

# SUNNYDOWN SCHOOL

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



**Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2023**

Dear all who are associated with Sunnydown,

What a way to end the year - a Sports Day in wonderful sunshine, huge participation from so many students and sportsmanship unrivalled anywhere. Being blessed to have the support of so many families onsite was also incredibly special.

Days like that, and weeks such as SMSC week, are organised by a small group of staff but are supported by everyone. To all Form tutors who arranged and managed trips and events this week - thank you. To Mr Wright and his team - thank you for overseeing the week but with efforts specifically around sports day.

Many congratulations to the Portley House champions for 2023 with Cam'ron leading the way as House Captain and returning to accept the trophy on behalf of the team. It was also so heartening to see so many graduates from previous years, and even new families attend and be welcomed.

In the past few days many messages of support and gratitude have been shared with me from families. These are always appreciated and demonstrate groundswell of positivity towards and for the school. I will share all messages sent to school with my incredible team.

The Friends of Sunnydown (FoS), coordinated for the last few years by Kelly Barnes, have been instrumental in providing the school with funds to provide resources we could not otherwise have access to. Learning Space for example would not exist here at Sunnydown without the support of FoS. This professional support is provided free of charge to students and their families because of the tireless efforts of Kelly and her FoS support team - what a legacy. If you have time to dedicate to helping or coordinating future events so we can continue to have access to wonderful resources, please contact them at [friends@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:friends@sunnydown.surrey.sch.uk)

On Thursday we had the privilege of gathering as staff to share our congratulations and pride in two of our TAs who have been accepted on to teaching courses. Miss Collings has been accepted to Reigate school to teach languages and Mr Nelson has been accepted to Reigate college to teach psychology. While they will both be missed here at Sunnydown, we wish them every success for their next steps.

We also reflected on the support of Mrs McCarthy who, after 12 years at Sunnydown, has made the decision to have a 'gap' year. Mrs McCarthy has been instrumental in managing daily aspects of the timetable and the TA team since becoming our HLTA. Her efforts in classrooms and delivering lessons have been a welcome contribution to the education of so many young men. I am confident that we will see her again, if even only for a visit and a cup of tea, but again, on behalf of the school community, I extended my personal and professional gratitude to Mrs McCarthy for all that she has done for the school.

Matty Horkan, an ex-student who suffered a broken neck, continues to make positive progress and reflect on the

impact of his life changing injuries. His group of online supporters have arranged a cake sale this Sunday in Hythe. I appreciate this is a long way from Caterham, but if you are travelling near there or know people in the area, please encourage them to support this cause. Information is attached.

Finally, please read the reflections on SMSC week below as you start the summer holidays, knowing that your sons have had not only a wonderful time recently, but throughout the year.

Happy holidays to one and all.

Paul Jensen

The new term starts on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September for Years 10 and 11 and Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September for Years 8 and 9. Arrival on these days is between 8.30am and 9.00am. It is so important to start the year off with excellent attendance. This ensures the correct mindset for the whole of the year. Year 7 starts officially on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 10.00am, though students will visit the school the week prior to this. Additional communication will be shared by Mrs Wermig regarding Year 7.

### SMSC Week & Sports Day

Thank you to all the students and staff for a fantastic final week of class trips, giving back activities and Inter-House competitions. Thank you to all the families, Friends of Sunnydown and ex-students who supported Sports Day, you created a fantastic atmosphere for the boys to enjoy. I hope you all have a wonderful summer break and we look forward to seeing you in September.



**Mr Wright**

On Monday, **Year 7** had a visit from Robin from the Caterham Food Bank as part of our SMSC week ‘Giving back to the community.’ He spoke to us about the work that the Food Bank does and has done over the last 10 years to support the local community. He shared with us that emergency food parcels are distributed to over 80 families a week and the Food Bank has over 90 volunteers a month. To demonstrate the difficulties that some families have and why Food Banks exist in society today, Year 7 completed a budgeting challenge to plan and shop for 2 adults for a week. The boys showed a great deal of maturity and understanding and spent some time creating posters to share around the school.



**Mr Cybuch**

On Monday **Year 8** spent their day giving back to the community and made some delicious cakes for a charity cake sale. They designed posters to promote the sale and their chosen charity was The Dogs Trust. The whole school raised £62. As a reward for their dedication to giving back to the community, we took the boys to Crawley to Hollywood Bowl to play some games of bowling, then went to McDonald’s. Lots of fun and laughter was had! On Wednesday they chose in-house activities. On Thursday all students displayed their sporting and friendship skills.





**Mrs Li-Ying & Miss Newcombe**

On Tuesday **9D and 9T** gave back to the school community by helping move the library books over to the Academic Hub where the new library will be from September. The boys also put on their overalls and worked together to help paint the new library.



On Wednesday, we all went to The Light cinema in Redhill. We enjoyed a McDonald's lunch then watched the movie - Mission Impossible whilst eating popcorn. The boys and staff had a great day! Have a lovely summer break.



