



Newsletter 2

Friday 6th October 2017

Dear parents and carers,

Where does the time go? The children have now been at school for a month and there's just under a fortnight until we say goodbye to term 1. Since starting at Southfield in September, I've spent much of my time walking the corridors and visiting your children in their classrooms. I think it's vitally important to get to know them as well as checking on the quality of learning that's going on across our school. I've been mightily impressed with the excellent levels of determination and the masses of positive energy I've felt as I've taken the time to watch and listen. With Mrs. Williams, our Deputy Head Teacher, as well as Mrs. Tkocz and Mrs. O'Sullivan, our Assistant Head Teachers, I've also carried out more formal 'learning walks'. This is when we observe the adults teaching, talk to the children, look through their books and provide feedback on how this is all impacting on the quality of learning. These learning walks have helped our team to understand how much progress Southfield has made since the inspection in February and what we need to do next to ensure that we are judged at least 'good' by Ofsted when they return. Over the next few newsletters, the governors and I will share these messages with you so that you are also clear about our journey towards becoming an excellent academy and the school of choice in the near future.

Here's wishing you a lovely weekend.

With best wishes, Aaron Griffiths - Acting Head Teacher

Good luck, farewell and welcome back!

In just under two weeks, we will be saying a temporary farewell to Mrs. Spencer (Year 5) as she will be starting her maternity leave. We're really pleased to let you know that Mrs Spencer's class will be expertly taught by the excellent Mrs. Hinder, who already works at Southfield, and the excellent Mrs. Richardson, who is happily rejoining our team to work with us all again.



After listening to your feedback, the governors and I have discussed the school website. We know that our website is one of the main sources of information that new and existing families use to get to know Southfield. We want it to be the best it can be, showcasing the children's excellent learning from across our school. As a result, we have decided to work with a new provider to redesign our website. More information will follow as this project evolves.

To strive for the best we need to be ACE **Aspire | Celebrate | Endeavour**

Southfield Junior School, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales
Company Number: 07739514 **Registered Office:** Shrivenham Road, Highworth, SN6 7BZ



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New Gates

Huge thanks to Tony from **A&R Fencing** for hanging the new gates to our staff and main entrance car parks on Shrivenham Road. They looking brilliant!

Parents' Evening

It's that time of the school year when we open the doors and welcome you into the hall to discuss your child's learning and progress. Along with this newsletter, you will also receive a note about booking a slot to see your child's class teacher (dates below). If you can't arrange an appointment at a mutually convenient time, please speak to us to see if there's an alternative we can offer.

Southfield's Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

Our newly established PTA has been working extremely hard to raise its profile and actively support our school. I'm sure you've read the PTA messages through our Schoop app and know that there are many activities in the pipeline to raise funds. This year, the PTA's contributions will go towards transforming our school library, as well as supporting the costs of trips and travel. **A massive thank you to all involved!**



After listening to your feedback during the *Meet the Teacher* events, we got in contact with Therese, the French teacher who runs an after-school club at Eastrop, to see if she could continue the provision into Southfield. We're pleased to say that Therese will be running a French club here. If you would like your child to start learning French or build on the skills they developed in Years 1 and 2, please contact the school office for further information. **Merci beaucoup!**

Car Park Accessibility

Please can we remind all parents and carers that unless agreed in advance, the school car park is not for use during morning drop off or afternoon pick up times. If you require access, please don't hesitate to talk to Mrs. Else, our School Business Manager.

Have a brilliant weekend everyone, whatever you get up to.

See you on Monday for another action-packed week.

With best wishes - the team at Southfield Junior School.

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Terms 1 and 2 - Important Dates for the Family Diary

Future additions and alterations will be shown in red.

All dates will be added to the school website calendar and Schoop app.

Harvest Festival	Thursday 12th October 9.30am – Years 3 and 4 – in the school hall 2.30pm – Years 5 and 6 – in the school hall
Height and Weight checks (Y6) <i>Carried out by Swindon's health team</i>	Friday 13th October
Last day of Term 1	Wednesday 18th October, usual finish time
Half Term	Thursday 19 th October – Friday 27 th October
First day of Term 2	Monday 30th October
Parents' Evening for Year 4 and Year 3 (Miss Woolf's class)	Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd November (Times to follow)
Parents' Evening for Years 5 and 6 Year 3 (Miss Patel's class)	Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th November (Times to follow)
Children in Need – <i>Spotacular Day</i> PTA non-school uniform day	Friday 17th November
Christmas Nativity at St. Michael's	Tuesday 12th December (Times to follow)
PTA Christmas Fair	Friday 8th December
Last day of Term 2	Friday 15th December, 1.15pm finish