

# SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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



**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

We had the privilege of a visit from Claire Coutinho, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Minister for Children, Families and Wellbeing) and MP for East Surrey today. Claire took time to speak with the Life Skills students, all of whom were excited to have their photograph taken with her. Some excellent questions regarding the inflation and energy crisis were raised by the students.



Over a warm drink in our very own BBQ Hut, in an area landscaped by our students, Claire engaged in conversations ranging from mental health support in schools, our concerns regarding access to CAMHS when needed, lack of funding reaching schools directly to accommodate the increase in staff wages and energy price rises, as well as our very broad and impressive curriculum. Claire also agreed to engage in a conversation with her colleagues about how the current Ofsted Inspection Framework is applied to Specialist Schools.

Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing are important aspects of our lives always. Over the past several years, a noticeable increase in needs for support has been identified nationally. Here at Sunnydown, we recognised this and used our cycle scheme to create the **Caterham Cycle Challenge**. This challenge involves students cycling 660km around Kenley in a relay event with the aim of raising money for emotional wellbeing and mental health support.

Over the past two years we have raised in excess of £40,000: a huge achievement. Congratulations and thank you for your support. However, we recognise that this needs to continue but also increase. Therefore, in addition to the Caterham Cycle Challenge, three more events have been organised to complement the Cycle Challenge.

Firstly, we are taking two students to participate in **The Gibb Challenge** which involves cycling 660km across the remote part of Western Australia. This has been kindly sponsored by Gus Periscopes.

Secondly, the Friends of Sunnydown (FoS) are busy organising our very first **music event called SunnyFest for Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2023 at Sunnydown**. A band made up of graduates from Sunnydown will feature among many other artists. A flyer is attached. Please promote this event as it is in conjunction with our Cycle Challenge, which aims to raise money and awareness of emotional wellbeing and Mental Health in our local community.

Finally the FoS have organised a **Golf Day for Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 at Farleigh Golf Course** - a ParentMail has been sent with information about the upcoming Corporate Golf day. In addition, a flyer is being given to each student at taxi time today. Please promote the event as far and wide as possible. Money raised is invested in improving support for emotional wellbeing and mental health.

### Strike Thursday 2nd March, 2023

At the moment and as the situation stands, **all students are expected to attend school on Thursday 2nd March**. Though this is a scheduled strike day, we are confident that we can accommodate all students. In accordance with National Guidelines published by the DfE, not all lessons will cover the National Curriculum. This will impact most greatly on Year 7, but some other classes as well. However, your son will be safe and well cared for, and will notice minimal impact on their timetable.

### Trial changes to school day

As you will be aware, we trialled a slight change to the school day for a one week period from Monday 30th January to Friday 03rd February.

Our second trial starts next week from Monday 27th February to Friday 03rd March.

Parent, staff and student feedback will be gathered immediately after this to determine if we should explore a wider trial, try a different arrangement, stay the way we currently operate or adopt the new timings completely. .

By way of reminder, the changed timings are at the end of this newsletter. It is so important that I remind everyone that there is no reduction in learning time for any student.

### PSHE and RSE (Relationships and Sex Education)

Our very well planned PSHE and RSE curriculum is available on our website. Currently all students are considering Relationships and changes in our own bodies as we experience puberty.

I had the privilege of being invited to work with Year 8 on this topic this afternoon. Following this, I addressed the whole school on appropriate behaviours and conversations about relationships and our bodies. I made it clear, again,



that conversations about our body parts covered by our underwear are not appropriate during regular lessons, being yelled out along the corridor, or in the dining Hall. The appropriate place for appropriate conversations at school is during PSHE/RSE lessons. Should a young person have a genuine question that concerns them, about their sexual health, sexuality, their own development even; they have been encouraged to talk to a trusted adult at an appropriate time and place, and this includes our parents.

I reminded all students that physically touching another person in an area covered by our underwear without consent was considered as Sexual Violence and that as a school, we must explain that it is wrong. Further, we need to let families know that it has happened, and in some instances, will need to tell the police.

Regarding inappropriate comments and inappropriate touching, I made it clear that as a school, we cannot accept the suggestions that 'it is boys being boys' or 'the boys were only playing'. We are duty bound to respond to all such incidents so if necessary, would ask for your support when we do contact home to let you know of such behaviours from your son.

### Relationships and Sex Education (RSE)

Some information was recently shared via ParentMail and mentioned in a newsletter about Consent.

The workshops we mentioned, with **Talk Consent** <https://talkconsent.org/> have been arranged for Thursday 2nd March. This is a new service available to help educate our young people.

The organisers will also address Misogyny as an inappropriate behaviour and Andrew Tate as an inappropriate role model.