**Miss Drake & Miss Thompson**

On Tuesday **10M** worked on some projects around the school grounds. They started by working on the metal fencing between the playground and the animal enclosure where they hung the metal gates, dug some new fence post holes and cut back some of the undergrowth that had become overgrown. Later in the day they helped lay a path around the edge of the wallabies enclosure.



**10C** were busy cleaning out the bike shed and maintaining all the bikes. This involved taking all the bikes out of the shed, throwing out unnecessary clutter and giving the floor a good sweep. Once the bikes were out, they were checked over, ensuring the breaks worked and tyres were pumped up. The next step was to put all the bikes back in the proper place. A good job done so they all can enjoy cycling when we return in September.

**Mr Moody & Mr Cassim**

## Round Table - Beer Festival

The RoundTable are big supporters of Sunnydown. They are holding the Annual Beer Festival with details below. The committee are seeking businesses to sponsor the event. If you own, work in or know a business who may be able to contribute, please follow the links below. It would be amazing if you could also let them know that you are sponsoring through Sunnydown School, then we would receive even more funds.

Caterham Round Table's annual beer festival is back on for 2023 - taking place on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> September - would you be interested in sponsoring a barrel for charity ? This is the biggest local beer festival with 1400+ guests and over 60 real ales and craft beers, ciders, prosecco, gin and wine also available. The event is organised and staffed totally by local volunteers.

There's live music on Saturday evening. All barrel sponsors get 4 tickets, free souvenir glasses and business logos/names on the barrels. Each barrel is £135. If you want to sponsor a barrel follow [this link](#), complete your details and we'll organise the rest - simple! Other sponsorship opportunities include glass, bar and T-shirt sponsorship ... To date we've raised over £120,000 and this money goes directly to mainly local charities and good causes. There are too many to name but there's a list on the website [here](#) - just some of those which have benefited from Caterham Round Table.

## Online Safety

Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter - 'What parents & carers need to know about W App'.

Also, a Parent mail has been sent with information about our online monitoring and filtering system. Please do read this.

**Mr Cassim**

## Summer Holiday Bowls

Horley Bowls Club have recently started a junior section and are offering some FREE taster sessions over the summer holidays.



**Horley Bowling Club**  
**Youth Sessions**  
**Fun for 8-16 yr olds**  
**Every Saturday 10:00 to 11:30**  
**Summer specials**  
**Tuesdays 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> August**

Try Bowling for FREE  
Bowls and Coaching Provided  
Wear Flat shoes or Trainers

Pop in to try it out  
or just watch  
A warm welcome guaranteed

**Horley Recreation Ground**  
Website: [horleybowlingclub.org](http://horleybowlingclub.org)

**Thought for the Week**  
**(W/C: 17<sup>th</sup> July 2023)**

Reflection on the year

**Baton Award**

**Jaden Doorga**  
**(7C)**

For showing incredible resilience on Sports Day

**Sportsmanship Award**

**Kasra Alavi**  
**(8N)**

**Employability Skills Award**

**Josh Barnes**  
**(11P)**

For using his initiative & being self-motivated

**House Points**

Max Mahboobani	900 House Points
Jamie Rogers	750 House Points
Oscar Stewart	750 House Points
Callum Lagan	650 House Points
James Millar	650 House Points
Ollie Taylor	650 House Points
Callum Annis	600 House Points
Lithar Po-Ba	600 House Points
Hamish Scott	550 House Points
Alfie Wilson	500 House Points
Kasra Alavi	450 House Points
Logan East	450 House Points
Alfie Tharle	450 House Points
Freddie Collins	400 House Points

Bailey Goodliffe	350 House Points
Luke Dean	300 House Points
Jaden Doorga	250 House Points
Callum Dowie	250 House Points
Harrison Williams	250 House Points



**CAKE SALE**  
**Hythe Beach**  
**Sunday 23rd July**  
**9am - 11am**



**Bring cakes, buy cakes.**  
**Cash only**

**Supporting Matty Horkan's  
spinal injury recovery and  
his Joe Wild initiative**

[www.mattyhorkan.co.uk](http://www.mattyhorkan.co.uk)



Dedicated Drama Workshops  
for ages 7 - 19 + with SEND

**3rd - 31st August 2023**

Drewshearne Barn, Crowhurst Lane,  
Oxted, Surrey, RH8 9NT

**NEW!**



**SUMMER**

**HOLIDAY**

**Drama Workshops**

**Have Fun, Make Friends & Learn New Skills**

Drama games, role play and improvisation in a friendly & accessible space. Explore character and encourage creativity and communication



Makaton  
Friendly

Every Thursday in August x5 sessions

19+ yrs - 10.30am-12.30pm - £25

7-11 yrs - 2-3pm - £12.50

12-18 yrs - 4-5.30pm - £18.75

- Free parking on site
- Disabled toilet
- Hygiene room facilities

**SCAN QR CODE TO BOOK**  
or visit [h2hsensorytheatre.com](https://h2hsensorytheatre.com)



Email for more info: [workshops@h2hsensorytheatre.com](mailto:workshops@h2hsensorytheatre.com)



## What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

# W APP

AGE RESTRICTION

12+

on the App Store  
Everyone+ on Google Play

LIBRARY

### WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Developed in Germany, this social networking app is called 'W App' in the Apple Store and Google Play but is also branded as 'slay' in some territories. Aimed primarily at teens and marketed as a 'zero-negativity' zone, it asks users to connect with others from their school. They are then asked a positive question (such as 'who is the nicest person?') and shown four people from their school to choose from. All users from a school can appear in the poll not just those a child is friends with. The app is mainly anonymous – but does offer clues to reveal who selected you for each question.

### FAKE ACCOUNTS

There is no verification when signing up to W App. Once someone joins, they can see all users at their school and add them if they wish. Users provide their name, gender, school and grade – but are also able to change these (aside from their name) as often as they like. This concerned our expert predators could potentially keep attempting to build connections with children at different schools.

### PROFILE OVERSHARING

Young people tend to have multiple social media accounts, so it's vital their identity is protected online. By default, W App shares someone's school and grade, while users choose whether to share their full name, photo and other social accounts. Most people appear to select this – making it easier for someone to build up a picture of who they are, what they enjoy and where they go to school.

### SPAMMING CONTACTS

The app's activity feed notifies a user when they have been put forward for a poll. They're then given the option to reveal the initial of the person who nominated them, by inviting a friend to join the app. The friend doesn't have to sign up, but they will receive a 'get the app now' text, followed by a link. This process could result in texts being continually sent to a child's contacts.

### CATFISHING RISKS

As well as invented fake accounts, users could also sign up and pretend to be someone else from their school. By joining under another person's name (possibly with their photo), they can take part in polls while masquerading as that other person. Some polls hint at an attraction or crush, which – if deliberately misused by imposters – could result in misunderstandings and embarrassment for teens.

### SUBSCRIPTION COSTS

W App is free to download and use, but there is also a 'gold membership' package (costing £4.99 per week) available. Subscribing allows users to reveal the names of people who selected them in polls (slightly defeating the point of it being an anonymous app), gives unlimited hints and offers exclusive play modes – all of which may tempt a curious young user into spending their money.

### REPEATED USE

Like most other social media platforms, W App wants users to log in regularly. Every time someone completes a set of 12 polls, they earn virtual coins. These can be cashed in for perks such as being included in random polls (so that more users will see them) or adding their name to their crush's poll. This may not seem much of an incentive currently, but that may alter as the app evolves.

## Advice for Parents & Carers

### DISCUSS FRIEND REQUESTS

Talk to your child about the risk of sharing their other social accounts, especially on an anonymous platform where there is no verification – so a user could be anyone. If someone they don't normally talk to at school approaches your child via W App and suggests connecting on TikTok, Snapchat or Instagram, emphasise that it's safest to confirm it with that person face to face before accepting or replying.

### PROTECT PERSONAL INFORMATION

It's crucial that trusted adults regularly remind children about the importance of not sharing too much of their personal information online (and demonstrate it on their own social accounts, where possible). W App automatically displays the user's school on their profile – but if your child does want to use the app, you can advise them to only enter their first name and not to upload an image of their face.

### BE MINDFUL OF REJECTION

The polls in W App are designed to be complimentary rather than negative. However, never being nominated or picked by their peers could leave a child – especially a status-conscious teen – feeling ignored and isolated. If you think that W App is having this effect on your child, it might be time for a supportive reminder that social media doesn't reflect someone's true worth or popularity.

### DO SOME 'APP ADMIN'

Before letting your child download W App, you may want to (via their device's settings) disable the option to make in-app purchases (£4.99 per week for the subscription can soon mount up). Likewise, if a friend's use of W App is causing your child to be inundated with texts inviting them to sign up too, you could suggest asking that friend to stop selecting your child's name from their contacts list.

### Meet Our Expert

Dr. Claire is the founder of an online safety consultancy, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber-safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



NOS  
National  
Online  
Safety

#WakeUpWednesday

Source: <https://apple-app-store.com/gb/app/w-app-what-is-it-all-about> | <https://www.tiktok.com/@wapp-what-is-it-all-about> | <https://www.instagram.com/wapp-what-is-it-all-about/>



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JULY 2023

# Newsletter

## EXTRA SUMMER SESSIONS

Thursday  
20th July

18:00 - 20:00



### Supporting a Child with ADHD

interactive session explaining what ADHD is and offering a range of interventions that can make lasting differences.

Thursday  
27th July

18:30 - 20:30

### Anxiety Explained

Whether it is your anxiety or your children's, what exactly is it and how do we manage it?

Thursday  
3rd August

18:30 - 20:30



### Drug Awareness talk for Parents

Cannabis, vaping, ketamine, energy drinks? How much do you know? what are the risks? Increase your knowledge and awareness of the issues.

Videos to rent for £5

Understanding the Teenage brain

Cannabis Awareness

Introduction to ADHD

[facefamilyadvice.co.uk](http://facefamilyadvice.co.uk)

[info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk](mailto:info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk)