

# SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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## Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

Leading a school is one of the most rewarding careers available. To do so successfully requires a great team. Huge thanks to the team who organised, contributed to and attended the very successful Year 9 and 10 Pathways and Careers evening last night. Special mention to Mr Lord for his two informative presentations. Thanks also to the families able to attend. It is always a pleasure to welcome families to school.

KS4 options were discussed last night, among other items. Year 9 students start to make these choices and discuss their KS4 GCSE Pathways after Easter, in preparation for September. At Sunnydown, we balance the academic requirements for all courses post Sunnydown, and the emotional wellbeing of the boys, with our finite resources. These include funding and staff; in number, experience and expertise. What we have found is that our core offer is more than adequate to provide the springboard to the next steps of any Post 16 qualifications that our students have wished to progress onto. We maintain great pride in our curriculum offer which is available on our website, including information regarding Year 9 Options.

I am confident that I have recognised the awarding of Art Teacher of the Year to Mrs Ogle in previous newsletters, but am mindful to remind our community of the strength of this subject at Sunnydown. Having a teacher of the calibre of Mrs Ogle has allowed students to also be recognised for National Awards, and complete an array of GCSE's under the umbrella of Art. One of our most popular KS4 courses, Art remains a high priority here at Sunnydown and we will look towards even more opportunities to promote this qualification and Art in all of its facets in years to come.

With an early finish today (1.20pm) we break for Easter. On behalf of the staff and governors here at Sunnydown, I wish all families the opportunity to stop and reflect on ourselves, spending quality time with one another. When we return on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April, this will be at our normal Monday arrival time.

A huge deal of gratitude is extended to each and every taxi driver and their respective companies. I often welcome taxis to school in the morning, and see them off in the afternoon. They all greet our boys politely, many of them getting out of the taxi to open doors for students and wishing them well for the day ahead. We have a total of 20 taxis ferrying approximately 80% of our students to and from school. Without them, 80% of students may not be able to actually get to school - so a huge 'Happy Easter' and thank you to the team of dedicated taxi drivers.

Finally, a huge thank you to my team. Whilst education is our focus and core business, Teachers and TAs cannot undertake their roles without wider support. For example, Tina and Anna take their roles as cleaners incredibly seriously and look after the finer details around school. They are second to none. More recently Miss Clarke has offered her services to this team and has added great value. Site management is the responsibility of Mr Wort and amongst a great deal of other tasks, he maintains our fleet of minibuses allowing the many trips we undertake to run smoothly. Our amazing chef Sean, supported by the wonderful kitchen staff Zoe and Julie prepare healthy meals that are looked forward to all day, and lunchtime is ably supervised by Zaiba - thank you all! The admin team made up of Miss Lawson, Mrs Cole and Miss Moore are the front line of contacts with the outside world. Their initial engagements with parents, visitors, and guests are always warm and welcome.

It is because of your collective support that we are able to deliver the world class education that parents and young people have become accustomed to at Sunnydown. Thank you.

### Easter treats

The kitchen team once again have pulled out all the stops to add some Easter fun here at Sunnydown.



### Sporting Events

Three teams and a 22 man squad went to Fulham training ground for the Key Stage 3 League Day 1 fixtures. For many students it was their first day representing the school but all boys, whatever their level of experience, played well throughout. The Premiership team were undefeated with four wins and a draw, the Championship team lost two and drew two whilst the Division One team fought valiantly throughout and finished with a worthy draw. Well played to all the boys.

**Star Player, Premiership:** *Jack Bristow*

**Star Player, Championship:** *Ollie Taylor*

**Star Player, Division One:** *Callum Truttero*

*Photo from last week's KS3 Tag-Rugby Tournament in Cobham*



## ***Swimming Gala***

Due to absences only four boys took part in the recent swim gala at Moorhouse school. This meant they barely had a rest as they took part in relays, raft races, underwater treasure hunts and solo races and had to show their skills at front crawl, breaststroke and backstroke. The boys were nervous before the day at the thought of taking part in a competitive swim but massively enjoyed it once they started. They should all be very proud of the way they overcame their fears and they performed and behaved brilliantly. The biggest cheer of the day was when Kamauri completed a length of the pool which was the first time he had done so, but a massive well done has to go to all of the boys.

Kamauri Craig  
Freddie Ponsford  
Sam Lopes  
Zac Hoad

## ***Bikeability***

Last week, students finally finished their Bikeability on road cycling course having battled the changeable weather whilst learning/being reminded about the observational skills needed to be safe when cycling on road. Well done to all the boys who took part:

Charlie Carter	Jacob Kelly	Lithar Po Ba
Dominic Hanley	Jayden Peters	Michael Hanley
Harry Franklin	Jonathan Edwards	Ollie Taylor
Harvey Caruana	Leo Sumsion	

## **Sayers Croft**

Recently the Year 7s and 8s went to Sayers Croft Outdoor Activity Centre to try their hand at a range of activities from ziplining and shelter building to gladiator challenges and caving before sitting down by a campfire to roast marshmallows. For some boys overcoming a fear of heights or trying new things was the biggest challenge, for others it was the close call with wild animals but all the boys did brilliantly and had a great time:

Kamauri: I liked everything  
Thomas: My favourite bit was the caving, that was so fun  
Noah: I want to go back to the caves





## Reading

Spring saw a record number of students achieving 100% in their reading targets. A huge well done to everyone who achieved a high reading score! Please see the list at the end of this newsletter.

## Upcoming Science assessments

Year 7 - Cells and organisation: Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April

Year 10 - Communicable diseases: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April

Year 11 - Complete the two practice assessments - chemical analysis and magnetism & electromagnets for homework using the revision materials on Google Classroom and BBC Bitesize. Ensure to bring the papers to school for evaluation for our first science lesson after the break on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April.

**Ms Hristova**

## Poetry by Heart Competition

This was George's Whatling's poetry entry for the Poetry by Heart competition. With George being a late entry into the competition he managed to write this poem in 15 minutes at the Poetry workshop, working closely with our guest poet Justin Coe.

### ***I want to tell you - (2024) George Whatling***

*I want to tell you  
About my interests,  
Each day the urge gets stronger  
To learn, explore, find another  
Only to wait a little longer.*

*I want to tell you  
All of my memories,  
Each day, without an ear  
To hear my lectures, to hear my life  
Because nobody is here.*

*I'd like to inform you  
Of all my knowledge  
Towards all of your problems.  
However, I'm ignored, pushed away,  
Treated like a problem.*

*I'd like to say  
I have ambitions  
Driven by joy, driven by hope,  
Driven by dreams from childhood,  
I can now finally cope.*

*Now, I can tell you  
All of my dreams,  
My hopes, my interests too.  
Now, like a flower blooming in the summer sun,  
I'm proud to be recognised too.*

Well done to all the poetry participants completing their filming and entries into the national competition this week. We will all anxiously wait for 1<sup>st</sup> May when we find out if Sunnydown have placed in the finals.

**Miss Thomson**

### Unique Art Awards

Entries for the Unique Art awards are now open! The deadline is 17<sup>th</sup> April.

The choice of themes and media options for entries are below:

**Painter**  
**Photographer**  
**3D Sculpture**  
**Digital Art**

Climate  
Friends and Family  
Landscapes  
Portrait

There will be three finalists from each age group in each of the four categories - Bronze (3rd) Silver (2nd) and Gold (1st) and students could win up to £750 in art vouchers.