Miss Brooks

### Risk Assessment Process 2022 - 2023

On Tuesday 21st, all parents received a Parent Mail which summarises our Risk Assessment process here at Sunnydown. Attached to this was also some information regarding the NSPCC PANTS Rule. By way of reminder, the Parent Mail is repeated below.

All staff at Sunnydown take our responsibility of helping to keep you son safe very seriously.

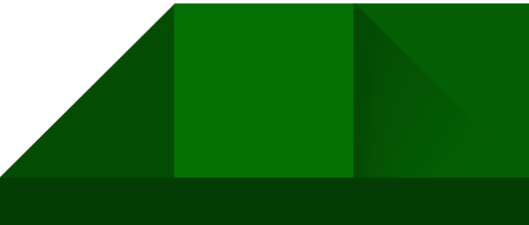
One way that we monitor whether your son may require some additional support is through a comprehensive Risk Assessment process. This is not new - the system was developed with the Care team many years ago. Over the years we have simply refined and enhanced it, incorporating any necessary updates to legislation, Safeguarding for example.

The complete process and all associated forms are available on our website. The attached letter serves as a summary of our process. **Please note that this process is a supportive measure, it is an educational tool, not a sanction.**

The processes and forms we employ at Sunnydown are designed to ensure the safety of all staff and students and to offer support in a targeted way, where we identify the need. These processes are constantly reflected upon; however, modifications to these forms and processes will occur annually during July in preparation for the following September.

This comprehensive Risk Assessment process is designed to help support your son, and keep him and all students and staff at Sunnydown safe, while helping them develop the skills to engage successfully in our wider community.

Your son's form tutor or a member of the Pastoral or SLT teams will make contact next week to discuss the current Risk Assessment we have for your son.



## KS4 Science Assessment

Year 10 Pathway 2 have a Science assessment on Monday 27th February on the topic of Electricity. They have been working hard towards this and are well prepared.

Year 10 Pathway 1 will be the following week.

Mr Cybuch and Ms Hristova

## KS3 Homework schedule

Homework remains an integral part of life at Sunnysdown.

Extensive research has shown that well planned, constructive homework, which is well marked and given appropriate feedback, is a great motivator. In addition, as a result of developing highly effective habits and routine, outcomes also improve. We have carefully thought about our approach to homework in order to enhance academic progress and, just as importantly, develop the life skills of organisation, resilience and independence. Additional research identifies the anxiety that Homework can induce in young people, particularly those who prefer to keep the worlds of school and home far apart. Managing this balance is something we reflect on often.

To achieve this, in Key Stage 3, we start introducing homework in Year 8 to ensure students do not become overwhelmed building up to several pieces a week in KS4. We give just one piece of homework per week in KS3 and the expectations in terms of time changes across the Key Stage, increasing even further in Years 10 and 11.

Year 8 - 20 mins per week

Year 9 - 30 mins per week

Your son may wish to do more than this. You may wish for your son to do more than this. However, as a school we are mindful of the impact of additional homework on young minds. We will not insist on additional work being done at home, beyond that set according to our schedule. Homework is given out and collected by the subject teacher.

If students have any queries about their homework, they should contact their subject teacher in the first instance and then their form tutor. We are aware that homework can cause unwanted anxieties at home with the students. This is obviously not our intention but should this occur we would urge you to contact the school as soon as possible so that we can find a way to support you as parents and to help the students to overcome any difficulties they may be encountering.

Resilience, Independence, Cooperation, and Effort (having a 'good go' at homework tasks) can be rewarded with a House Point.

KS3 Homework for next week is as follows:

	Spring 2	Spring 2	Spring 2	Spring 2	Spring 2	Spring 2
	20.2.23	27.2.23	6.3.23	13.3.23	20.3.23	27.3.23
<b>Year 8</b>	English	Maths	Science	Art	PE	RE
<b>Year 9</b>	Maths	Science	English	RE	Art	PE

# Looking for a job?



**Come to the Tandridge Job Fair**

**Thursday 9 March**

**10am till 1pm**

At the Council Offices in Oxted.  
Please book your place online.

Freedom Leisure are looking for young people to get involved in volunteering for the Friday night project.

Please find attached some information. This is a great opportunity for Duke Of Edinburgh students and they get a 7 day gym pass after each session worked.

For more information please send an email to: [tandridge.sports@freedom-leisure.co.uk](mailto:tandridge.sports@freedom-leisure.co.uk)

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tandridge-job-fair-tickets-507648619687>



## **NEW! Sports Assistant Volunteer position**

We are looking for volunteers aged 16 - 18yrs  
to help out at our Friday Night Project at  
Tandridge Leisure Centre



## Pentathlon Swimming Gala

Sunnydown swimming teams - Year 8 & 9s headed off to Moor House school for the first swimming gala in recent times. Students from across Surrey took place in a mixture of events; 10 and 25 metre individual races and relays, ball shuttle races, raft races and finally a treasure hunt where students had to collect as many different objects as they could (some floating on the surface and some underwater) in sixty seconds.

