



Southlands School

Newsletter

Week Commencing 6th January 2025

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* Kindness * Respect * Resilience * Safety * Cherish *

Letter from SLT

Happy New Year! It has been wonderful to welcome everyone back in the New year after what has been a busy and exciting Christmas period with all kinds of festive activities.

We have had a busy and focused week in school as we have started new topics including the Art projects shown in this newsletter and off-site learning activities. Despite the cold start to the half term the homes have still kept busy and there has been a surprising amount of fishing (with extra woolly hats!).

We are pleased that the work on the Art Room has been completed to enable this to return to full use. We now also have a kiln installed and will be introducing clay work to the students during the coming term.

As you will be aware from the national news there is concern regarding the levels of flu like viruses and the impact this is having. Some staff and children have unfortunately been unwell with the winter flu and sickness virus, which has been circulating and no doubt assisted by the social events of the holiday break. We have been encouraging the washing of hands and ventilation to keep the bugs at bay! Please do monitor your child and update through the usual absence reporting system. For years nine, ten and eleven we have Mock examinations taking place the week beginning 27th January. They will take place over two weeks and the timetables have been sent home along with your weekly feedback.

We wish you all a good weekend.

Panto Update

Happy New Year to you all!

Thank you to all who attended the pantomime at the end of the term – it was a great success.

We are currently looking at getting all the photographs put together into a booklet and sent home as a keepsake for the children who were acting in the Pantomime.

The hall has already been booked for this year so a date for your diary:

End of term school pantomime – Friday 19th December 2025 – 11am – Boldre War Memorial Hall



WS Snow Day 2?

Our most recent attempt at a repeat snow Day unfortunately fell flat, but WS, who loved snow deeply, waited patiently all day and managed to enjoy the few snowflakes that did make an appearance!

Lets hope he gets his wish and we have another proper blizzard soon!



Primary 2

This week in Primary 2 AD and TD were enjoying learning about the history of space and space travel, and how people's opinions have changed on the topic over time.

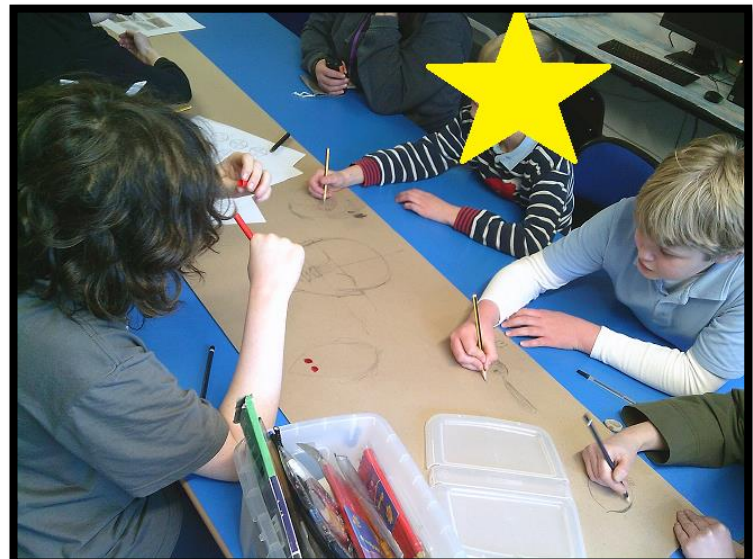
AD also got to enjoy a modern retelling of 'The Three Little Pigs' story and compared it to the original. These were then used to create their own newspapers!



Lower Phase Group - Art

In Art this week the Lower Phase Group all participated in a group creative session. They were given a large sheet of paper had had creative freedom to fill it as they wish.

The class filled it with a variety of pictures ranging from characters and animals through to symbols and doodles. It was great to see the collaborative effort.



Upper Phase Group Museum Trip

On Tuesday, UPN were offered a trip to visit the Mary Rose Museum. The ship is huge, and it is a real feat of engineering that they were able to dredge it from the ocean floor. There are also an amazing number of artefacts to be seen, which were all collected by divers brave enough to face the currents, and especially freezing cold water of the Solent!



Primary 1 Art

This week in art in Primary 1 we have been looking at the artist Anselm Kiefer. Kiefer was born in Germany in 1945 where he grew up around bombed sites from WW2. He uses these sites as inspiration for his art work.



Anselm Kiefer (born 8 March 1945) is a German painter and sculptor. He studied with Peter Dreher and Horst Antes at the end of the 1960s. His works incorporate materials such as straw, ash, clay, lead, and shellac. The poems of Paul Celan have played a role in developing Kiefer's themes of German history and the horrors of the Holocaust, as have the spiritual concepts of Kabbalah.



Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

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CENSORED

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Lipscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

EMBRACING AUTISM

Three days that focus on skills and strategies, for parents, carers and professionals supporting an autistic young person. Hampshire CAMHS Colleagues will be hosting these days alongside parents / carers with lived experience.

Supporting your autistic child to thrive - adapting to meet the needs of the autistic YP and practical strategies. Led by Dr Catherine Robson - Hampshire CAMHS.

Support for SEN in education & what to do if it's not working. Led by Gayle Moir, SENDIASS Services Manager. (not on 14 March)

Understanding autistic burnout, what it is, why it happens, why it's different to depression, recovery, safe spaces, and prevention. Led by Viv Dawes - Advocate/trainer/author.

9.30am - 3.30pm

Friday, 14 March, 2025

Proteus Creation Space,
Council Road, Basingstoke
RG21 3DH

Wednesday, 9 July, 2025

Waterlooville Community
Centre, 10 Maurepas Way,
Waterlooville, PO7 7AY

Friday, 14 November, 2025

St Peter Church Conference
Centre, Jewry Street,
Winchester, SO23 8RY

Tickets £20
Tea and coffee
included

For more information and to book a place go to



Southlands School Term Dates 24 - 25

Southlands School

Term Dates 2024 - 2025



September 2024						
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January 2025						
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April 2025						
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May 2025						
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June 2025						
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July 2025						
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August 2025						
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- School Holidays
- Public Holidays
- Inset Days

- # 38 Week Residential Evening Return
- * 38 Week Residential Leave

Southlands Children's Home —Safeguarding Poster

Who can I report a concern to?



Jack Murphy
Registered Manager
01590 675350 / Ext 56345
Jack.Murphy2@cambiagroup.com



Lauren Stublely
Deputy Head of Care
01590 675350 / Ext 56364
Lauren.Stublely@cambiagroup.com

I can also report concerns to..



James Watson
Regional Care Lead

James.watson@cambiagroup.com



Alison Priddle
Principal & Responsible Individual

01590 675350 / Ext 56301 / 07711 765999

Alison.Priddle@cambiagroup.com

All safeguarding concerns to be reported within **1 hour**
Staff concerns ONLY to be reported to Registered Manager/Head of Care/
Principal/Regional Lead

Southlands School - (Education) Safeguarding Poster

Southlands Designated Safeguarding Leads



Holly Stevenson

Named Designated Safeguarding Lead

01590 675350 / Ext 56355

Holly.Stevenson@cambianguroup.com



Alison Priddle

Principal, Responsible Individual and DSL

01590 675350 / Ext 56301

Alison.Priddle@cambianguroup.com

Southlands Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads



Jess Holloway

Co- Head of Education

01590675350/56328

Jess.Holloway@cambianguroup.com



Holly Jeffery

DDSL / DBSL

01590 675350 / Ext 56355

Holly.Jeffery@cambianguroup.com



Sorina Ciorteanu

DDSL / DBSL

01590 675350 / Ext 56355

Sorina.Ciorteanu@cambianguroup.com

Regional Lead - James Watson / James.Watson@cambianguroup.com

All safeguarding concerns to be reported to D/DSL's within **1 hour**
Staff concerns ONLY to be reported to DSL/Principal/Regional Lead