **Youth Mental Health: Be Brave**

Youth Mental Health Day (19<sup>th</sup> September 2023) encourages understanding & discussion of mental health in young people. The aim is to enable young people to live happy & healthy lives all year round.



### Thought for the Week (w/c 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023)

**The REST Strategy:  
How it helps and working together.**

### Baton Award

**Josh Benton**

for incredible sportsmanship during the Friday curriculum

<b><u>Mathematician of the Week</u></b>	<b><u>Scientist of the Week</u></b>	<b><u>Musician of the Week</u></b>	<b><u>Chef of the Week</u></b>	<b><u>Writer of the Week</u></b>
<p>The recipients of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Cybuch are</p> <p><b>Frankie McSorley (7C)</b></p> <p>and</p> <p><b>Matthew Marenga (7P)</b></p> <p>for resilience</p>	<p>The recipient of Scientist of the Week, awarded by Ms Hristova is</p> <p><b>Oscar Stewart (10T)</b></p> <p>for active learning and resilience</p>	<p>The recipient of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Cybuch is</p> <p><b>Jaden Doorga (8C)</b></p> <p>for perseverance</p>	<p>The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull is</p> <p><b>Jack Bristow (8W)</b></p> <p>for making a positive start and a great effort</p>	<p>The recipients of Writer of the Week are</p> <p><b>KS3</b></p> <p><b>Robert Hall (8W)</b></p> <p>for giving the urban legend of The Easter Bunny a strange and macabre twist</p> <p><b>KS4</b></p> <p><b>Sonny Burgess (10T)</b></p> <p>for perseverance and acceptance that mistakes are a part of learning.</p>

<b>House Points this week</b>	
Sonny Burgess	300 House Points
Ethan Lyons	300 House Points
Noah Atkins	350 House Points
Alex Pereira	350 House Points
Callum Truttero	350 House Points
Robert Hall	400 House Points
Harry Franklin	550 House Points
Taylor Conway	600 House Points
James Hall	600 House Points
Alex Hennessy	800 House Points

### Forthcoming Events 2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
Wednesday 27 <sup>th</sup> September	Open Morning
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> October	School Photos
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> October	Year 7 Parents Evening
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> October	Last day of half term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> - Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Inset Day
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> November	English Functional Skills exams
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> November	Maths Functional Skills exams
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> November - Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> December	Year 11 Annual Review meetings
Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> December	Reports sent home
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> December	End of term 1.20pm finish
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2024	Scheduled formal graduation event