



Southtown Primary School

Weekly Newsletter

Week ending: 2nd October 2026

We are always Ready, Respectful and Safe



HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

Dear Parents/Carers,

Pupils enjoyed the Pirate themed special lunch menu this week. They hopefully all smiled too for their school photographs, which we look forward to sharing with you soon. Also, thank you to the parents who joined us for the catering event on Tuesday too.

Please keep supporting our fundraising campaign at Tesco by placing your blue tokens into the Southtown Primary School token collection tube.

Free DfE funded Breakfast Club

Our new breakfast club offer started this week and was well received. All pupils will be able to attend a fully funded breakfast club in the school hall from 8.15am. Pupils can arrive for this breakfast club between 8.15am and 8.25am and this part of the club will run until 8.45am, when pupils will go to their classrooms.



**FREE
BREAKFAST
CLUBS**

I hope that you will find this useful and support this offer, which we have been fortunate to be selected for by the Department for Education. To join this funded breakfast club, please book a space using the My Child at School app and arrive via the car park gate between 8.15am and 8.25am. Our menu offer for this club for next week is below:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Choice of cereals Toast Fruit	Crumpets Choice of cereals Toast Fruit	Choice of cereals Toast Fruit	Choice of cereals Toast Fruit	Bagels Choice of cereals Toast Fruit

This is in addition to our standard breakfast club, which starts at 7.45am each day. This club remains priced at £2.00 as this includes staffing costs for the earlier start. Further information and FAQs are available on our [website](#).

Harvest Festival

All classes will attend a school Harvest Festival assembly with our local food bank [Gorleston Food Bank] as visitors on Monday 19th October at 9am. We are now collecting for the Harvest Festival and any donations can be brought into school before this date and placed into the food bank collection basket or on the morning for the festival itself.

The current shopping list that we are able to accept into the basket: custard, jelly, tinned meaty meals, rice pudding, tinned fruit, UHT milk, toilet roll, tinned vegetables, cup-a-soup sachets, sandwich pastes, jam, tinned tomatoes, pasta sauce, passata, crisps and treats.



Lunch menu and snack reminder

Next week, we will be on week 3 menu, which can be found on our [school website](#).

I have also published our new menu for next half term on the school website, so that you can begin to look at the meal options that will be available.



A reminder that we no longer offer tuck at break time. Please ensure that your child brings in a healthy snack. More advice is available via the [NHS Healthier Snacks](#) website. Some members of our school community have severe allergies and carry epipens, please help us to keep our school safe by ensuring that all snacks and food products contain no nuts.



www.southtownprimaryschool.com



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Questions of the week

Each week we will be providing a question of the week linked to conversations and learning that have taken place in school. This is a conversation starter for you and your child, in the hope that it helps to drive your positive communication about school, especially if your child usually responds to the 'What did you do at school today?' question with 'nothing' or 'I don't know'.



Class	Learning Question
Donaldson Class	What objects can you find at home that match and sort them?
Potter Class	What colour are the leaves in Autumn?
Butterworth Class	Which words do we use to compare objects in Maths?
Seuss Class	Why did we decide to set our story writing in the future?
Morpurgo Class	Why do we use subheadings in a text?
Cowell Class	What planet has the greatest gravitational pull?
Rundell Class	What is the difference between renewable and non-renewable energy sources?
Rosen Class	Can you think of a number bond for 10?

OPAL – Outdoor Play and Learning

Thank you for all of the generous donations that have been received so far. We continue to need loose parts and hope that you can continue to help to donate or let companies that you may have connections with know that we would be happy to receive loose parts. Our children are really enjoying this play provision.



We are hosting a parent play session on Thursday 22nd October from 1.30pm and we hope that you can join us for the afternoon.

Attendance

Pupil outcomes are significantly disrupted by lateness, holidays and absence. Our current attendance rate in school is below the national average and therefore a school priority, where we need to justify our actions. I ask that you consider the impact of your child being late, booking holidays during term time and general absence. It is important that you make contact with us by 8.30am to report any absence.

