

SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

Portley House, 152 Whyteleafe Road, Caterham, Surrey, CR3 5ED

t. 01883 342281 / 346502 f. 01883 341342

e. office@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk

www.sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk

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



Friday 26th January 2024

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

Curriculum Evening

In the final week of the Spring Term on the evening of **Wednesday 27th March 2024**, we will be holding our Year 9 and Year 10 Curriculum Evening. This will be here on site and will be an opportunity for me to meet and deliver a presentation to the students and parents in both years on what their next school year will look like.

The focus for Year 9 students will be about choosing options and for Year 10 students it will be about preparation for their exams and college places. We will be inviting our colleagues from various colleges around Surrey to join us in the evening so that you can have an opportunity to talk with them about the transition to Post 16. More details will follow closer to the time, however, in the meantime please note the date in your diary. The event will most likely be between 5pm and 7pm.

Mr Lord

Friends of Sunnydown

A big thank you to everyone for your support over Christmas, we had a fantastic Christmas shopping day, we hope you all loved your gifts! If you received any unwanted gifts this year we would be really happy to take them off your hands ready for next Christmas! So, just send them into the office and we can collect them.

Dates for your Diary:

After the huge success of last year's Sunnyfest, we are doing it all again! SunnyFest 24 will be on Saturday 1st June 2024, 12pm-7pm and tickets are £12 (kids under 12 go free with a paying adult). Tickets will be released ASAP. Hope to see you there!

Upcoming science assessments

Year 10 – Organisation, Thursday 1st February

Students can revise using the PowerPoints on Google Classroom and BBC Bitesize.

Attendance

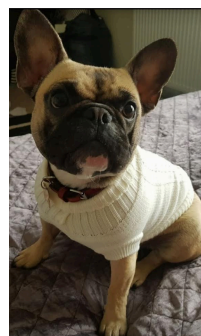
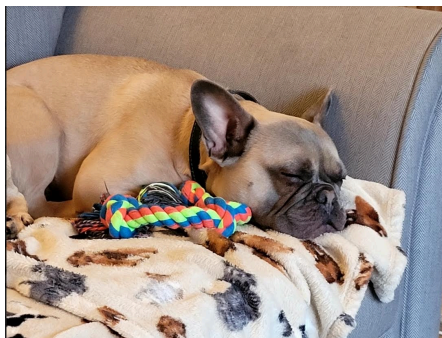
Congratulations to 9N for achieving 100% attendance during the week ending 19th January 2024.

Online safety

Please see the flier at the end of this newsletter re 'What Parents and Carers Need to know about MYLOL'.

Pet of the Week

This week's Pet of the Week goes to Alfie Monk (9N) and his two French Bulldogs - Oliver and Lola. Oliver is also Lola's grandson, how cute are they!



Thought for the Week (W/C 22nd January 2024)

Why is it important to remember the effects of the Holocaust?

Thought for the Week (W/C 29th January 2024)

What is a negative influence? How can you avoid them?

House Points

Lithar Po-Ba	750 House Points
Teddy Foster	700 House Points
Jayden Smurthwaite	650 House Points
Freddie Collins	550 House Points
Finley Marley	500 House Points

Baton Award

Charlie Histed
(9O)

For skillfully supporting a friend through a difficult moment

Employability Award

Alexander Neale
(11M)

For communication & interpersonal skills

Sportsmanship Award

Ryan Gellett
(11C)

&

Callum Truttero
(8C)

<u>Mathematician of the Week</u>	The recipient of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Webb is Callum Dowie (8C) <i>For excellent achievement on his Algebra assessment</i>
<u>Scientist of the Week</u>	The recipient of Scientist of the Week, awarded by Mr Cybuch is Jayden Peters (9O) <i>For cooperation</i> <i>& awarded by Ms Hristova is</i> Kye Lawrence (7C) <i>For his enthusiasm & consistent effort in science</i>
<u>Writer of the Week</u>	The recipient of Writer of the Week, awarded by Miss Newcombe is KS3 Sam Walsh (7C) <i>For his memory, positive mindset & confidence when recalling his Room 101 speech</i> & awarded by Mrs Jensen is KS4 Teddy Foster (10D) <i>For his excellent work ethic towards understanding a A Christmas Carol this week</i>
<u>Chef of the Week</u>	The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull is Ollie Taylor (9O) <i>For great recall of information & growing confidence</i>
<u>Artist of the Week</u>	The recipient of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle is Charlie Histed (9O) <i>For his pop art style drawing this week</i>

