



SOUTH BOROUGH PRIMARY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Celebrating our amazing school!



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Friday 21st July 2023

Headteacher: Mr M Currie

Deputy Head Teacher: Mr L Clarke

Dear Parents and Carers,

A year of success... thank you!

The summer holidays are here - I for one truly hope that the sun gets its hat on over the coming weeks and comes out to play! Looking back on the year, I think it is more than safe to say that it has been a hugely successful one and one that warrants a moment to celebrate.

In April, we welcomed Ofsted into the school to undertake a long awaited inspection. The result... the school CONTINUES TO BE GOOD. To say we were thrilled is an understatement. The inspector witnessed first-hand the incredible learning experiences children are offered here, the inspirational teaching they receive and the high level of pupil outcomes. Visitors this year, including Ofsted, have commented on the exemplary pupil conduct around school and how purposeful learning is in every classroom. Reading has been our main priority this year - you will see further down that the results pupils have produced in both phonics and reading is testament to the hard work put in. Reading happens every single day (even this morning!) with high quality phonics and whole class reading lessons. I am proud that staff have remained resolute in our aim to ensure that every child is a successful reader.

In our final assemblies this afternoon, we watched our South Borough Yearbook, which included photos of memorable moments across the year. It is staggering to see how many exciting, unique events that have been offered to pupils this year. There have been many experience days, trips, visitors and pupil led events - all of which have further enriched learning. A few highlights include the Year R/1 Dinosaur Experience Week; Nursery Picnic; Y2 visit to Kent Life; World Book Day; Coronation Celebration; Y3/4 Living Land Experience; Y5 Visit to Canterbury Cathedral; Y6 Imperial War Museum; Black History Month and more recently the sensational art exhibition which was a true showcase of the fantastic art talent we have at South Borough.

This year has also continued to see growth in our sporting successes. Both the girls' football team and the school netball team have won their league. The KS2 football team also won the South Borough Mini Tournament. Our Sports Days were a resounding success with all children taking part and a new high jump record of 1.25m set. It has also been the year for trying some new sports including Lacrosse, Handball and Tri Golf. None of this would happen without staff's dedication to developing sports. Thanks to Mr Smith for leading PE across the school; Coach Robbie and Team Theme and Miss Newman, Miss Collins and Mr Allchin who give up their own time to coach football and netball.

FOSB

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the FOSB committee, together with their dedicated team of volunteers, who have once again worked tirelessly throughout this year to organise exciting events and raise well needed additional funds for the pupils of the school. The money raised has been used to fund a range of additional books for classrooms; install four new basketball hoops on the playground and subsidise end of Y6 celebrations, to name just a few. The most recent Summer Fayre was again a resounding success and raised a large amount of money. Please look out for posts in September for future events.

Attendance celebration

I am delighted to announce that our attendance figures have increased from 92.5% last academic year to 93.7% this year. This is down to the whole school community working hard to ensure that their children are in school, on time every day. The children have responded positively to our new attendance Classopoly competition and Attendance Tournament, with RB winning the Pizza Party this term. We will continue these incentives in September and look forward to further improvements next year.

Respect

Kindness

Determination



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Pupil Results... very high!

I am extremely proud to share pupil outcomes (results) which 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 and 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	88%	73%
Year 1 Phonics	93%	75%
Year 2 Phonics	98%	87%

Key Stage 1 (Year 2) Expected+		
	School	National Average
Reading	71%	67%
Writing	68%	58%
Maths	80%	68%

Key Stage 2 (Year 6) Expected+		
	School	National Average
Reading	96%	73%
Writing	93%	71%
Maths	87%	72%
Combined	85%	59%

Year 6

I would like to wish our fabulous group of Year 6 children well as they move onto their secondary schools. These children have been true ambassadors and role models throughout this year to all members of the school community. They are always there to lend a hand... setting up the hall, touring new parents or supporting younger members of the school. Last week the Year 6 children performed a stunning production to parents and friends. Congratulations on this triumph! Yesterday we heard personal accounts from Year 6 as they shared their memories. We were truly humbled to hear all the amazing things these children have experienced at South Borough and I don't think there was a dry eye in the house when the photos were displayed. Thank you Year 6 for seizing every opportunity and good luck at your new schools.

Thank You!

I am so lucky to work with such an incredible team. The staff here are ambitious for each and every child to achieve their dreams and make them feel as though anything is possible. I see this all the time in classrooms, at lunch times and assemblies. I would like to extend a personal thank you to each and every member of the South Borough staff team, for their commitment and dedication over the past year. I would also like to thank all parents and friends of the school for supporting your children to achieve their very best, for trusting us and working with us to make South Borough an incredible place to be.

And finally...

I have been honoured to be part of South Borough's journey this year. It has to be one of the best on record. Every child has been on their own individual pathway this year and should be proud of their achievements. We will never be complacent and look forward to building further on our successes next year and overcoming new challenges. 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 **Tuesday 5th September** safe and well and our new Year R children back on Wednesday 6th September.

Mathew Currie
Headteacher