



Friday 16th October 2020

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

Change is inevitable. The world is a different place to what it was only 6 months ago due to Covid. Locally, our shops and cinemas are different now. Even our family dynamics may have changed. Sunnydown too has changed, and will continue to change.

At Sunnydown, staffing will change. Our school provision will change. The curriculum will change. The exams process will change. Students change - on an annual basis we say goodbye to the graduating Year 11 students and hello to the new Year 7 young men. Our grounds continue to be improved. We now have recycled plastic outdoor seating. We have new guidelines to keep Year level bubbles separate for example.

However, the consistent element of Sunnydown, regardless of the changes, will be a commitment to providing an excellent educational experience to each young man who attends.

It is so important to realise that the world, our families, our local shops and Sunnydown will continue to change. If we see change as an opportunity, then even if we do not like to change, we can understand that it is part of life.

We need to expect things to change. Change has already happened and change will continue to take place. What is reassuring at Sunnydown is how well the school community, especially the young men, adapted to and embrace such changes.

I am always energised following a weekend Working Bee. We achieve so much in such a short space of time. A huge thanks to the Friends of Sunnydown (FoS) for supporting and promoting the project. Covid-19 restrictions meant that I decided to limit this event to six families, all listed below. To the families who applied but had to be denied the opportunity on this occasion, thank you for your support and understanding.

The Gair family
The Hendry Smith family
The Chapman family
The Barnes family
The Connery family
The Foster family

Among the six families and staff, we moved approximately 3 tonnes of type 1 sub-base, 1 tonne of sharp sand, 8 square meters of retaining wall blocks and filled 8 huge garden bags with bush and bramble. Energy was maintained throughout the morning with hot chocolate from the BBQ Hut and Krispy Kreme donuts. Following the transformational efforts of all involved, we assembled in the car park for a hearty burger with all the trimmings, mango salads, brioche buns, bacon, halloumi, fried onions and mushrooms.

Thank you to the staff who were also able to support the event. Mrs Jensen supported the catering, Mrs Rogers managed the hot chocolates and burger van, and Mr Moody employed his DIY skills to finish a section of retaining wall.

I have spent most lunch times this week supervising Year 7 in the forest area. Play is such an important aspect of social communication development and it is heartening to see the boys interact with one another, working together to build an array of dens.

Some Year 8s have enjoyed taking on and beating me at a basketball challenge during breaks.

On Thursday I was invited to be part of the Year 11 DIY class and was so impressed with their team work, skills and interest in the project at hand - laying paving bricks to form a walkway near the BBQ Hut. Seeing this team of young men work collaboratively, listening and learning, was a genuine pleasure. We even had one young man disassemble a 2 stroke engine!



Walking into the entrance of the school is always a warm experience, made even more welcoming with the display of some art by Max Thwaites, Joe Harley and Oscar Robson. We have genuine talent throughout the school, in various areas of interest.



Have a wonderful weekend.

Paul Jensen

Life Skills Trip to Caterham Galleries

On Friday 9th October the Life Skills groups from Years 10 and 11 visited the Caterham Galleries, Caterham (Year 10 went first). I was stunned, as some of my artwork was displayed in the gallery window with work from Max and Oscar too. The gallery and artwork was creative and interesting. The art-piece which amazed me the most was the New York collage, where the artist used litter to form a lovely piece of art. We met the owner, who closed the gallery for the morning to allow us to visit, which was really kind of her. The work in the gallery was interesting as there were paintings, ceramics and other artwork. My final thoughts are it was wonderful, looking at timeless art.

Joe Harley



Chef of the Week

The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs Hull is Andrew Hendry Smith (7T).

Boarding News

Another busy week of baking, football, games in the gym and watching films! Next week we have a Halloween quiz night planned with a scavenger hunt through the woods, followed by a buffet tea. We also have a Kahoot quiz night in the Common Room classroom with Clare, the pupil advocate. She would really like to say hello to as many boarders as possible, so please encourage your son to log onto the classroom on Tuesday evening (20th) at 7.00pm for a quiz and a chat. Have a lovely weekend.

The Care Team

Thought for THIS week was: The 5 fundamental British values

This week's summary of our Thought for the Week has been summarised below by 9P.

1. Britain needs a Prime Minister but it depends on who it is.
2. Laws are needed in Britain because they are rules. Without laws everyone would go on a rampage and do what they like.
3. Britain should have different religions because if there was only one, all of the other people would be quite sad and isolated from everyone.
4. a. British people should have freedom of speech because the Prime Minister could say he is Prime Minister forever.
b. It does not matter if we have freedom of speech.

Miss Tomcova

Thought for NEXT week: Personal Identity

Next week's thought for the week is about personal identity and having a sense of belonging. Before next week, have a think about what makes up your personal identity.