It was a great chance for some of our boys to show their swimming ability and represent the school. One organiser highlighted Alfie Monk for his excellent behaviour but they could have picked any one of the boys as all were brilliant ambassadors for the school. Their thoughts on the day are below.

Ollie: It was slightly better than football

Felix: I would prefer swimming to football. It was really good.

Alfie: Absolutely amazing. They should definitely do it again

Jacob K: It was aquatastic!

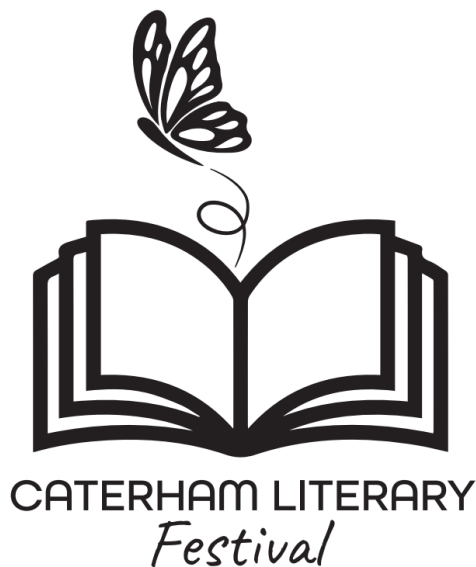
*Swim team:*

Alfie Monk  
Andrew Hendry-Smith  
Charlie Carter

Charlie Histed  
Felix Drummond  
Harvey Caruana

Jacob Kelly  
Kasra Alavi  
Ollie Taylor

## Caterham Literary Festival



Sunnydown are proud supporters and sponsors of the Caterham Literary Festival. More information to follow soon but this exciting community initiative has the potential to become an annual event, attracting the attention we need to the power of literacy.

## Attendance

Congratulations to 8N for achieving 100% attendance for the week ending 10<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

Also, congratulations to the pupils who have achieved 100% attendance for the Spring 1 term 2023.

<b><u>Thought for the Week</u></b> (W/C: 20 <sup>th</sup> February)  <b>What does heritage mean to you?</b>	<b><u>Thought for the Week</u></b> (W/C: 27 <sup>th</sup> February)  <b>World Book Day 2022 - You are a reader</b>
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<b><u>Sportsmanship Award</u></b>  <b>Reece Wood</b> (11P)	<b><u>Employability Skills Award</u></b>  <b>Cam'ron Pindi</b> (11J)  For using his initiative, being self motivated and teamwork
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<b><u>Mathematician of the Week</u></b>  The recipient of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mr Zadok for engagement in KS4 mathematics for cooperation & resilience is  <b>Oscar Stewart</b> (10C)  The recipient of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Cybuch is  <b>Toby Chapman</b> (9D)	<b><u>Scientist of the Week</u></b>  The recipient of Scientist of the Week, awarded by Mr Cybuch for cross curricular is  <b>Sonny Chater</b> (9D)  The recipient of Scientist of the Week, awarded by Ms Hristova for co-operation & active learning is  <b>George Smith</b> (11P)	<b><u>Musician of the Week</u></b>  The recipient of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Cybuch is  <b>Callum Dowie</b> (7C)	<b><u>Chef of the Week</u></b>  The recipients of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull for listening carefully & consistently trying his best is  <b>Zach Hoad</b> (7W)	<b><u>Aristst of the Week</u></b>  The recipient of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle for his creative Pop art drawing is  <b>Finley Marley</b> (9T)
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## Song of the Week

Song of the Week was nominated by Callum 7C: Imagine Dragons - Believer (2017).

### House Points

Freddie Phillips	550 House Points
Teddy Foster	450 House Points
Charlie Histed	400 House Points

### Forthcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
Tuesday 28th February 2023	KS3 Basketball Tournament
Wednesday 8th March 2023	Year 7 Parents' Evening KS3/KS4 Dodgeball
Friday 24th March 2023	Inset Day
Wednesday 29th March 2023	Year 9 & 10 Curriculum evening
Friday 31st March 2023	Last day of term
Monday 17th April 2023	Start of Summer Term
Monday 1st May 2023	Bank Holiday
Monday 8th May 2023	Bank Holiday - King's Coronation
Friday 26th May 2023	End of Summer Term 1
Monday 5th June 2023	Start of Summer Term 2 Year 10 Work Experience Week
Friday 23rd June	Inset Day
Wednesday 5th July 2023	SSSSA Athletics
Friday 21st July 2023	Last day of term

