SOUTHILL BULLETIN

★ *Respect ourselves; respect others, respect the environment* ★

ISSUE
07
Friday 23rd October

Value of the month:
PATIENCE AND HONESTY

Our Week in Photos

HEADTEACHER HIGHLIGHTS

Despite this half term being incredibly long, we have achieved so many great things and the children have been incredible. My highlight this week was our Sharing Assembly. We are in such a unique position at Southill to be able to share each class with you from Nursery to Year 4 and I always love to see how the learning evolves. It was lovely to see so many of you attend. Thank you for your time this afternoon. The children showed such confidence and a true love of learning and there was some incredible singing too. If this is the standard that has been set now, I cannot wait for our next performance.

SWIFTS ENRICHMENT

Swifts had a fantastic time this week participating in an immersive 'Stone Age Day.' It was great to see the excitement from the children as they arrived at school, proudly sporting their brilliant caveman attire. To bring this historical period to life, Ms Calder and her team designed a wonderful variety of engaging, hands-on activities. During my classroom visit, the children were spotted putting the finishing touches on their detailed dioramas. They showed immense focus and care, meticulously choosing their materials and organising their individual workspaces with great attention to detail. It was clear that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the experience. A huge thank you to Ms Calder and her team for organising such a memorable and brilliant enrichment day for the children.

KEY DATES

October
Fri 23rd End of autumn term 1
Mon 26th - Fri 30th Half Term Break

November
Mon 2nd Children back to school
Tues 3rd Parent's Evening 3.40 – 6.00pm
Weds 4th Parent's Evening 3.40 – 6.00pm
Weds 11th Remembrance 10.45am at the war memorial
Fri 13th Children in Need
Weds 25th Coffee Afternoon with Mrs Read/Miss Kell (Family Engagement Worker) and CAMHS

December
Weds 2nd Theatre Production – Dr Doolittle
Thurs 3rd Anxiety Workshop for parents 4pm-5pm
Tues 15th Christmas Production at All Saints Church 2.30-3.15pm
Weds 16th Christmas Dinner
Thurs 17th Special Christmas visitor in school

SPECIAL VIP TREAT

Today, I had the pleasure of announcing our first VIPs of the academic year! Amber, Jude, and Brooke have consistently shown our school values and made a fantastic impression on staff. As a reward for this brilliant achievement, they were treated to a special hot chocolate with all the trimmings and got to spend some time out of class doing things they enjoy. I really loved catching up with them and hearing what they are looking forward to over the holidays. Well done to our winners! I look forward to seeing who will receive this special recognition next half term.

FABULOUS FOSLS

We are incredibly fortunate to have such a wonderful parent community. This week, FoSLS hosted their 'Pumpkin Patch and Bake Sale' event, and it was a roaring success! The school field was completely transformed into a beautiful seasonal display, filled with pumpkins of all shapes and sizes, delicious bakes, and warming hot chocolate. A huge thank you to the FoSLS team for putting so much time and energy into making this event possible. We would also like to thank everyone who attended and supported our fundraising efforts. Your generosity is greatly appreciated and will directly benefit the children. Good luck to everyone taking part in the pumpkin carving competition! We cannot wait to see your creations and announce the winners after half-term.

THANK YOU

As we reach the end of this half term, I want to extend my thanks to our incredible staff. It has been a fantastic term and as always they have gone above and beyond for your children. I am immensely fortunate to lead such an amazing team, where each member shines both individually and collectively. Their dedication is what makes Southill the special place that it is. Thank you also to all of our parents and carers for your continued support throughout the term. Whether it's attending school events, supporting FoSLS, or simply reading with your child at home, we deeply appreciate the strong relationships we have built together. Finally, I wish you all a wonderful break with your families.

PICTURE NEWS

Through **Picture News** this week, children were encouraged to consider if age should decide what we are allowed to do. This is in light of eleven-year old Bodhana Sivanandan from London becoming the youngest person to ever earn the woman grandmaster title in chess. She achieved this while playing for England at an international competition in Uzbekistan. Bodhana said she was happy with her achievement and wanted to keep making history.

WORD OF THE WEEK

Our **Word of the Week,** continues after half term for 1 to 4. We make sure that they are up in every classroom and work on using them in our speaking and in our writing. Give them a try at home if you can.

KS1: **cartography** – describes mapmaking, or the science and art of drawing maps.
*The clever mapmaker used **cartography** to draw a path straight to the hidden treasure.*

KS2: **drastic** - describes a change or action that is very big, sudden, and extreme.
*Cutting down the ancient forest would have a **drastic** impact on the local wildlife.*

SIGN OF THE WEEK

CELEBRATIONS

STARS OF THE WEEK

MARTINS – Ivy

SWALLOWS – Delilah

SWIFTS – Jasper

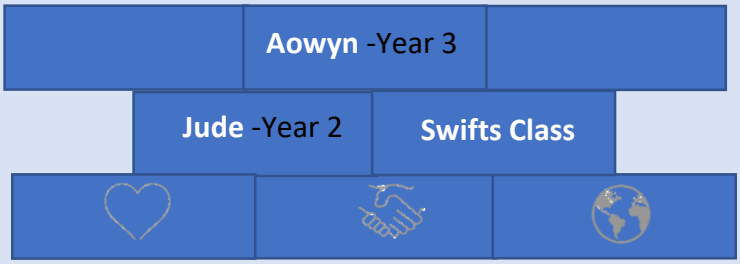
HEADTEACHER AWARDS

MARTINS – Molly and Tulip

SWALLOWS – George, Kara, Ava and Quinn

SWIFTS – Bella, Aaron, Tillyanna and Lucas

VALUES



DOJO CHAMPIONS

NURSERY – Annabel
RECEPTION – Carmelo
YEAR 1 – Conor
YEAR 2 – Tommy
YEAR 3 – Zachary
YEAR 4 - George

ATTENDANCE CHAMPIONS

Our whole school attendance this week was

98.1%

Nursery – 100 %
Reception – 99.22 %
Year 1 – 97.22 %
Year 2 – 96.58 %
Year 3 – 98.57 %
Year 4 – 98.57 %

Thank you for your ongoing support.

GOLDEN TICKET

Our lunchtime award this week goes to Delilah in Swallows. Wow, what impeccable manners!

REMINDERS

✓ **Please ensure coats or jackets are in school daily**

✓ **Reading records in school daily**

✓ **Parent's evening is the first week back after half term – 3rd and 4th November**

✓ **Please do try and get your child into school on time. After 8.50am children are recorded as late**

SAFEGUARDING

Southill Lower School Safeguarding
safeguarding@southillschool.co.uk

Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Read

Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Mrs Rimmer

Safeguarding Governor Lead: Sarah Tuckwell

GET IN TOUCH

01462 813312

southill@southillschool.co.uk

www.southilllower.org.uk

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.
Sonya Read
Headteacher
sread@southillschool.co.uk

FoSLS – Events & Activities 2026/2027

Thank you for your support of the *FoSLS Pumpkin Patch and Spooky Bake Sale!*

So far we raised **£257** from that event! Thank you!

LETTER FROM SANTA

FoSLS will be doing their annual Letter from Santa/Father Christmas from November 1st – November 22nd.

A Google Form will be shared with all of you to input any personal information about your children that you feel would be relevant for Santa to congratulate on or encourage them.

Please get your filled out Google forms back to us by the deadline above, so we have enough time to make all the letters for your children - before Santa comes to visit school on the 17th December! Many thanks!

FESTIVE BINGO!
FRI 20th NOV
The Green Man, Stanford

Final call for tickets to be purchased for the FoSLS Festive BINGO!
We have some absolutely amazing prizes up for grabs from Moet, Family Photography Sessions, Ellesse Hoodies, to Champneys Beauty and Bath products!

Tickets cost £5 per person and all the money made goes straight back into the school to be spent on the children.

Please ask Tarryn for the payment link.

We truly appreciate any support you give FoSLS! Have a good half term!

