

# SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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

t: 01883 342281/346502

e: office@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk



**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

Dear Parents and Carers

## Headteacher's Update

There has been a lot in the national news this week about how schools should focus on the whole child. The message is that young people need confidence resilience, life skills and good emotional health as well as strong academic progress. It is encouraging to see this becoming a national priority.

Although I have only been at Sunnydown for a short time, it is already clear to me that the school has a long established strength in this area. The staff here work with great care and skill to support every student. They help the boys grow in confidence and independence and they place real importance on wellbeing, communication and life skills. There is a genuine commitment to giving students rich and meaningful experiences that help them understand themselves and the world around them.

It is clear that this whole child approach is part of the culture at Sunnydown and I feel proud to join a community where this is valued so strongly.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you all have a good weekend

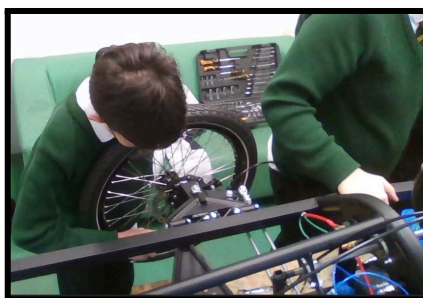
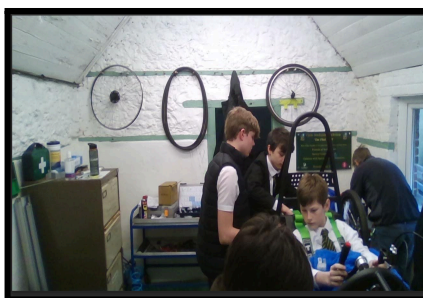
Mr Richard Woolley, Headteacher

## Kasra Alavi - 1,000 House Points

Kasra's transformation over his five year journey here has been incredible. He has grown into a mature and conscientious young man who prides himself on his dedication and resilience to continue improving. He is polite and friendly with impeccable manners; every door is held open and every morning starts with a "how are you?". Kasra genuinely listens to and cares for all peers and staff which can be seen in the way he engages in conversations and presents himself on a daily basis. Over his time here, Kasra has upheld and worked on his RICE<sup>3</sup> values so this achievement is very well deserved! Congratulations Kasra on achieving 1,000 House Points. We are all very proud!

**Miss Newcombe**

## GASP - This week



## Thales

Thales has shared with us their Future Talent Newsletter, which has useful information on their apprenticeship roles for September 2026, as well as their virtual work experience platform. Also there is information about their virtual insight event where they will be talking about the opportunities available for both graduate and apprenticeship roles at Thales across the UK.

**Thales Future Talent Newsletter**

Our Graduate and Apprentice roles for September 2026 intake are now LIVE! Don't delay, apply today! Click [HERE](#)

We have a variety of apprenticeship roles available at various locations across the UK, including Belfast, Cheadle, Crawley, Doncaster, Glasgow, Plymouth, Reading and Templecombe, from Level 2 to Level 6, check out our options below:

**Apprenticeship Vacancies**

➤ Systems Engineer	➤ End User Support
➤ Software Engineer	➤ Finance
➤ Mechanical Engineer	➤ Procurement
➤ Hardware Engineer	➤ Project Controls
➤ Manufacturing Engineer	➤ Business
➤ Electronics Engineer	➤ Cyber Security

**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
- Sign up for virtual work experience
- Applying for a role and what happens at an assessment centre
- Connect with a digital buddy

Welcome to Thales Future Talent Connects platform.

This is the ideal place to be if you are ready to apply for an apprenticeship starting in September 2026, or if you are thinking about an apprenticeship for future years. Our Future Talent team, apprentice and graduate buddies are ready to answer any questions you have.

To register follow the link <https://thales-connects.co.uk/futuretalent> or scan the above QR code

**Coming soon**  
Thales Virtual Insight Event – Thursday 4 December at 5pm – more details to follow...

**THALES**  
Building a future we can all trust

Follow us  
Check us out online!

Thales  
 @ThalesGroup  
 Thales Group  
 The Thales Group  
 @ThalesCareers

<https://www.thalesgroup.com/careers>

**Interested in Work Experience?**

We can now offer Thales Virtual Work Experience, any time, any day!

- Behind the scenes look at Thales
- Certificate of completion
- Students aged 13+ can apply
- Over 7 hours of content
- Complete at a pace that suits you

Simply scan the QR code or follow the link to register:  
<https://www.springpod.com/virtual-work-experience/future-creators-wanted-virtual-work-experience-with-thales/WEXP-00487>

**Scan Me!** →

**THALES**  
Building a future we can all trust

Follow us  
Check us out online!

Thales  
 @ThalesGroup  
 Thales Group  
 The Thales Group  
 @ThalesCareers

<https://www.thalesgroup.com/careers>

**Thinking of applying for a Graduate or Apprentice role at Thales?**

Applications are now open for roles starting in September 2026

Want to learn more? Join us for an informative virtual event on Thursday 4 December at 17.00 – 18.00

**Our virtual event will include lots of information such as:**

- Thales and our different business areas
- the different future talent programmes available
- the benefits of working for Thales
- hints and tips on our application process
- hear from some of our graduates and apprentices

Simply scan the QR code or follow the link to register:  
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1975299268285?aff=oddtcreator>

**Scan Me!** →

**THALES**  
Building a future we can all trust

Follow us  
Check us out online!