# Trial changes to daily lunch times - Weekly Overview

## Monday:

Event	Current timings	Proposed trial timings
Students and taxis can arrive	09:00-09:30	No change
Registration	09:30-10:00	No change
School meeting	10.00-10.15	No change
Lesson 1	10:15-10:45	No change
Break	10.45-11:00	No change
Lesson 1 Continued	11:00-11.30	No change
Lesson 2	11:30-12:30	No change
Lunch (first half) KS3 - Eating KS4 - Playing	12:30-13:00	12.30 - 12.55
Lunch (second half) KS3 - Playing KS4 Eating	13.00 - 13.30	12.55 - 13.20
Lesson 3	13:30-14:30	13.20 - 14.20
Lesson 4	14:30-15:30	14.20 - 15.20
Taxi	15.30 - 15.40	15.20 - 15.30 (As advertised on the website)

## Tuesday – Thursday:

Event	Current timings	Proposed trial timings
Students and taxis can arrive	08:30-09:00	No change
Registration	09:00-09:15	No change
Lesson 1	09:15-10:15	No change
Lesson 2	10:15-10:45	No change
Break	10.45-11:00	No change
Lesson 2 Continued	11:00-11.30	No change
Lesson 3	11:30-12:30	No change
Lunch (first half) KS3 - Eating KS4 - Playing	12:30-13:00	12.30 - 12.55 (5 minutes less lunch time)
Lunch (second half) KS3 - Playing KS4 Eating	13.00 - 13.30	12.55 - 13.20 (5 minutes less lunch time)
Lesson 4	13:30-14:30	13.20 - 14.20 Change to start and finish time. Same length of lesson.
Lesson 5	14:30-15:30	14.20 - 15.20 Change to start and finish time. Same length of lesson.
Taxi	15.30 - 15.40	15.20 - 15.30 (As advertised on the website)

## Friday

Event	Current timings	Proposed trial timings
Students and taxis can arrive	08:30-09:00	No change
Registration	09:00-09:15	No change

Lesson 1	09:15-10:15	No change
Lesson 2	10:15-10:45	No change
Break	10.45-11:00	No change
Lesson 2 Continued	11:00-11.30	No change
Lesson 3	11:30-12:30	No change
Lunch (first half) KS3 - Eating KS4 - Playing	12:30-13:00	12.30 - 12.55 (5 minutes less lunch time)
Lunch (second half) KS3 - Playing KS4 Eating	13.00 - 13.30	12.55 - 13.20 (5 minutes less lunch time)
Lesson 4 (PSHE)	13:30-14:30	13.20 - 14.20 Change to start and finish time. Same length of lesson.
Assembly	14:30-14:50	14.20 - 14.50 Change to start and finish time. Same length of lesson.
Taxi	14.50	14.50
End of School Day	15.00 (As advertised on the website)	15.00 (As advertised on the website)

FRIENDS OF SUNNYDOWN  
CORPORATE  
**GOLF**  
DAY

**DATE**

6 JUNE 2023  
ARRIVE 10AM  
TEE OFF 11AM

INCLUDED:  
BREAKFAST ROLL &  
2 COURSE MEAL

**VENUE**

FARLEIGH GOLF CLUB  
OLD FARLEIGH ROAD  
WARLINGHAM, CR6 9PE

**PRICE**

£75 PER PERSON  
&  
£280 PER 4 BALL

EARLY BIRD:  
£65 PER PERSON &  
£240 PER 4 BALL  
(offer ends 31 March)

BUY TICKETS

[www.bit.ly/sunnydowngolf2023](http://www.bit.ly/sunnydowngolf2023)

SCAN ME



Sunnydown is a small  
school in Surrey for young  
men with ASD.

Friends of Sunnydown  
supports the school and local  
community by providing vital  
funding where needed.



To bring the parental  
community and their  
business contacts together  
for a day to escape the office  
and help raise funds  
for the school.

[www.sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk](http://www.sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk)



SATURDAY 03RD JUNE  
2023

SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

12.00PM - 8PM

CATERHAM. CR3 5ED

## II SUNNYFEST 23 II

LIVE MUSIC | GREAT FOOD | FAMILY FUN



JOIN US FOR A FAMILY FESTIVAL,  
FILLED WITH AMAZING LIVE MUSIC



BEER/PROSECCO/GIN BAR | PIZZA | BURGERS |  
CARIBBEAN FOOD | CAKE | ICECREAM |  
BOUNCY CASTLE | MUSIC AND DANCING

RAISING MONEY AND AWARENESS FOR COMMUNITY  
MENTAL HEALTH INTERVENTIONS

TICKETS: £10 UNDER 12'S GO FREE  
WITH A PAYING ADULT

SCAN THE CODE TO PURCHASE  
TICKETS ONLINE OR BUY IN  
PERSON AT COMPUTER  
SOLUTIONS CATERHAM

