



*SOUTH BOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL*

# *NEWSLETTER*

*Celebrating our amazing school!*

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*Friday 19th July 2024*

**Headteacher:** Mr M Currie

**Deputy Head Teacher:** Mr L Clarke

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **A year of successes and many 'firsts'!**

Another academic year has flown by! It feels like only yesterday we were welcoming back children after the long summer break, and now here we are, standing on the brink of another. Hopefully, the sun will shine for long enough to enjoy some much-needed relaxation and at least get the caps off of our bottles of sun lotion!

This year has been full of 'firsts'. We held our inaugural Christmas Showcase, a magical outdoor event showcasing the talents of our pupils. We introduced a new, rigorous times tables curriculum across the school, culminating in an incredible 85% of Year 4 children achieving 20 or more out of 25 in their Multiplication Tables Check. Percy Pig also made his debut, inspiring our pupils to embrace our school values through a series of exciting missions. Alongside this, our Forest School has gone from strength to strength, and our unwavering commitment to high-quality phonics teaching continues to bear fruit.

In our final assemblies this afternoon, we reflected on the year through the lens of our School Yearbook. By looking through these photographs, it is clear that opportunities have been plentiful and how many opportunities pupils have been afforded to extend learning beyond the walls of the classroom. A few highlights include the recent Reception Animal Workshop; Y1 Dinosaur and Fossil Experience, Y2 Superhero Challenges; Y3 visit to Hayle Park; our whole school science week; Nursery's celebration of Chinese New Year; World Book Day celebrations; some incredible RE days; the Y4 Greatest Show Performance; Y5 cooking their own spaghetti bolognese and Y6 Trip to the Imperial War Museum.

On Tuesday of this week, we also celebrated all things artistic and creative with our annual Art Exhibition. This year the theme was 'portraits' and as you entered the hall you couldn't help but be captivated by lots of intriguing faces staring back at you. It was lovely to see the progress that pupils have made in art throughout the school, especially the growing sophistication of different styles including the use of colour. A huge thank you to Miss Webb and our dedicated Art Council for organising and hosting this incredible event.

It's been fantastic to see sport continue to flourish across the school this year. With increased opportunities to join clubs and enjoy two hours of PE per week, our pupils have thrived. Our girls' football team has had an incredible season, winning the Maidstone Schools' League and representing the town in the South East tournament, where they achieved a commendable third place. They also clinched the school's football league title. Our netball team enjoyed similar success, securing their own league victory. Special mention goes to Savannah Midson for winning the Maidstone Schools' Cross Country and Danill for breaking the school's high jump record. These achievements are a testament to the pupils' determination, teamwork, and the unwavering support of our dedicated staff. A huge thank you to Mr Allchin for leading the PE department this year, and to Coach Robbie, Miss Newman, and Miss Collins for their tireless commitment to our young athletes.

## **FOSB**

We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the Friends of South Borough (FOSB) committee and all the dedicated volunteers for their extraordinary fundraising efforts this year. Their tireless work has brought us significantly closer to our goal of building a brand new Outdoor Adventure Playground for our children. The recent Summer Fayre was a phenomenal success, raising a staggering £2862. We are delighted to announce that the total funds raised by FOSB this year amount to an impressive £7,038.09. When combined with the £5,571.91 carried over from previous years, we have a grand total of £12,610 towards our playground project. This is an incredible achievement, and we are immensely proud of everyone involved. Please do watch out for upcoming FOSB events and opportunities to support this exciting project from September onwards.

*Respect*

*Kindness*

*Determination*



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## Pupil Results... very high again!

I am extremely proud to share pupil outcomes (results) which once again are well above national in all areas of the school. The table below shows the % of children in the cohort that have achieved the expected level in each of the statutory reporting years (Reception; Year 1& 2 Phonics; Year 4 Times tables and Year 6). Results for the school are highlighted in blue. The table also shows current national averages for comparison purposes. Huge congratulations to the children who sit behind these results together with the staff who have supported them.

Reception & Phonics		
	School	National Average
Reception	75%	73%
Year 1 Phonics	90%	75%
Year 2 Phonics	97%	87%

Year 4 Times Table Check		
	School	National Average
Full Marks (25/25)	60%	29%
Average score	22.5/25	20.2/25

Key Stage 2 (Year 6) Expected+		
	School	National Average
Reading	93%	74%
Writing	90%	72%
Maths	89%	73%
Combined	86%	61%

## Year 6

We bid a fond farewell to our incredible Year 6 pupils as they embark on the next chapter of their educational journey. These exceptional young people have been exemplary role models, consistently demonstrating kindness, enthusiasm, and a strong work ethic. Their willingness to help others, whether it's assisting younger students or supporting school events, has been truly inspiring. Our PGL trip earlier this year was a privilege to share, witnessing firsthand their resilience and determination. Last week's dazzling performance of 'I'm an 11 Year Old... Get Me Out of Here' was a testament to their talent and teamwork. Yesterday's heartfelt reflections filled us with pride as we celebrated their time at South Borough. We will miss them dearly and wish them every success in their secondary school adventures.

## Thank You!

I feel incredibly fortunate to lead such an exceptional team. Our staff are passionate about unlocking the full potential of every child, inspiring them to believe that anything is achievable. This dedication shines through in every aspect of school life. I want to express my sincere gratitude to each and every member of the South Borough staff for their unwavering commitment and hard work throughout the year. I would also like to thank our parents and friends for their invaluable support in helping their children thrive. Your partnership with us has made South Borough a truly special place.

## And finally...

I have been honoured to be part of South Borough's journey this year. Every child has been on their own individual pathway this year and should be proud of their achievements. We are committed to continuous improvement and look forward to building upon our achievements in the coming year. I hope you and your children have a happy, safe and fun-filled summer break. We look forward to welcoming Years 1-6 back to school on **Wednesday 4th September** safe and well and our new Year R children back on Thursday 5th September.

**Mathew Currie**  
Headteacher