



SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

Friday 15th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

This week marks Mental Health Awareness Week and, with exams now underway for many young people, it feels a particularly important time to reflect on how we support one another through periods of pressure and challenge.

Exams can bring a mixture of emotions for children and young people and there is often a great deal of focus on revision, preparation and outcomes. Alongside this, we are encouraging pupils to remember the importance of balance: getting enough rest, taking breaks, spending time away from screens and speaking to someone when things feel overwhelming.

As adults, the reassurance and encouragement we give young people can have a significant impact. Reminding them that effort matters, helping them keep perspective and simply checking in with how they are feeling can make a real difference during this time.

Mental Health Awareness Week also reminds us of the importance of looking after one another more widely. Showing patience, kindness and understanding, both at home and within our community, helps create the sense of support and belonging that all young people need to thrive.

Thank you, as always, for the care and encouragement you continue to show our young people and each other.

Mr Richard Woolley
Headteacher

KS4 Football Report

Yesterday, the Sunnydown Key Stage 4 football team competed in the Surrey Special Schools Sports Association Football Tournament held at Sutton Goals Centre. With 16 teams entered, the tournament began with two group stages before teams were divided into either the Champions League or Europa League knockout competitions.

Sunnydown produced an almost flawless performance in the group stages, winning all seven matches conceding a single goal to secure their place in the Champions League knockout stages. This was all without their first choice goal keeper Robert Hall, who is recovering from injury. A special mention has to go to Jacob Ryan (Year 9) who stepped up in goal and made some exceptional saves and was a big

Transforming Lives

part of the team's success. The team then continued their outstanding form with two superb 3-0 victories in both the quarter-final and semi-final.

This set up an exciting final against Brookways School, whom Sunnydown had narrowly beaten 2-0 in the opening game of the day. Brookways were an excellent side — physically strong, organised and determined. However, Sunnydown rose magnificently to the challenge. Despite intense pressure at times, and some agricultural challenges, the team showed tremendous resilience, dominated possession for long periods and created numerous scoring opportunities with some exceptional football.

In the end, Sunnydown deservedly won the final 2-0, extending an incredible three-year unbeaten run in all competitions and further cementing their place as the most successful football team in Sunnydown's history.

Whilst the football itself was outstanding, what made us most proud was *how* the team achieved their success. At the start of the day, the players were challenged to run the team themselves. They took ownership of tactics, selected starting line-ups, managed substitutions, supported one another during difficult moments and even showed empathy and maturity by subtly easing off in one-sided games to ensure opponents could still enjoy their football experience.

Their sportsmanship matched their ability throughout the tournament. This was perhaps best summed up by the referees after the final, who described the team simply as: "They are a class act." It is difficult to single out an individual after such an incredible team performance. However, the players voted for Harry Franklin as Player of the Day which is fully deserved after outstanding performances all day. A special mention also to Luke Dean after he bravely played through injury for most of the tournament and never once let the side down.

Congratulations to:

Leadership Team (Captains): Harry Franklin, Callum Jordan, Jayden Peters and Luke Dean

Team: Thomas Emms, Freddie Collins, Jacob Ryan and hat-trick hero Jacob Kelly.

Mr Wright

<p>Thought for the Week (W/C: 11/5/26)</p> <p>Mental Health Awareness Week</p>	<p>Thought for the Week (W/C: 18/5/26)</p> <p>Living in a diverse culture</p>
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<p><u>The Baton Award</u></p> <p>Luke Dean Harry Franklin Callum Jordan Jacob Kelly Jayden Peters</p>

Employability Award

Jacob Napier

Sportsmanship Award

Jayden Peters

Respect Award

Freddie Collins

RICE³ Awards

Resilience	Kieran Bishop Callum Dowie
Independence	Isaac Benn Ollie Hall Ross Smallman
Cooperation	Jonah Mee Harry Orrigi-Fernando

Mathematician of the Week

The recipients of Mathematician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Webb are

Elliot Palmer

For improved engagement on worksheets

Elliot Goold-Williams

For consistently working hard in maths

Writer of the Week

The recipient of Writer of Week, awarded by Miss Newcombe is

KS3

Nathan James

For an excellent speech persuading staff what to change at Sunnydown

KS4

& awarded by Miss Thompson

Harrison Williams

For your steady revision & growing confidence have driven incredible progress in English

<u>Scientist of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Scientist of Week, awarded by Mr Cybuch is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Zac Hoad <i>Resilience</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">& awarded by Ms Hristova is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Zac Picksley <i>For excellent effort and practical work</i></p>
<u>Chef of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Chef of the Week, awarded by Mrs O'Toole is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sam Walsh <i>For resilience and effort</i></p>
<u>Reader of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Reader of the Week, awarded by Miss Wood is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Arthur Oldfield <i>For completing his Star Assessment successfully</i></p>
<u>Musician of the Week</u>	<p>The recipients of Musician of the Week, awarded by Mrs Cybuch are</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Harry Salter Tekai Lewis <i>For their performance of Ghostbusters</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">& awarded by Mr Smith</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Zack Harrison</p>
<u>Artist of the Week</u>	<p>The recipient of Artist of the Week, awarded by Mrs Ogle is</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Matthew Marenga <i>For his effort in Art</i></p>

House Points

House Points	
Kamauri Craig	950 House Points
Callum Truttero	850 House Points
Thomas Emms	700 House Points
Alexander Thompson	450 House Points
Jack McDowell	400 House Points
Harry Salter	400 House Points
Tekai Lewis	350 House Points
George Cooke	200 House Points
Bertie Evison	150 House Points
Zac Picksley	150 House Points
Blake Pope	150 House Points
Alex Rose	150 House Points

Forthcoming Events 2026

Summer Term 2026	
Wednesday 20 th May 2026	KS3 Football
Friday 22 nd May 2026	Inclusive Football Day
Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th May 2026	Half Term
Monday 1 st - Friday 5 th June 2026	Year 10 Work Experience
Monday 1 st June 2026	KS3 Disco with Limpsfield Grange
Thursday 18 th June 2026	Year 11 Graduation
Tuesday 23 rd June 2026	Years 7 & 8 African Drumming Workshop
Wednesday 24 th June 2026	Year 10 Parents' Evening
Tuesday 30 th June 2026	Year 7 Transition Day
Wednesday 8 th July 2026	SSSSA Chess Tournament
Monday 13 th - Wednesday 15 th July 2026	Year 9 Residential
Friday 19 th June 2026	INSET DAY
Wednesday 24 th June 2026	Year 10 Parents Evening
Thursday 2 nd July 2026	Burntwood Coral Reef Trip
Friday 3 rd July 2026	Year 8 HPV Vaccinations
Thursday 16 th July 2026	Year 9 DTP & MEN ACWY & Year 8 HPV catch up
Tuesday 21 st July 2026	Sports Day
Wednesday 22 nd July 2026	End of term (12.30pm finish)

Additional Support Courses for Parents

Three new courses offered by FACE, separate from the school membership.

Full access to all three courses for £6.99/month

Complete at your own pace, cancel anytime.



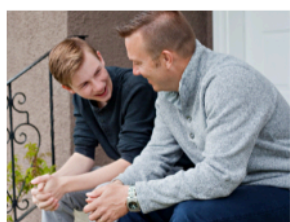
Building Emotional Resilience

Work through six stages of directed exercises to help your child (and yourself) improve emotional resilience.



Facing Defiance

A specific strategy aimed at supporting parents of children aged 5 to 12 with ADHD, ODD or just very challenging behaviour.



You & Your Teen

A skills building course for one parent and one teen (12 years old and above) to learn how they can both improve their communication with each other.

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Online Courses for Parents page

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk

