

Dear Parents and Carers

NEWS

Here we are at the end of another very busy and creative year at Southbrook... as a school community, we really do not stand still!!

We have had a great couple of weeks to round off the year - the residential trip to France was a huge success. It was a pleasure and privilege to spend time with the pupils and staff who were a credit to themselves, their families and the school. We saw so many different sites with a great range of activities on the itinerary – check out the website for a full breakdown of the week. Activities week was also very busy and successful with a packed programme of events. Pupils experienced great days both out of and in school as they tried their hands at bike maintenance, cooking, making furniture out of pallets, creating mosaic tiles to name a few. I'd like to extend a huge thank you to all the staff who ensured everything went smoothly and safely.

A message from Mr Goss: Sports day took place on Tuesday of this week in extremely hot weather conditions. Pupils took part in a carousel of activities scoring points for their tutor groups. All pupils fully engaged in the events participating to the best of their abilities. Some of the year 7 pupils produced some outstanding performances particularly Jessica Hatch. Overall winners of the day were 9PC. Well done to all those that took part. A note for next year: this was the first year of having a sports day at school with the new sports hall. Having now delivered the day with the new facility in place we assessed how it worked and are keen for parents/carers to spectate in next year's sports day. Photos of Tuesdays event will be posted on the school web-site.

UPCOMING SCHOOL EVENTS

Mon 5 th & Tue 6 th September	Non pupil/staff training days
Wed 7 th September	First day back at School for pupils

IMPORTANT MESSAGES:

Message for Year 10 GCSE Maths Pupils: Mr Hughes will be providing a programme of work for GCSE Maths pupils to complete over the holiday period. Please could parents encourage your son/daughter to complete the work before we return to school in September. Thank you.

Message about Bikeability: If your child has taken part in the Bikeability courses run at school in recent years, please could you go onto the attached link and respond to the questionnaire. It is very quick and will help the courses to continue free of charge. Many thanks. <https://new.devon.gov.uk/travel/cycle/cycle-training/children/>

Mobile Phones Reminder – As from September 2016 we must strictly enforce our ban on pupils' use of mobile phones in school due to an increasing number of Safeguarding issues. Any phones brought in to school must be handed in to tutors at the start of each day and kept in a secure cupboard in the tutor room. These will be handed back at the end of the day. During transition time from tutor bases to bus groups and then to transport – phones must not be switched on. If pupils are seen to be breaking this rule, phones will be confiscated and returned when collected by parents/carers. Please can I ask that you discuss this with your son/daughter and encourage their understanding and co-operation. This rule is in place to keep all pupils safe.

Fond farewells to Staff: We say a fond farewell to Martyn Good and Megan Williams today who leave after a year and half at Southbrook who go on to train in teaching and social work. After ten and a half years Mike Thwaite is leaving as he relocates to Cornwall and Anita Stoneman retires after thirteen years at Southbrook. We wish them all the very best as they move on to the next stage in their lives.

Message from the Headteacher and Chair of Governors: In an eventful and turbulent time for our country (and around the world), never has our school agenda of diversity, respect and equality been more relevant. As we move in to a period of uncertainty, it is vital that we, as Governors, staff, pupils, parents and carers, reinforce strongly our commitment to ensure that we embrace and seek to reassure all members of our school community that they are unequivocally welcome and respected. Southbrook School believes that the diversity of its community is an essential part of its values and enriches learning, working and social experiences.

As we finish this academic year, I would like to extend a huge thank-you to everyone for all their contributions in so many different ways; pupils, parents, staff and governors alike. I wish you all a peaceful, safe and hopefully sunny summer break.

Many thanks
Bronwen Caschere
 Headteacher