

Southill Primary

# Headteacher's NEWS



Friday 5th May 2023



School success starts with attendance

### Unauthorised term time holidays

Sorry to start negatively but I am growing increasingly concerned at the number of holiday requests I am receiving this term.

I understand that there are sometimes very good reasons for having to take holidays in term time but am concerned that there is a growing perception that this is an 'ok' thing to do. It isn't. Any term time holiday should be an exceptional circumstance only - I do not believe that parents are giving enough thought to the education that children are missing while they are away. Any day lost is important - children will never really catch up what they have missed.

It is worth remembering too that holidays always count as unauthorised absence - and this means parents may be liable to a fine from Dorset Council. The fine is meant to be a deterrent - to emphasise that fact that school attendance is important. Please help your child by valuing their education and taking holidays outside of term time.

### ... and also, Friday afternoons

On a related note, we are seeing increasing numbers of children being taken out of school, after register time, for medical appointments on Friday afternoons. Our attendance policy requests that parents try to make all appointments outside of school hours. All such absences will be now be recorded as unauthorised until evidence of the doctor's letter or surgery appointment is provided when you come to collect your children.



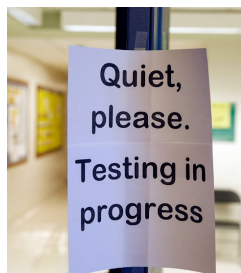
### Tesco Community Grant Award

And now, some good news! Following a long period of public in-store voting, Southill has been awarded a grant of £1500 to develop the outdoors learning provision for our Reception class. Mrs Puddick, Mrs Kench and Mrs Wood have lots of ideas about how they want to do this and are looking forward to getting to work spending the money. Thank you to everyone who voted for us!



### Year 6 Budmouth Information Evening

A number of Year 6 parents have mentioned to me that Budmouth are holding an information evening on Tuesday 20th June, while Year 6 are away in St Ives on their residential trip. I have checked with Budmouth and they have told me that the evening 'is aimed at parents rather than students' so it is not a problem that children can't be there (I realise that their original information to you says something different). I hope this is reassuring but please email Budmouth directly if there is anything further you wish to know about the evening.



### Testing, testing

Staff (and children!) are gearing up for our summer testing programme. Up first are the Year 6 tests, due to take place next week. We know our children are 'really smart cookies' - they're going to be ace! Year 2 will be completing a reading and a maths paper at some point before half term. Teachers will add this in to their normal learning - we reckon children will barely notice.

We have sent out some parents' information about both sets of tests this week.

Also coming up in June are the Year 1 phonics check (letter coming out shortly) and the Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check. It's all go!



### Cleaner and caretaker

Mr Frampton has given us notice of his intention to retire at the end of this term. This is a sad loss to the school and we will miss his commitment and dedication to the school. And of course, his music choices before school!

His existing job has been split into two posts - a cleaner for 3 hours per day and a 'handyperson' for 7.5 hours per week. Please spread the word if you know anyone who may be interested.



### Coronation fun

Our many thanks to FOSS for organising today's coronation picnic. It was great to be able to celebrate the event with each other - especially in the company of so much fabulous cake. Thank you to everyone who sent in some cakes today - they made a feast fit for a king!



### Diary dates

We have assembled a list of all the dates we could think of that you will need this term. It's attached as a separate page overleaf, in case you wish to print it off.

### Open Mornings

To spread the word about Southill's brilliance, we are starting to run tours every Friday at 11 am. Designed to show prospective new parents all we can about the school, these tours are intended as 'just turn up, no need to book'. You'll start to see these adverts all over the place in the coming weeks.

If you can pass these details to any prospective parents you might know, we'll be grateful. Thank you in advance.



# Southill Primary School

Sycamore Road, Weymouth. DT4 9UF  
01305 773144



\* OUTSTANDINGLY HAPPY \*

# Open Mornings

➔ Pupil spaces are available! ➔

Come and see our **fantastic environment** and all the **incredible learning opportunities** we offer

**Every Friday at 11:00** (no need to book, just pop in)




Check us out




**That's all for now.  
Have a great extended weekend everyone.**

## Southill Primary: dates for the summer term 2023 (and beyond)

Bank Holiday	Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> May
Y6 SATs	Tuesday 9th May - Friday 12th May
Community Plant Swap	Saturday 13 May 2-4pm
Y4 residential	Monday 15 May - Wednesday 17 May
BSO Trip	Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May
Y3 & 4 show 'The Tempest'	Thursday 25th May 2.00pm
FOSS Non-Uniform Day	TBC - Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May
Half Term	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June
Inset Day School closed	Monday 5th June
First Day of Summer Term 2	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> June
Year 1 Trip to Monkey World	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> June
Reception New Parents Evening	Wednesday 7 June 6.00pm
FOSS Bingo	TBC - Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 7-10pm
Reception Booknic	Wednesday 14th June 2.00pm
Y6 residential	Monday 19 June - Friday 23 June
Rec, Y1 & Y2 Sports afternoon	Tuesday 27 June 1-3 pm
Y3 & Y4 Sports Afternoon	Wednesday 28 June 1-3 pm
New Reception Visits (1)	Wednesday 28 June 1.30-2.45pm
Y5 & 6 Sports afternoon	Thursday 29 June 1-3 pm
New Reception Visits (2)	Wednesday 5 July 1.30-2.45pm
Summer Fayre	Friday 7 July
Rock Band Performance	Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July 4.30pm
Y5 residential	Wednesday 12 July - Friday 14 July
Y6 Primary College	Wednesday 12 July - Friday 14 July
Y6 Leavers service	Tuesday 18 July 2– 3pm
Last Day of Term	Friday 21st July - Non-uniform
Inset Day School closed	Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> September
First day of Autumn Term	Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September
Inset Days 2024	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024      3 <sup>rd</sup> June 2024      22 <sup>nd</sup> and 23 <sup>rd</sup> July 2024

# Other news and information for parents and carers



## GIRLS GOLF ROCKS

# 6 WEEKS COACHING

## ONLY £40

#GIRLSGOLFROCKS

**GIRLS GOLF ROCKS 2023!**

We are very excited to announce that Weymouth Golf Club will be once again supporting Girls Golf Rocks in 2023. We look forward to delivering the programme this season and helping with growing the participation of girls' golf.

