

SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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



Friday 28th February 2025

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

Sunnydown is a school that adheres to and promotes British Values which are the values are the principles and standards of behavior that define what it means to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Britain. These values include:

- Democracy: A culture based on freedom and equality, where everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities
- Rule of law: The need for rules to make a safe, secure, and happy environment to live and work
- Individual liberty: The freedom to be yourself and to have your own views
- Mutual respect: Treating others with respect and courtesy, and listening to their views
- Tolerance: Respecting and accepting the views and beliefs of others

Saturday 1st March sees the start of Ramadan. This year, to learn more about this particular religion, I will be fasting on weekdays. This will allow me to compare and contrast this religion with others, including Christianity.

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims won't eat or drink during the hours of daylight. This is called fasting. Children are not expected to fast until they reach puberty, usually around the age of 14.

Ramadan remembers the month the Qur'an (the Muslim holy book) was first revealed to the Prophet Muhammad. The actual night that the Qur'an was revealed is a night known as Lailut ul-Qadr ('The Night of Power').

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. The exact dates of Ramadan change every year. This is because Islam uses a calendar based on the cycles of the Moon.

In 2025 in the UK, Ramadan is expected to begin on Friday 28th February and will end on Sunday 30th March.

Most Muslims fast between dawn and sunset. Fasting allows Muslims to devote themselves to their faith. It is thought to teach self-discipline and reminds them of the suffering of the poor.

However, children, pregnant women, elderly people and those who are ill or travelling don't have to fast.

During Ramadan, it is common to have one meal (known as the suhoor), just before dawn and another (known as the iftar), directly after sunset.

Almost all Muslims try to give up bad habits during Ramadan. It is a time for prayer and good deeds. They will try to spend time with family and friends and help people in need.

Many Muslims will attempt to read the whole of the Qur'an at least once during Ramadan. They will also attend special services in Mosques during which the Qur'an is read.

Ramadan Mubarak. Paul Jensen.

Empowering Sunnydown Students: Join Us for National Careers Week and Beyond!

At Sunnydown our mission is to prepare students for successful futures by providing them with the skills and experiences necessary to thrive in the workplace. As part of this commitment, we are excited to announce our participation in **National Careers Week 2025** taking place from **3rd - 8th March** nationalcareersweek.com

National Careers Week Initiatives

During this week, we will conduct our annual audit of students' career ambitions. This process helps us tailor our support to each student's unique goals. For those uncertain about their career paths, we have planned a series of engaging activities designed to help them identify their strengths, interests and suitable career options. Activities include:

- **Career Exploration activities:** Interactive sessions where students can learn about various professions and industries.
- **Self-Assessment Exercises:** Tools to help students understand their strengths, preferences, skills and how they align with potential careers.
- **Apprenticeship activities**

Call for Community Support

To enhance these initiatives, we are seeking the invaluable support of the Sunnydown community, including parents and local businesses. Your involvement can provide our students with real-world insights and opportunities through:

- **Job Shadowing:** Allowing a student to observe a professional in their workplace for a day.
- **Work Experience Placements:** Offering short-term placements (1, 3 or 5 days) to give students hands-on experience.
- **Career Talks at Sunnydown:** Sharing your professional journey and industry knowledge with students.
- **Skills-Building Sessions:** Conducting workshops to teach specific skills relevant to your field.

Given that our students reside throughout Surrey, we aim to create a comprehensive database of contacts to match students with opportunities in their local areas.

Y10 Work experience - Monday 2nd - Friday 6th June 2025

If you or someone in your network can offer support, please reach out to me at b.wright@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk. Your participation can make a significant difference in shaping the futures of our students. Thank you for considering this opportunity to contribute to their growth and success.

Mr Wright *Careers Lead*

Business Breakfast - Friday 20th June: 7.00am - 9.00am

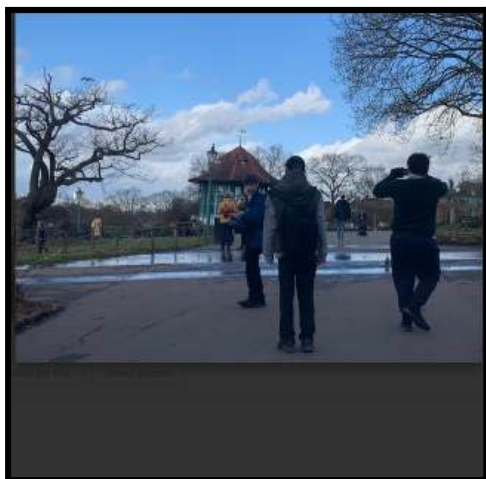
Sunnydown School welcomes local businesses and career partners to our second Business Breakfast. The event will provide a platform for networking and collaboration, strengthening our community ties and commitment to student development. Attendees will engage in discussions about the benefits of employing neurodiverse individuals and how we can collectively enhance career opportunities and best prepare our students for the world of work.

If you or someone in your network can offer support, please reach out to me at b.wright@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk. Your participation can make a significant difference in shaping the futures of our students. Thank you for considering this opportunity to contribute to their growth and success.

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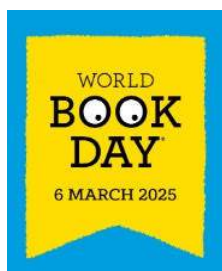
Trip to Horniman Museum

Year 11 GCSE Art students had a great trip to the Horniman Museum in South London where we visited the Butterfly House, Museum and Aquarium. They particularly liked the 'Wish Tree' where many students respectfully wrote a kind thought. It was great to see the students so engaged and we left with plenty of inspiration for their exam Unit 2 project.



Mrs Ogle

World Book Day 2025



This coming Thursday celebrates World Book Day and all students will be given a £1 book voucher. This entitles every child to claim a free book out of a selection of books chosen by the World Book Day charity or claim £1 off a book or audio book of their choice. The voucher can be used in participating booksellers. World Book Day celebrates the love of reading and at Sunnysdown we support the students to further enhance this vital skill through dedicated reading sessions, lunchtime library clubs and a well stocked library for all ages and abilities.



Miss Wood

Greenhouse Half Term Holiday Scheme



Over half term we had the latest Greenhouse holiday scheme where students made different smoothies on the smoothie bikes, played everything from sardines to Danish longball and went on trips to the O2, Ikea, Burger King and Kew Gardens as well as travelling across the Thames on the cable car. One of the things I like best about these events isn't just the opportunity for students to try new things but to overcome their fears and I was so proud to see Freddie Collins at first be reluctant to go on the cable car, then refuse, then see the great encouragement from his friends which enabled him to overcome his fears and that growth in such a short space of time was brilliant to see.

Well done to all the students!



Gabe

Online Safety

Please see the flier attached to this newsletter regarding 'What Parents and Educators Need to Know about Marvel Rivals.'

Mr Cassim

Poetry Library Trip

The poets of Sunnydown took a trip to London on Wednesday to visit the Poetry Library at Southbank. With a busy day watching, learning, reciting poems by famous poets and taking centre stage on the platform where many famous poets have performed before, the group was thrilled with the sights of London. Big Ben got a few wows. Each pupil

completed a poem of their own by the end of the session, which I have attached as an ebook for you all to enjoy. It was a great day out and very much enjoyed by not just the students but staff too.

The group are very excited to start filming which will commence from now until 4th April, which is the deadline day for the Poetry by Heart competition.

I will continue to keep the pupils updated as we await results day in July.





Miss Thomson

<p><u>Thought for the Week</u> (W/C: 3 March 2025)</p> <p>National Careers Week</p>	<p><u>Thought for the Week</u> (W/C: 10 March 2025)</p> <p>Young Carers</p>
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<p><u>The Baton</u></p> <p>Bailey Goodliffe <i>For adapting to a new challenge</i></p>
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<p><u>Mathematician of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipients of Mathematician of Week, awarded by Mrs Webb are</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tekai Lewis <i>For excellent engagement</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Harley Schooling <i>For engagement & effort</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">& awarded by Mr Wright is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Freddie Ponsford <i>For effort & engagement</i></p>
<p><u>Scientist of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipients of Scientist of the week, awarded by Mr Cybuch are</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jayden Smurthwaite Harry Franklin</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For Cooperation</i></p>
<p><u>Writer of the Week</u></p>	<p>The recipients of Writer of the Week, awarded by Miss Thompson are</p> <p style="text-align: center;">KS3</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Freddie Ponsford Kamauri Craig Hayden Howells Callum Duff</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Leo Ewen Oliver Hall Thomas Illman Elliot Palmer Harry Origgi-Fernando</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>For Perfect Poet - Amazing Poetry Writing</i></p>
<u>Chef of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Downs is Callum Duff <i>For being very engaged & focussed in the Friday Food Experience</i></p>
<u>Artist of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle is Sonny Chater <i>For his mature engagement & investigation on the art trip this week</i></p>
<u>Musician of the Week</u>	<p>The recipients of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mr Smith are Freddie Ponsford Edward Gair</p>
<u>Reader of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Writer of the Week, awarded by Miss Adams is Carter Stevenson <i>For his focused reading session</i></p>
<u>Computer Scientist of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Computer Scientist of the Week, awarded by Mr Amzart is Eddie Smith <i>For a wonderful presentation in lesson</i></p>

House Points

<u>House Points</u>	
Taylor Conway	900 House Points
Jayden Smurthwaite	800 House Points
Harry Vaughan	750 House Points
Robert Hall	750 House Points
Ethan Lyons	600 House Points
Callum Dowie	550 House Points
Eddie Smith	500 House Points
Jack Gregory	450 House Points
Sam Walsh	350 House Points
Jack McDowell	150 House Points
Oliver Hall	100 House Points

Forthcoming Events 2025

<u>Spring Term 2025</u>	
Monday 3 rd March - Saturday 8 th March 2025	National Careers Week 2025
Tuesday 4 th March 2025	SSSSA KS3 Basketball
Wednesday 12 th March 2025	Year 7 Parents' Evening
Friday 14 th March 2025	Life Skills Science Museum: Power Up Trip
Monday 17 th March 2025	KS3 Fulham football
Wednesday 2 nd April 2025	Year 9 & 10 Curriculum Evening
Monday 7 th April - Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	EASTER HOLIDAY (1.20pm finish on 4 th April)

Summer Term 2025	
Tuesday 22 nd April 2025	Start of summer term
Wednesday 30 th April 2025	Year 11 Parents' Evening
Wednesday 30 th April 2025	SSSSA KS4 Basketball
Tuesday 6 th May 2025	Year 10 Kenley Bike Challenge
Wednesday 7 th May 2025	Year 11 Kenley Bike Challenge
Wednesday 7 th May 2025	Open morning (9.30-11am)
Friday 9 th May 2025	Year 8 Kenley Bike Challenge
Monday 12 th May 2025	KS4 Fulham football
Friday 16 th May 2025	Year 9 Kenley Bike Challenge
Friday 23 rd May 2025	Year 7 Kenley Bike Challenge
Monday 26th May - Friday 30th May 2025	HALF TERM
Monday 2 nd - Friday 6 th June 2025	Year 10 Work Experience
Monday 9 th June 2025	KS3 Fulham football
Wednesday 18 th June 2025	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Thursday 19 th June 2025	Graduation
Friday 20 th June 2025	Business Breakfast
Friday 20th June 2025	INSET DAY
Thursday 26 th June 2025	FoS Golf Day
Wednesday 2 nd - Friday 4 th July 2025	Year 9 Residential
Wednesday 9 th July 2025	Presentation event
Friday 11 th July 2025	The Arc - Prospero Drama Group
Thursday 17 th July 2025	Sports Day
Friday 18th July 2025	END OF TERM
Monday 21 st July 2025 (Was 4 th November 2024)	INSET DAY
Tuesday 22 nd July 2025 (Was 14 th March 2025)	INSET DAY