If you have any questions please do email Mrs Ogle (r.ogle@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk)



**Thought for the Week**  
**(W/C 25<sup>th</sup> March 2024)**

World Autism Day

<b><u>Mathematician of the Week</u></b>	The recipient of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Webb is <b>Freddie Dunne</b> <b>(8C)</b> <i>For working really hard &amp; doing well in his Probability assessment</i> & awarded by Miss Thomson is Callum Lagan <b>(11C)</b>
<b><u>Scientist of the Week</u></b>	The recipients of Scientist of the Week, awarded by Ms Hristova are <b>Freddie Ponsford</b> <b>(8W)</b> <i>For resilience &amp; cooperation</i> <b>Varen Estwick</b> <b>(11C)</b> <i>For work completion &amp; cooperation</i> & awarded by Mr Cybuch is <b>Calum Lagan</b> <b>(11C)</b> <i>Work completion</i>
<b><u>Writer of the Week</u></b>	The recipients of Writer of the Week, awarded by Mrs Wermig is <b>KS3</b> <b>Noah Atkins</b> <b>(8W)</b> <b>Harrison Williams</b> <b>(8C)</b> <i>For their excellent WW1 poems</i> & awarded by Miss Thomson is <b>KS4</b> <b>George Whatling</b> <b>(11M)</b> <i>For his wonderful poem entry</i>
<b><u>Chef of the Week</u></b>	The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull is <b>Lithar Po-Ba</b> <b>(9O)</b> <i>For being supportive of his peers</i>
<b><u>Artist of the Week</u></b>	The recipient of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle is <b>Harrison Williams</b> <b>(8C)</b> <i>For his fantastic drawing in art this week</i>

## House Points

House Points	
Alfie Wilson	700 House Points
Jonathan Edwards	650 House Points
Alfie Tharle	600 House Points
Noah Atkins	500 House Points
Oscar Gregory	200 House Points
Luke Luo	200 House Points
Mathew Marenga	200 House Points
Frankie McSorley	200 House Points
Loui Salliss	150 House Points
Sam Walsh	150 House Points

## Forthcoming Events 2024

Date	Description
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Early Finish 1.20pm
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> April	EASTER HOLIDAYS
Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	Year 11 Parents' Evening 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> April	KS4 Football League Day 2
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Kenley Bike Event - Year 9
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> May	Kenley Bike Event - Year 8
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup> May	Kenley Bike Event - Year 11
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> May	Kenley Bike Event - Year 10
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> May	KS3 Football League Day 2
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Kenley Bike Event - Year 7
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> - Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 9 Residential Trip
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> -31 <sup>st</sup> May	HALF TERM
Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> June	SunnyFest
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 8 - HPV 1 Dose
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 10 Parents' Evening 4.00pm - 6.00pm
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> June	Scheduled Formal Graduation event 🎓
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Prospero Performance
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	KS4 Football League Day 3
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> June	School trip to The Arc
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	KS3 Football League Day 3
Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Prospero Performance - Beauty & The Beast
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	END OF TERM

## Spring 2024 Reading Achievers



### 100% (5 House Points)

Jack G  
Kye L  
Daniel L  
Frankie Mc  
Jacob N  
Luke L  
Robert H  
Ethan L  
Alex P  
Callum T  
Harvey C  
Luke D  
Harry F  
Dominic H  
Jacob K  
Jonathan E  
Callum J  
Ollie T  
Toby C  
Edward G  
James H  
Freddie Ph  
Nathan S  
Sonny B  
Taylor C  
Felix D  
Andrew H-S  
Callum L  
Oscar S  
Lucas A  
Josh B  
Alex H  
Alexander N  
Jamie R  
George W



### 80% + (3 House Points)

Kai B  
Alexander T  
Samuel W  
Oscar G  
George Mc  
Jaden D  
Callum D  
Freddie D  
Noah A  
Jack B  
Alfie M  
Charlie H  
Jayden P  
Lithar P-B  
Leo S



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Logan E  
Finley M  
Ryan G  
James D



### 80% + (1 House Point)

Hayden H  
Loui S  
Eddie S  
Kamauri C  
Harrison W  
Zac H  
Freddie P  
Sonny C  
Harry V  
Anthony H  
Max M  
Ollie Mc  
Ty S  
Kieran K



**Huge Congratulations to all students who achieved reading success this term**