Open to all girls aged 5-18 years. No experience necessary, no equipment required, just wear comfy clothes and trainers, and join in the fun! Our aim is to create an environment where girls feel comfortable and confident to join our initial weekly sessions and then offer a clear pathway for them to continue their participation into a fun future of golf.


The coaching courses will involve six, hour-long sessions spread over six weeks - and costs only £40! The sessions are designed to be:

- FUN!
- Team/group based activity
- Include a variety of golf-related activities
- Allow for social time either at the beginning or end

The first coaching course starts on **Saturday 20th May** at 15:30.

For more information about this programme or to book a spot, please visit the following website:

[www.enlandgolf.org/girls-golf-rocks](http://www.enlandgolf.org/girls-golf-rocks)

## Parenting Skills and Strategies

Parenting Skills and Strategies is an advice session for parents to gain practical and friendly support around any aspect of looking after children aged 2-19 or family life. Parenting Skills and Strategies is bookable for face-to-face sessions held locally.

Parent/carer advice **by booked appointment only**  
call 01305 762400

Tuesday		
<b>Bincombe Valley Children's Centre</b>	11am - 1pm	11 <sup>th</sup> April 9 <sup>th</sup> May 13 <sup>th</sup> June 11 <sup>th</sup> July
Thursday		
<b>The Mulberry Children's Centre</b>	1pm - 3pm	20 <sup>th</sup> April 4 <sup>th</sup> May 18 <sup>th</sup> May 1 <sup>st</sup> June (Half term) 15 <sup>th</sup> June 6 <sup>th</sup> July 20 <sup>th</sup> July

To book please contact Chesil Locality Team:  
☎ 01305 762400  
✉ [chesillocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:chesillocality@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)

## FREE Children's Events in May Weymouth Library and Learning Centre 2023



**Star Wars Day Party – May the Fourth be with you!**  
Thursday 4 May | 5:00pm – 6:00pm  
Celebrate May the Fourth with Star Wars themed crafts, books, games, trivia quiz, and photo opportunities with costumed characters from the Wish Upon a Starre Company!  
[Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk](http://Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk)



**Sign and Rhyme – Sign Language Rhyme Time**  
Friday 5 May | 10:00am - 10:30pm  
Join us for a special Signing Rhyme Time, learning nursery rhymes with sign language in support of Deaf Awareness Week. Suitable for toddlers, babies, and signing children.  
[Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk](http://Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk)



**Coronation Celebration Activities**  
Saturday 6 May | 9:00am – 3:30pm  
Join us for a day of Coronation celebrations, with decorating commemorative bookmarks, a coronation-themed Library Gets Lively at 11am-11:30am, and a rather Royal Lego challenge starting at midday- can you build your own castle?



**Recycled Art – Local Landscapes**  
Saturday 13 May | 1:30pm - 2:30pm  
Celebrate Local History Month in this craft session using recycled materials to create colourful collage landscapes of Dorset scenery. Suitable for ages 7+ and families.  
[Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk](http://Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk)



**Mindful Card Making Craft**  
Monday 15 May 2:00pm-3:00pm and 3:30pm-4:30pm  
Join us for card making in a mindful craft session to celebrate Mental Health Awareness Week. Suitable for all ages. [Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk](http://Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk)



**Elmer Day Craft and Story**  
Saturday 27 May 11:00am-12:00pm  
Create your own colourful elephant friend in a hands-on arts and crafts session, and then settle down for a classic storytime. [Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk](http://Bookable on eventbrite.co.uk)



**Summer Half-Term Activities**  
Tuesday 30 May – Saturday 3 June  
Join us this Summer Half-Term for family board games, and crafts and colouring, available every day of Half-Term. The Half-Term Lego Challenge will run in the afternoons from 12pm. Fun for all the family! No booking required.

**To book these events:**  
Search: Dorset Libraries on Eventbrite  
Email: [weymouthlib@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:weymouthlib@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk)  
Call: 01305 762410



Scan me!

Stay up to date with all our events by following Weymouth Library and Learning Centre on Facebook!



## MAY HALF TERM YOUNG ADVENTURES

6 - 16 Years old



**£25 Half Day**  
or  
**£50 Full day**

(£5pppd surcharge if staying over lunch)  
Book 3+ sessions and receive 10% discount

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri
<b>AM</b>	Sailing	Sailing	Sailing	Sailing	Sailing
<b>0930 - 1200</b>	Raft Building	Climbing	Mega SUP	Climbing	Kayak
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
<b>PM</b>	Sailing	Sailing	Sailing	Sailing	Sailing
<b>1300 - 1530</b>	Kayak	Climbing	Kayak	Climbing	Raft Building
		Mega SUP	SUP		

**More Activities Mean Less Spaces... So Book NOW!!!**



Use this QR code to Visit our website and see our over amazing opportunities



Use this QR code to book our Young Adventures Club Now...