Forthcoming Events 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
Wednesday 31 st January	Year 8 Parents' Evening 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday 31 st January	Naturally Talented Me Careers Session (Years 7/8)
Tuesday 6 th February	Year 9 Diphtheria, Tetanus & Polio, Meningococcal ACWY vaccination
Wednesday 7 th February	Dragon's Den Careers Activity - Years 9 & 10
Mondy 12th-16th February	HALF TERM
Wednesday 6 th March	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 5 th March	KS3 Basketball event
Friday 15th March	INSET DAY
Wednesday 27 th March	Curriculum evening
Tuesday 2nd-12th April	EASTER HOLIDAYS

Wednesday 24 th April	Year 11 Parents' Evening 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Wednesday 15 th - Friday 17 th May	Year 9 Residential Trip
Monday 27 th -31 st May	HALF TERM
Saturday 1 st June	SunnyFest
Wednesday 19 th June	Year 10 Parents' Evening 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Thursday 20 th June	Scheduled formal graduation event 🎓
Friday 28 th June	School trip to The Arc
Tuesday 23 rd July	END OF TERM

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

MYLOL

AGE RESTRICTION
13-19

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

MyLOL is a free social networking and dating site aimed at teens. Profiles can publicly display users' images and information, including sexual orientation and personal interests. The service bills itself as "the number one teen dating website in the world", claiming to have more than a million users globally. Despite its popularity, the MyLOL app is no longer available from Google Play or the App Store, although the site is still active. In some countries, police forces and schools have previously warned parents about "sinister predators" and "inappropriate activities" on the site.

FLIMSY AGE GATES

Although MyLOL states it is exclusively aimed at users aged between 13 and 19, there is no credible age verification system to prevent a younger child – or an older adult – from signing up to the platform. Coupled with the fact that it's impossible to establish a user's true identity on MyLOL, this raises a serious concern that the site could be used for grooming.

AGE-INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT

MyLOL maintains that it monitors all uploaded images for nudity or sexual content. It also claims to be able to detect suspicious keywords. However, there have been numerous reports of explicit content being found on the platform, with users often posting provocative, semi-nude pictures of themselves and engaging in flirty or sexually explicit conversation.

POTENTIAL CYBER-BULLYING

MyLOL lets users "vote" on other people based solely on their appearance, much in the same vein as the now-defunct site Hot or Not. This feature could easily lead to distress and bullying, especially if a young person's profile pics receive an unfavourable response. Various reviews of MyLOL have noted that bullying frequently becomes an issue in the platform's chat groups and private messages.

IN-APP SPENDING

MyLOL is free to join and use, but it also offers paid-for memberships. Users who have paid money get their profile promoted at the top of the site and in search results. They can also earn additional credits for increased engagement with the platform – such as sharing, replying to messages and voting. At the time of writing, the monthly membership fee was \$9.95 (just under £8).

DATA COLLECTION

According to its privacy policy, MyLOL collects user data including email addresses, contact details and interests. While the company says it is committed to protecting users' privacy, the small print states that information may be shared externally. MyLOL claims to follow procedures to keep data secure, but does not specify what these procedures are, or whether such information is encrypted.

CONTACT FROM STRANGERS

MyLOL makes it easy to connect with strangers. In fact, the site's rewards feature encourages users to send private messages to people they don't know. There have been several media stories of adults posing as teens on MyLOL to connect with minors, which could lead to extremely dangerous situations, such as a young person meeting up with someone who has been posing under a false identity.

Advice for Parents & Carers

DISCUSS ONLINE DATING

It's vital to talk to your child about the possible dangers of platforms like MyLOL – particularly the threat of online predators. Remind them of the risks of sharing intimate images and information with strangers and emphasise that most people don't realise they're being "catfished" until it's too late – it really isn't wise for a young person to meet up with someone they've only spoken to online.

EXPLAIN PRIVACY RISKS

Before your child begins using a service such as MyLOL, it's important that they understand the potential pitfalls of giving out their personal data on this type of platform. Explain to them, for example, that they shouldn't divulge any personally identifying information to people who they don't know, as scammers can be quite convincing when attempting to steal someone's identity.

RESTRICT IN-APP SPENDING

If your child has access to a bank card or other payment method, they may be enticed into signing up for MyLOL's premium features. Having their profile boosted and receiving more attention could be especially tempting if their friends also use the site. You could consider altering their device's settings to disable internet purchases, or at the very least keeping an eye on their online spending.

SET UP LOCATION ALERTS

If you're worried that your child may be planning to meet up with someone they've met on MyLOL, you could consider utilising GPS or WiFi location tracking technology to follow their whereabouts in real time. You can even set up a virtual boundary or "fence" and opt to receive an alert to your phone if your child enters or exits a specified area.

Meet Our Expert

Carly Page is an experienced technology journalist with a track record of more than 10 years in the industry. Previously the editor of tech tabloid The Insider, Carly is now a freelance technology journalist, editor and consultant.



The National College

NOS National Online Safety
#WakeUpWednesday

@natonlinesafety

/NationalOnlineSafety

@nationalonlinesafety

@national_online_safety