Mr Matthews

Science guess the picture competition

Picture of the week is shown below. Last week's answer was the first ever hydro train in the world.



Mr Djehiche

100% Attendance

Congratulations to 11C and 9P for achieving 100% attendance for w/e 9th October 2020.

Word of the Week

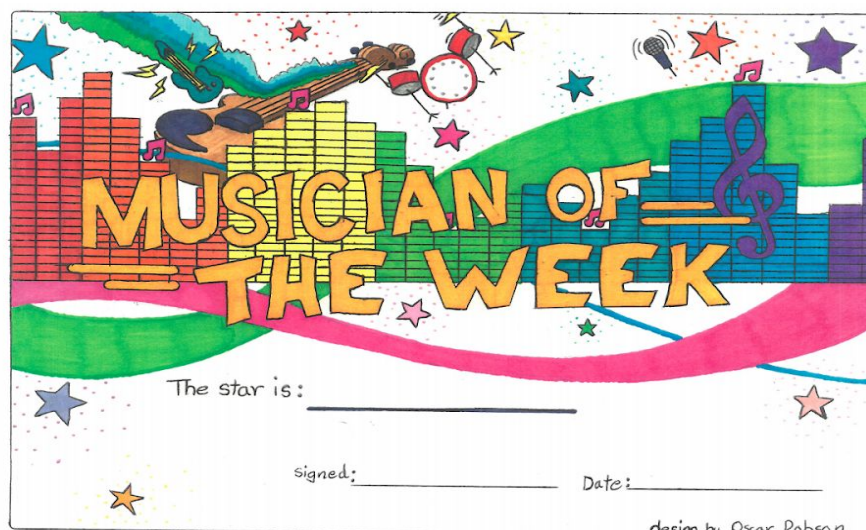
Murmuration (noun) – please see end of newsletter (w/c 19th October 2020).

Mrs Palmer

Musician of the Week

The recipient of Musician of the Week, awarded by Miss Tomcova is Tomas Bodkin (9J).

Thank you to Oscar Robson (11D) for re-designing this certificate. Below is a snapshot of his very creative illustration.



Friends of Sunnydown

Smartie challenge! A reminder that a tube of Smarties will be heading home with each of the boys next week to devour over the half term break. It would be amazing to see the tubes returned to Sunnydown full of coins by 6th November - remember, every tube returned will be entered into the prize draw for Amazon vouchers. The house with the most returned tubes will receive extra house points! Smartie tubes to be returned by Friday 6th November and the winner will be drawn on Friday 13th November. Thank you to Tesco in Caterham who donated half of the smarties to us.

Quiz night -The Friends of Sunnydown Family quiz is generally a highlight at this time of year, so we are so thrilled to be able to continue with this tradition and host an online virtual quiz night on Friday 6th November at 7.00pm for all the family. We have spaces for up to 8 teams which can be made up of a maximum of 4 households for each team. You can also dress up or theme your team for extra points.

Tickets are £5 per head with all funds raised going to Sunnydown School and a donation to the Quiz Master's chosen charity. All you need to do is click on the link below to book via our new online booking system: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/sunnydownevents>

We were also thrilled to hear that the boys are enjoying the donation of the recycled plastic outdoor tables (which incidentally, they helped put together in their DT lessons themselves!) . Mr Wort was very grateful for the funds raised by the Friends of Sunnydown.

The next AGM is on 22nd October - all are welcome!

Melanie Bridges
friends@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk

KS3 Friday Curriculum - 23rd October 2020

Next Friday, students in Years 7, 8 & 9 will be doing a variety of activities in support of the House system. All boys will be expected to attend in full school uniform but should **bring a pair of trainers to change into**. All activities will be on site.

House Points

Certificates and prizes for earning House Points this week go to:

Joe Harley	150 House Points
James Dean	250 House Points
Daniel Diaz-Lester	350 House Points
Declan Giddings	550 House Points

The weekly top scorers are detailed below:

KS3	Burntwood	Taylor Conway & Lucas Abrams
	Buxton	Kieran Kirk
	Portley	AJ Harper & Finley Marley
	Whyteleafe	Alex Hennessy & Jamie Rogers
KS4	Burntwood	Ethan Crouch
	Buxton	Daniel Linney & Harry Monkhouse
	Portley	Miles Eliatamby & Joe Harley
	Whyteleafe	Charlie Gocher

Word of the week w/c 19th October 2020

Murmuration

noun

- a large group of birds, usually starlings, that all fly together and change direction together, or the act of birds doing this



FRIENDS OF SUNNYDOWN FAMILY QUIZ NIGHT

Join us online,
on Friday 06th November
at 7pm, the whole family
is welcome.
Team names at the
ready!