POWER to the PARENTS

keeping our children ***SAFE***

Do you ever worry about:

- Exploitation and grooming
- Social media
- Peer pressure
- Mental health and emotional well being
- School, friendships, relationships
- Keeping communication open at home

What you get:

- Practical advice
- A safe space to ask questions
- Guest speakers and specialist knowledge
- Tips you can use straight away at home
- No judgement
- Honest conversations and support

Every Monday 5pm to 6pm

via Teams

Free
to attend

Open
to all parents & carers

VEPP

We're here to help.

FOOD BANK SUPPORT HUB

THE NEED PROJECT
CHRISTIANS FIGHTING FOOD POVERTY

CONTACT US ON 07496 833940 FOR AN APPOINTMENT

PRACTICAL HELP. DIGITAL SUPPORT. NEXT STEPS.

Free, friendly support to help you access services, find out what you're entitled to and take the next step.

WE CAN HELP YOU:

Use a computer or phone
Free internet access and digital support

Complete online forms and claims
We'll help you navigate and upload documents

Find out what support you may be entitled to
Benefits calculators and information

Understand letters
We'll help you understand what they're asking

Find local help
Housing, council, energy bills and more

Get connected
We'll refer you to specialist advice services

WE CAN'T:

- Give specialist benefits, debt or legal advice
- Tell you if you are entitled to a benefit
- Make decisions for you
- Log in to your accounts without you
- Keep your passwords

If we can't help, we'll help you get to the right people.

WHEN?
EVERY WEDNESDAY
1:00PM – 3:00PM

CONTACT US ON **07496 833940** to arrange a slot

WHERE?
The Methodist Church in Stotfold
SG54HP

We look forward to welcoming you.

RESPECT | CONFIDENTIAL | NON-JUDGEMENTAL | HERE TO HELP

Let's take the next step together.

QUESTIONS?
Ask a volunteer or call us on **07496 833940**

YOUR FOOD BANK
Stronger together, brighter futures.

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

Thursday 5th November

Main 1

Bonfire Bangers In a Bun

Main 2

Veggie Bangers In a Bun

Sides

Fire Pit Beans

Smoky Wedges

Desserts

Catherine Wheel Cookies

FOOD SMART
Be More
FOR BODY AND BRAIN

COFFEE, CONVERSATIONS, & CARE

Come and enjoy a relaxed, friendly atmosphere at our coffee afternoon next half term. Learn more about our support team, discover helpful well-being resources, and ask any questions you have. Please let the office know if you will be attending. We look forward to seeing you there!

When: 25th November 2026, 2pm

Where: Southill Lower School

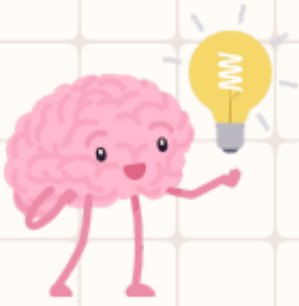
Who: Mrs Read, Miss Kell & the CAMHS Team

LITTLE HEARTS, BIG WORRIES:

UNDERSTANDING CHILDHOOD ANXIETY

The Mental Health Support Team are pleased to offer a parent / carer talk on anxiety. We will cover:

- What is anxiety and how is it maintained.
- Separation worry making school drop off tricky.
- How can we support our children with fears and worries.



SOUTHILL LOWER SCHOOL

THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2026

4PM

NHS East London NHS Foundation Trust

Ask about the #ELFTPromise

We care
We respect
We are inclusive

Make music.
Make friends.
Be inspired.

Discover our fun and friendly after-school and Saturday music groups in Central Bedfordshire.

Scan to find your local group and start your musical journey today

Whether you're just starting out or already play, there's something for everyone — from singing and bands to strings, brass, keyboard, folk group and more.

In all our sessions you can:
- ♪ learn new skills
- ♪ build confidence
- ♪ make friends
- ♪ perform and progress

inspiring music
Central Bedfordshire Music Service

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Central Bedfordshire

Make music.
Make friends.
Be inspired.

inspiring music
Central Bedfordshire Music Service

Discover our fun and friendly after-school and Saturday music groups in Central Bedfordshire.

Whether you're just starting out or already play, there's a group or instrument for everyone.

