

SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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Friday 30th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been wonderful to hear the corridors buzzing with excitement this week as students discuss our upcoming residential trips. Anticipation is building as Year 11 look forward to Henley Fort before half term, Year 10 prepare for Sayers Croft, and our Year 9 students eagerly plan for their summer residential and not forgetting the ski trip in January. These conversations serve as a lovely reminder of how much our students value these opportunities to challenge themselves, build friendships and create lasting memories beyond the classroom.

We are also approaching the thrilling conclusion of the KS3 and KS4 Inter-House Badminton competitions. We have seen some incredible matches so far, and we wish the best of luck to Buxton's Zack and Whyteleafe's Frankie—the reigning champion—who will meet in the KS3 final. With the staff tournament commencing soon, we look forward to hosting all three finals in front of the whole school on a Friday afternoon. It promises to be a fantastic celebration of competitive sport and school spirit.

Mr Wright

Jacob Kelly - 1,000 House Points

Jacob's transformation over his five years here has been nothing short of incredible but throughout it all, he has remained polite, positive and committed to the RICE³ values that Sunnydown holds dear. He is conscientious and methodical in the way he approaches every situation whilst continuously having a zest for life that you cannot help but be influenced by. Jacob has truly left his mark on the school by displaying his drawings everywhere, including all the pictures of staff in the staffroom, which we have no doubt will remain after he moves on to college next year. Everyone who is involved with Sunnydown knows Jacob; he greets guests, speaks to all staff and engages in as many of the extra school experiences he can. This dedicated attitude towards life as a Sunnydown student has meant that Jacob has well deservedly earned 1,000 Housepoints! We are all extremely proud of Jacob and know that he and his family will be too.

Miss Newcombe/Mr Lord

Parents' Coffee Morning - 11th February (10.00am - 11.30am)

Dr Cath Stracey will be joining us again on 11th February for a Coffee Morning. As many of you may be aware Cath is an Educational Psychologist who works for the Surrey NHS Foundation Trust and is a great source of knowledge and experience for us as a school. Families will receive a ParentMail letter regarding the morning which gives you an opportunity to book a place. In the letter there is also the opportunity to offer questions and topics that can be considered and therefore covered throughout the morning. At the last gathering we covered ADHD and PDA. It is possible there will be some more discussion around these topics, however, any of the daily challenges that our families encounter can be considered. I will be joining Cath to give the school perspective and share ideas as to how we deal with some of the challenges that families are presented with.

Mr Lord

Thales

Please find attached the Thales Future Talent newsletter which has information regarding their open apprentice roles, starting in September 2026.



Thales Future Talent Newsletter

WHAT DOES THALES DO?

We are a global technology company that impact and improve people's lives every day. Our main areas are:

- Defence & Security** – radar systems, military communications, surveillance, naval systems
- Aerospace** – in-flight entertainment, flight management systems
- Space** – satellites, space communications, earth observation
- Cybersecurity & Digital Identity** – data encryption, biometric passports, ID cards, banking security



WHY DO A THALES APPRENTICESHIP?

- ✓ Your own money
- ✓ Guaranteed job at the end of your apprenticeship
- ✓ No student debt
- ✓ Getting a head start on your career
- ✓ Fully funded course
- ✓ Real world experience

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Check us out online!

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The Thales Group | @ThalesCareers

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Building a future we can all trust



Thales Future Talent Newsletter

Our Apprentice roles for September 2026 intake are now LIVE!
Applications close on 12 February 2026
Don't delay, apply today! Click [HERE](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON ROLES IN CRAWLEY

PROJECT PLANNING & CONTROLS APPRENTICE LEVEL 4
- this exciting 2 year apprenticeship will give you the skills and knowledge to be an effective Project Planning and Controls Apprentice within the Bid and Project Management Function at Thales. For further details please click [here](#)

ENGINEERING INTEGRATED LOGISTICS SUPPORT APPRENTICE LEVEL 6 - in this 4 year apprenticeship you will be studying for a Level 6 Applied Professional Engineering Degree apprenticeship at Warwick University. For further details click [here](#)

SYSTEMS ENGINEERING APPRENTICE LEVEL 6 – our 4 year degree apprenticeship will give you the opportunity to develop your skills to become a confident engineer. You will attend Warwick University studying on the Applied Professional Engineering Programme. For further details please click [here](#)

These are just some of the roles on offer, other roles are available from Level 2 up to Level 6, including:

- Engineering (variety of roles in different areas)
- Manufacturing
- Project Planning
- Finance
- Procurement
- IT
- Business

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Mindworks

Please see below details of this free course for parents.



Parent Empowerment Group

A four week online course for effectively supporting children and young people who are experiencing anxiety.

Our FREE* course covers the following topics:

- ✓ Understanding the science of emotions and anxiety;
- ✓ Using quality time to support increased resilience and wellbeing;
- ✓ Parents supporting each other;
- ✓ Steps to success, building braveness with compassion;
- ✓ Managing your child's worries;
- ✓ Creating a bridge of connection between home and school.

The course receives consistent positive feedback from participants and parents feel that the strategies have improved family life.

Please note: In order to get the best out of the course, participants need to commit to attending each week, using the tools and strategies at home, and share their experiences within a nurturing and supportive space.

