

# Southwood Infant School

Southwood Infant School's biweekly publication for Parents, Teachers, Governors and Friends.

Dear Parents,

Sadly, this is the last newsletter of the year and what a year! Who'd have ever imagined we would have experienced the highs of our lovely Ofsted report and the lows of a Pandemic! I'm not quite sure how it is now the end of the year! It is our Year R's last day and we look forward to welcoming them back in September as Year 1's. We are really looking forward to seeing our Year 1's and 2's next week and can't wait to see how much you've grown and changed in the last four months.

The whole education system and indeed our school has gone through a massive amount of change and turmoil in the last four months. I cannot stress enough the enormous efforts that the staff have made to ensure the school remained open and delivered high quality online learning to all our children who have not been in school. Through every crisis there are strengths and positives to draw on and for Southwood it is our amazing staff and their supportive teamwork. They have done a phenomenal job in teaching in school *and* online and they now need a much deserved break.

## Staff Changes

We would like to welcome Mrs Attree to Southwood. She has been appointed to the post of Learning Support Assistant in the Fabulous Fireflies class and will replace Mrs Smith's role with some PPA cover across the school. Mrs Attree has fifteen years teaching experience, has been a primary sports link teacher and supported a range of SEN interventions. We are looking forward to her joining the team in September.

## September School Opening

A detailed letter has been sent you via Parentmail this morning outlining our plans for September and the full reopening of school. Please ensure you read it carefully and follow all the instructions. September will bring new demands and expectations and there will be no quick fix. Despite the disruption to children's education this year, I know the school is in a good place to meet the pressures of a new academic year.

## Change to Inset Day

We are bringing our September start date forward to **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September** which was originally planned as an Inset day. This means we can have all our Year 1's and 2's in for two full days that first week. Please note that school will be closed on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December as a replacement Inset day. That means school will finish at lunchtime on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December.

Inset days next academic year

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2020

18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

4<sup>th</sup> January 2021

12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 (polling day)

### **Tapestry**

On line learning on Tapestry will finish today. Year 1 and Year R accounts will remain active as we will continue to use them through the autumn term to help with transition and as a contingency plan if we have another lockdown. The Year 2 accounts will be closed but we will arrange for your child's whole journal to be exported for you to keep as a record.

### **Summer Camp**

Don't forget summer camp will be available for the first three weeks of the summer holidays 27<sup>th</sup> July – 14<sup>th</sup> August and they have a fun, jam packed schedule.

The cost of £29 a day (8am – 6pm) is really good value. Places are filling up.

You can book via [www.getactivesports.com](http://www.getactivesports.com) or email [info@getactivesports.com](mailto:info@getactivesports.com) for further Information.

### **Amazon Gifts**

Thank you to everyone who has donated pencils, paper, toilet rolls and glue sticks to the school through our Amazon account. These are a huge help to us at a time when we have a dwindling school budget.

### **Goodbye to our Year 2's**

Thank you to all of our Year 2's for being such great role models and for everything they have achieved during their time at Southwood. We all wish you lots of luck at junior school and we can't wait to see most of you for one last day together next week!

### **Happy Holidays**

And finally ... We wish you all a very happy, safe and relaxing summer break. Good luck to all those who are moving on; we will miss you all! We look forward to seeing everyone else on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

On behalf of all the staff and governors I wish you and your families a very **happy, safe summer holiday**.

Best Wishes

*Wendy Southgate*  
**Headteacher**