Scan to find your local group and start your musical journey today

ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND | Central Bedfordshire

www.inspiringmusic.co.uk/after-school-and-saturday-music-groups

Start your musical journey with us today. Available to anyone just setting out or already playing, there's a place for you.

In all our sessions you can:
- ♪ develop musical skills
- ♪ build confidence
- ♪ make friends
- ♪ perform and progress
- ♪ build valuable life skills

Find the right group

We offer a wide range of ensembles and groups to suit every stage - from beginners to more experienced musicians.

- ♪ choirs and singing groups
- ♪ concert and wind bands
- ♪ folk group
- ♪ orchestras
- ♪ rock and pop groups
- ♪ beginner groups
- ♪ instrument-specific ensembles e.g. guitar, keyboard and more

Why join?

Our experienced tutors create a supportive environment where children, young people and adults can learn, grow and enjoy making music together.

Who can join?

Our after-school and Saturday music groups welcome children, young people and adults across Central Bedfordshire. Some groups are ideal for beginners, while others are designed for more experienced musicians.

Ready to get started

Find up-to-date details on venues, times and how to join:

Scan the QR code

Visit www.inspiringmusic.co.uk/after-school-and-saturday-music-groups

PICK
EXPLORE
PLAY
MAKE
MEMORIES ♡

THE SECRET FARM
WATCH US GROW

A GREAT DAY OUT FOR FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, NURSERIES & GROUPS! ♡

PUMPKIN PATCH 2026

YOUR OCTOBER ADVENTURE STARTS HERE!

OPENING 3RD OCTOBER

3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 OCTOBER

9:30AM – 6:00PM

£5 ENTRY PER PERSON
UNDER 3s FREE ♡

- Pumpkin picking
- Straw maze & straw bale climbing
- Children's shows & entertainment
- Hunt the golden pumpkin
- Mini tractors & pedal go-karts
- Play equipment & ground trampoline
- Arts & crafts
- Friendly monsters tunnel
- Spooky beach & graveyard
- Activity trail & games
- Loads of photo opportunities
- Food, drinks & treats available
- Optional extras & rides
- Free parking
- Toilets on site

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Loads of activities. Tonnes of fun.

For children aged 4–12.

BOOK TODAY!

premier-education.com

Excellent

Trustpilot

SHUTTLEWORTH IN LIGHTS

4 DEC 26 - 3 JAN 27

OUR UNIQUE TWIST ON A WINTER LIGHT TRAIL

"THE GARDENS WERE ENCHANTING AND THE HANGARS WERE A UNIQUE ADDITION TO THE EXPERIENCE."

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SHUTTLEWORTH, OLD WARDEN AERODROME, BEDFORDSHIRE, SG18 9EA

Junior Adventures Group

HOLIDAY HQ

OCTOBER

HALF TERM

HOLIDAY CAMP

LAUNCHING OCTOBER 2026

- Action-packed activities every day – sports, games, crafts, challenges & more
- Mission Starlight this October – a new space-themed adventure every day
- Make, create & take it home – including our Solar System Planetarium
- Great-value holiday childcare – with offers & discounts available

SCAN TO FIND YOUR HOLIDAY HQ & BOOK NOW

MISSION CONTROL IS CALLING...

MISSION Starlight

OCTOBER PROGRAMME

Give your child an October half term filled with activities, creativity, active play, new experiences and plenty of fun at Holiday HQ.
With exciting activities throughout the day and a programme designed to keep children engaged, Holiday HQ offers October half term childcare that's about much more than simply filling the school holidays.
Find your nearest October half term holiday club and join Mission Starlight.

MAKE YOUR OWN PLANETARIUM

DAILY ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- Big adventures bringing each day's theme to life
- Fun challenges to test skills, teamwork & confidence
- Imagine it. Create it. Make it yours.

PLUS - 100+ WAYS TO PLAY WITH CHILDREN'S CHOICE EVERY DAY

- Save with Early Bird
- Sibling Discounts Available
- Book Ad Hoc or Weekly
- Tax-Free Childcare Accepted

SCAN TO FIND YOUR HOLIDAY HQ & BOOK NOW

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