



Southridge First School Whole School Newsletter



June 2026

Welcome Back

We are delighted to welcome everyone back for the second half of the summer term—a busy and exciting time with much to look forward to, including trips, Sports Days, the Summer Fair and the ever-popular Farmer's Lunch.

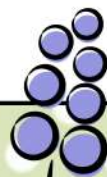
Alongside these events, we will be supporting all children with important transition activities as they prepare to move on to new classes in September, and, for our Year 4 pupils, to a new school. We recognise how important a well-planned transition is for every child and have a range of support in place to help our pupils feel confident and prepared.

Our Year 4s will have several opportunities to visit Valley Gardens Middle School to experience middle school life, including two formal transition days at their chosen school later in the term. Our younger children will enjoy informal visits to their new classrooms and, in due course, will meet their new teachers and begin to build those important relationships ahead of the summer break. This is further supported through our PSHE topic, Changing Me, and approaches such as the Zones of Regulation, which are embedded across the year.

Key transition dates to note:

- Year 4 middle school whole-day visits: Tuesday 30th June and Wednesday 1st July
- New to Nursery meeting: Tuesday 23rd June, 4.30pm
- New to Reception meeting: Monday 29th June, 5.00pm
- "Visit your new classroom and meet your new teacher" event (Years 1–4, pupils and parents): Tuesday 30th June, 3.30–4.30pm
- Transition Day for Nursery to Year 4: Wednesday 1st July
- Class teachers for next academic year will be announced in the week beginning Monday 22nd June

We look forward to supporting every child through this exciting period and helping them to use the mental and emotional tools they have developed to make the most of this change.





School Lunches - Grab Bags

As the summer weather arrives, we have teamed up with our caterers, Mellors, to introduce a new lunchtime offer for our older children. We are excited to launch new lunchtime "Grab Bags" for pupils in Years 3 and 4. These provide a fresh and flexible way to enjoy school meals, especially during the warmer months. With this option, children can choose from a range of sandwiches (any day), pizza (Monday only), chicken burger (Tuesday, week 2&3 of the menu rotation only) and fish & chips (Friday only). These are all accompanied by a selection of freshly prepared crudité's, along with a biscuit or piece of cake for dessert—perfect for a balanced and tasty lunch.

The Grab Bags also give pupils the opportunity to enjoy their meal outdoors with friends, making lunchtime even more relaxed and sociable. We hope this new offer enhances the enjoyment of the school day while continuing to provide nutritious and appealing choices for our children.

Pupil Questionnaire

Earlier in the year, we asked our pupils about their experience at Southridge and were pleased to find that the vast majority of our pupils reported enjoying school, having teachers who helped them do their best, and that they felt safe and knew who they could speak to if something was worrying them. They also reported that the other children in their lessons behave well and that the majority of our pupils have never seen bullying at Southridge. Those that have seen unkind behaviour say that teachers deal with it well.

They also told us that they love the new lunchtimes, with appreciation for the wide range of activities on offer, and also love catching up with their Facetime Farmers.

It's reassuring to know that our children enjoy their first school experience.





Neurodiversity & Anxiety Coffee Morning

We understand that some people have been unable to access the sign-up link that came out with the original flyer. If this has been the case for you, please email the school office (office@southridgefirst.org.uk) to express your interest. We are very keen to have enough confirmed attendees to ensure it can go ahead.

Neurodiversity and Anxiety Coffee Morning



Friday 19th June at 9am

Welcoming speakers from;



Connec t
Mental Health Support Team



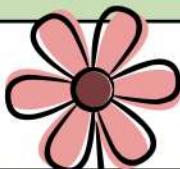
The Toby Henderson Trust
The Doorway to Early Action in Autism

We are pleased to be able to open our doors this June for a special event with our partners to help parents and carers develop their understanding in how to support children who are demonstrating signs of neurodiversity and anxiety.

Please come and join us if you have any concerns about your child's wellbeing, or if you are interested in finding out a bit more about neurodiversity in children.

Proud

to Make a Positive Impact





Keeping our children safe

In this week's assembly, we reminded the children how we help to keep them safe at school and what they should do if they feel upset, worried or hurt. We shared our child-friendly version of the Safeguarding Policy, and the children were excellent at identifying who they could speak to if they had a concern at home or at school.

It was a testament to the children's oracy skills, as well as their strong understanding of their own emotions and feelings, that they were able to share such thoughtful ideas with one another.

You can find a copy of our child-friendly safeguarding promise [<here>](#) on our website.

If you would like to find out more about safeguarding from a parent or carer's perspective, we would recommend exploring the excellent Barnardos website. You can find it [<here>](#)

Worried about a child's safety?

We're here to help children grow up more hopeful, happier, healthier, and safer.

Caring for a child can bring real worries, whether they're at home, school, out for the day, or online. If you need clear, trustworthy guidance, you'll find it here.

This section includes practical advice on preventing accidents at home, staying safe on days out, and encouraging your child to talk about their feelings and wellbeing. You can also read about supporting a child who's anxious, helping children affected by domestic abuse, understanding self-harm, and what to do if you're worried about bullying or cyberbullying.

Whatever your concern, we're here to help you keep the children in your care safe and supported.

Protecting your child from accidents at home

Encouraging your child to open up about their feelings, safety and wellbeing

Read about supporting children affected by domestic abuse

Self-harm: what parents and carers need to know

Read about caring for a child who's feeling anxious

How to support your child if they're being bullied or cyberbullied





Parent Questionnaire Feedback Actions

Following further analysis of your feedback from the recent Parent/Carer questionnaire, we wanted to signpost some information that may support families who were unsure in certain areas.

We noticed:

- That some parents of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) may be unsure whether the school provides the support their child needs to succeed. If this applies to you, please visit the dedicated SEND section of the school website (<https://www.southridgefirst.org.uk/send>) for more information. You are also encouraged to contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Statham (the school's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Co-ordinator, SENCo).
- If you are unsure about what your child will be learning throughout the year, or whether we offer a broad range of subjects, please visit the curriculum section of our school website (<https://www.southridgefirst.org.uk/curriculum-overview>). You can also check your child's class newsletter for weekly or fortnightly updates.
- Some people who have raised a concern with the school have been unsure whether it has been dealt with properly. We would hope that, in many cases, the impact of our response would be evident and that feedback, where requested, would have been given. However, if this has not been the case, please feel free to contact the person with whom the concern was raised.
- Some parents of children in our Early Years have noted that after-school clubs do not begin until the summer term for Reception children. We wait until this point to ensure that most children are developmentally ready and have sufficient stamina to enjoy them. Please be assured that by the time children progress to Year 4, they will have had many opportunities to take part in a wide range of after-school activities, from podcasts to origami, lacrosse to board games, and more besides.

Remember, you can see the outcomes of our Parent and Carer Questionnaire [here](#)





Having fun in the sun

The beautiful sunshine over the half-term holiday undoubtedly reminded some of us with fair skin that we must remember to slop on the sun cream and slap on a sun hat when the sun comes out. Please remember to apply long-lasting sun cream to your children's legs, arms and faces before school when sunshine is forecast.

It is also important to remember water safety, as many families will be spending more time on our beautiful beaches. Our school swimming lessons, which start in Year 2, along with safety visits from the RNLI during the summer term, help equip our children with an understanding of the dangers of the sea and, importantly, the skills needed to stay safe. Please see some Beach Safety Tips from HM Coastguard below, and find more [<here>](#)

Beach safety tips:

Tip 1

Choose a lifeguarded beach

Check in advance if the beach you're visiting has a lifeguard

Tip 3

Know your location

If you're not familiar with the area make sure you note down the beach name and address. Other details such as landmarks are also useful to help us find you

Tip 5

Look after each other

Keep a close eye on children and never let them swim alone. Go with others when exploring

Tip 2

Check local signs and flags for risks

Be aware of dangers and sea conditions

Tip 4

Remember Float to Live

If you find yourself in trouble in the water, relax and float with your head back and your ears submerged

If you get in trouble at the beach call 999 and ask for the Coastguard





June

Upcoming Dates

- Mon 15th - Y2-4 Sports Afternoon (2pm)
- Tues 16th - Nursery-Yr1 Sport Afternoon (2pm)
- Weds 17th - Choir & Strings Concert (4.30pm)
- Tues 23rd - New to Nursery Meeting (4.30pm)
- Fri 26th - Non-Uniform Day (Chocolate Tombola donation)
- Mon 29th - New to Reception Meeting (5pm)
- Tues 30th - Y4 Middle School Transition Day 1
- Tues 30th - "New to Year 1-4" Classroom Drop-in & Meet Your New Teacher (3.30-4.30pm)

July

- Weds 1st - Y4 Middle School Transition Day 1
- Weds 1st - Nursery-Y3 Transition Day
- Weds 1st - Summer fair token collection 3.30pm (school yard)
- Thurs 2nd - Y1 Glasshouse Trip
- Thurs 2nd - Summer fair token collection 9am (school hall)
- Fri 3rd - Summer Fair (3.30-5.30pm)
- Thurs 9th - Y4 Leavers' Assembly
- Thurs 9th - Y4 Leavers' Disco (4.30pm)
- Fri 10th - Whole School Booknic (2pm)





Upcoming Dates Continued

July cont'd

Tues 14th - End of Year Report Drop-In Opportunity
(3.30 - 4.30pm)

Fri 17th - Last Day of Summer term
(more details to follow)

September

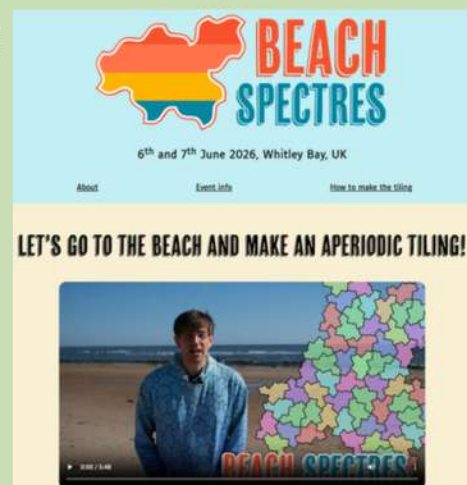
Tues 1st - Teacher Training Day

Weds 2nd - First Day of Autumn term

Tues 15th - Individual Photographs

Spooky Aperiodic Tiling is Coming to a Beach Near You...

For those of you who just can't get enough of cool tessellating shapes, why not join Ivo and Philippa's dad, Christian, for a trip to the beach with a difference on the 6th and 7th of June. Be a part of this huge, fun maths event with a difference! Find out more [here](#)





Outdoor Play Donation Wishlist

Thank you for the wonderful sofas that were donated. They are now part of our snug reading den. The pallets will be used to make a huge bug hotel - if we had some more we could make it a bug skyscraper with a penthouse suite!

Things we currently need:

- plastic bottle crates
- bean bag seats
- old "safe" kitchen utensils (pans, ladles, etc) that could be used in a mud kitchen

Please remember:

Donations are not expected to be new /unused but should be clean and in safe working order – they also need to be given rather than loaned.

If you have something and you are not sure if it is appropriate, please speak to Mr Willcock or Mrs Statham on the school yard, or email office@southridgefirst.org.uk