Thales  
 @ThalesGroup  
 Thales Group  
 The Thales Group  
 @ThalesCareers

<https://www.thalesgroup.com/careers>

<p><b>Thought for the Week</b> (W/C: 24/11/25)</p> <p><b>UK Parliament Week</b> <b>What does it mean to live in a democracy?</b></p>	<p><b>Thought for the Week</b> (W/C: 1/12/25)</p> <p><b>Protected Characteristics</b></p>
--	---

<p><b><u>The Baton</u></b></p> <p>Awarded by Mr Wright</p> <p><b>Carter Stevenson</b> <i>Leadership qualities/encouraging others</i></p>
--

<b>RICE<sup>3</sup> Awards</b>	
<b>Resilience</b>	<b>Kamauri Craig</b>
<b>Independence</b>	<b>Zac Picksley</b> <b>Ollie Taylor</b>
<b>Cooperation</b>	<b>Kieren Bishop</b>

<b><u>Scientist of the Week</u></b>	<p>The recipient of Scientist of Week, awarded by Ms Hristova</p> <p><b>Sam Watson</b> <i>For creativity and effort</i></p> <p><b>Thomas Copus-Fawcett</b> <i>For creativity and cooperation</i></p> <p><b>Kayden Wheatcroft</b> <i>For initiative and cooperation</i></p>
<b><u>Mathematician of the Week</u></b>	<p>The recipient of Mathematician of Week, awarded by Mrs Webb is</p> <p><b>Harry Origgi-Fernando</b> <i>For effort and engagement</i></p> <p>&amp; awarded by Mr Wright</p> <p><b>Matthew Marenga</b> <i>Growth Mindset</i></p>
<b><u>Writer of the Week</u></b>	<p>The recipients of Writer of the Week, awarded by Miss Newcombe</p> <p><b>KS3</b></p> <p><b>Bertie Evison</b> <i>for writing four excellent PEE paragraphs</i></p>

	<p><b>Kieren Bishop</b> <i>For dedication and engagement</i></p> <p>&amp; awarded by Miss Thomson</p> <p><b>Harry Salter</b> <i>For enthusiasm in reading and participation</i></p> <p><b>KS4</b></p> <p><b>Ollie Taylor</b> <i>For a conscientious attitude to English GCSE</i></p> <p>&amp; awarded by Miss Thomson</p> <p><b>Harrison Williams</b> <i>Amazing work and effort</i></p> <p><b>Sam Lopez</b> <i>Homework completion commitment</i></p>
<u><b>Chef of the Week</b></u>	<p>The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull is</p> <p><b>Alex Rose</b> <i>Effort and independence</i></p>
<u><b>Reader of the Week</b></u>	<p>The recipients of Reader of the Week, awarded by Miss Wood</p> <p><b>Jonah Mee</b> <i>For excellent effort &amp; a positive attitude towards reading lessons and activities</i></p>
<u><b>Artist of the Week</b></u>	<p>The recipient of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle is</p> <p><b>Harry Salter</b> <b>James Titchner</b> <i>Great effort and independence in Art</i></p>
<u><b>Musician of the Week</b></u>	<p>The recipient of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mr Smith is</p> <p><b>Zack Harrison</b> <b>Arthur Edmondson</b></p>
<u><b>Computer Scientist of the Week</b></u>	<p>The recipients of Computer Scientist of the Week, awarded by Mr Djehiche are</p> <p><b>Ned Barnes</b> <b>Grayson Hanlon</b> <i>For great effort &amp; engagement in lesson this week</i></p>

### House Points

House Points	
Ollie Taylor	1,200 House Points
Kasra Alavi	1,000 House Points
Freddie Ponsford	900 House Points



Eddie Smith	650 House Points
Jack McDowell	300 House Points
Jonah Mee	300 House Points
Kieren Bishop	50 House Points
Bertie Evison	50 House Points
Tyler Forshaw	50 House Points
Nathan James	50 House Points

## Forthcoming Events 2025/26

<b>Autumn Term 2025</b>	
Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2025	Coffee morning with Dr Cath Stracey
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	KS4 Badminton Tournament
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Year 7 Cinema Trip
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Year 7 Swimming
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Start of Year 11 Practice Exams (2 weeks)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	KS3 Badminton Tournament
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	Early finish – 1.30pm
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2025	INSET DAY
<b>Spring Term 2026</b>	
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	INSET DAY
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Year 11 Parents Evening
Wednesday 28 <sup>th</sup> January 2026	Open Morning (9.30am – 11.00am)
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> - Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Year 11 DofE trip to High Ashhurst
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Year 10 Sayers Croft Residential
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February 2026	Half Term
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Year 7 Parents Evening
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Curriculum Evening
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March 2026	Early finish – 1.30pm
<b>Summer Term 2026</b>	
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Year 9 Bikeability Level 1
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> April - Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Year 9 Bikeability Level 2
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2026	Year 9 Parents Evening
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	Open Morning (9.30am – 11.00am)
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 10
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 11
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 9
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 7
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 8
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May 2026	Half Term
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 11 Graduation
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	INSET DAY
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June 2026	Year 10 Parents Evening
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2026	Sports Day
Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July 2026	End of term (12.30pm finish)