Future course dates are :

Wednesday 4 th March 2026	OR	Wednesday 22 nd April 2026
Wednesday 11 th March 2026		Wednesday 29 th April 2026
Wednesday 18 th March 2026		Wednesday 6 th May 2026
Wednesday 25 th March 2026		Wednesday 13 th May 2026
From 9.30am until 11am on Teams		From 9.30am until 11am on Teams

To register for our FREE* course, please follow the link below:

[CLICK HERE](#)

Or book, using the QR code:



* This course is funded by Mindworks Surrey for parents of children & young people living in Surrey only.

Online Safety

Please see the attached online safety flier 'A Guide on How Not To Be a Screen Zombie'

Mr Cassim

Thought for the Week (W/C: 26/1/26) Why is it important to remember the effects of the Holocaust?	Thought for the Week (W/C: 2/2/26) What is a negative influence? How can you avoid them?
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<u>Baton Award</u> Sam Watson
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<u>Sportsmanship Award</u> Thomas Copus-Fawcett
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<u>Swimming Awards</u>	
25m Front Crawl Bronze	Leo Ewen Thomas Illman Jack McDowell James Titchner Elliot Palmer
25m Front Crawl Silver	Isaac Benn Jonah Mee
25m Breaststroke Silver	Jonah Mee
25m Backstroke Silver	Thomas Illman
Tread Water Silver	Louie Rodrigues
Tread Water Gold	Jack McDowell Harry Origgi-Fernando
Tread Water Platinum	Isaac Benn Leo Ewen Thomas Illman Elliot Palmer

<u>RICE³ Awards</u>	
Resilience	Noah Atkins Nathan James Blake Pope Alex Rose
Independence	Jack McDowell Jonah Mee Harry Salter
Cooperation	Callum Duff Elliot Palmer

<u>Mathematician of the Week</u>	<p>The recipients of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Webb are</p> <p>Jonah Mee <i>For engagement and effort</i></p> <p>Harry Salter <i>For working hard on Fractions</i></p> <p>& awarded by Mr Wright is</p> <p>Eddie Smith <i>For Growth Mindset</i></p>
<u>Scientist of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Scientist of Week, awarded by Ms Hristova</p> <p>KS3</p> <p>Kayden Wheatcroft <i>For excellent engagement and initiative</i></p> <p>Thomas Copus-Fawcett <i>For cooperation and excellent engagement</i></p> <p>KS4</p> <p>Alfie Tharle <i>For engagement and excellent exam performance</i></p>
<u>Writer of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Writer of the Week, awarded by Miss Newcombe is</p> <p>Alfie Tharle <i>For dedication to creative writing</i></p>
<u>Chef of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Miss Adams & Mrs O'Toole is</p> <p>Elliot Goold-Williams <i>For confidence with his knife skills</i></p>

<u>Reader of the Week</u>	<p>The recipients of Reader of the Week, awarded by Miss Wood are</p> <p>Blake Pope <i>For showing resilience when having to choose a new reading book</i></p> <p>Charlie Carter <i>For showing resilience when finishing his first fiction book</i></p>
<u>Musician of the Week</u>	<p>The recipients of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mr Smith are</p> <p>Eddie Smith Ethan Lyons</p>

House Points

Jacob received his certificate today but everyone else will receive

House Points	
Jacob Kelly	1,000 House Points
Hayden Howells	500 House Points
Thomas Illman	300 House Points
Harry Salter	300 House Points
Alex Borisov	100 House Points
Rhys Brown	100 House Points
Archie Gillam	100 House Points

Forthcoming Events 2026

Spring Term 2026	
Tuesday 3 rd February 2026	Years 10/11 GCSE Art Trip to House of Dreams Museum
Tuesday 10 th - Wednesday 11 th February 2026	Year 11 residential trip
Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026	Half Term
Wednesday 25 th - Friday 27 th February	Year 10 Sayers Croft Residential
Wednesday 11 th March 2026	Year 7 Parents Evening
Wednesday 25 th March 2026	Curriculum Evening
Friday 27 th March 2026	Early finish – 1.30pm
Summer Term 2026	
Tuesday 14 th April 2026	Year 9 Bikeability Level 1
Monday 20 th April - Friday 24 th April 2026	Year 9 Bikeability Level 2
Wednesday 22 nd April 2026	Year 9 Parents Evening
Wednesday 29 th April 2026	Open Morning (9.30am – 11.00am)
Monday 4th May 2026	Bank Holiday
Tuesday 5 th May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 10
Wednesday 6 th May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 11
Thursday 7 th May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 9
Friday 8 th May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 7
Friday 15 th May 2026	Kenley Bike Event - Year 8
Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026	Half Term
Thursday 18 th June 2026	Year 11 Graduation
Friday 19th June 2026	INSET DAY
Wednesday 24 th June 2026	Year 10 Parents Evening
Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Sports Day
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	End of term (12.30pm finish)

**SURREY
ARTS**

KEYBOARD, DRUMS & GUITAR LESSONS AT SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

Experienced SEN tutor to support
children with additional needs

For more information contact Surrey Arts:

T: 01483 519303

E: surreyartsmusic@surreycc.gov.uk

surreycc.gov.uk/music