Our aim is to collaborate with parents to ensure that all of our pupils receive the most from their education and reach their full potential. Further information can be found here on our [website](#).

Wraparound care

Our wraparound care is open from 7.45am until 5.30pm daily. Places are available to be booked through the My Child at School app. All places need to be booked via the My Child at School App in advance of your child staying. Our current session prices are held at £2 per child until 4.30pm and £3 per child until 5.30pm.

Our contact number for use during club hours is 07803 176010.



Any child collected late from school will be placed into this club and charges will be applied to your MCAS app.



OCTOBER 2026

- Wednesday 7th at 3.00pm** Year 6 PGL residential showcase for Year 6 parents
- Monday 19th by 8.45am** Harvest Festival donations to be in school
- Thursday 22nd at 1.30pm** OPAL Parent play session in school from 1.30pm – 3.00pm
Last day of Half Term 1
- Friday 23rd** School Closed – Training Day for Staff

If you have any questions about things that have happened during the school day, please remember to contact the class teacher in the first instance, they will be able to assist and then escalate this further if needed for you. If you need to speak to a phase leader, please speak with Miss Alp for EYFS & KS1 and Mrs Cousins for KS2.

Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Ben Newstead (Headteacher)

Please support us by shopping in Tesco this term



We have been selected to be in the next round of the Tesco Stronger Starts scheme.

You can help us by shopping in Tesco and dropping the blue tokens into our tube.

The project with the highest number of votes across your region will receive £1,500,
the second placed project £1,000
and the third placed project £500.

Our project is based on 'the power of playtime' and the money will go towards
resources that support our OPAL play.

You can vote in the following stores until the end of November:

Caister Superstore NR30 5BT
Belton Yarmouth Express NR31 9LD
Lowestoft Road Express NR31 6SH
Great Yarmouth Extra NR31 0DW
Bradwell Yarmouth Express NR31 8DF

Thank you for your support.

OPAL APPEAL FOR LOOSE PARTS DONATIONS

What are **LOOSE PARTS?**

Loose parts are items that can be used to facilitate different kinds of play, or any material that a child can manipulate for playful purposes.

Natural Loose Parts



Acorns



Grass



Leaves



Logs



Pine Cones



Rain & Water



Sand



Snow



Shells



Soil



Sticks



Stones



Wild Flowers



Wood Cookies

Upcycled Loose Parts



Baking Pans



Cake Moulds



Ice Cube Trays



Kitchen Tools



Measuring Spoons



Pots & Pans



Strainers



Baskets



Cable Spools



Cardboard Items



Cones



Containers



Corrugated Pipes



Dress-Up Items



Fabric



Funnels



Milk Crates



Nets



Old Electronics



Pool Noodles



PVC Pipes



Rolling Carriers



Ropes



Shovels & Spades



Sinks & Tubs



Tarps



Tires & Wheels



Wooden Planks





AWARDS AND CELEBRATIONS



We are incredibly proud of these children who have received certificates this week:

Stars of the Week

YR: Kayden
Y1: Michael
Y2: Bonnie-Lei
Y3: Teniola
Y4: Aeman
Y5: Oliver
Y6: Albie
SRB: Noah

Be Brave Star

YR: Aurora
Y1: Logan
Y2: Otis
Y3: Jesse
Y4: Sophia-Rose
Y5: Emily J
Y6: Mia
SRB: Gabby

HOUSE POINTS

Week 4	This term
1,298	4,475
1,601	4,949
1,484	4,523
1,614	5,298

Lunchtime Award

Well done to Michael, Domas, Oscar, Bonnie-Lei, Lilly, Tilly and Elinoa.



Be Kind Award

Well done to Grayson, Crystal, Mia, Henry, Franklyn & Joba.

ATTENDANCE

School attendance is incredibly important and punctuality helps to keep our attendance figures as high as possible. Good attendance is represented by 96% attendance and this is our school target.

Poor attendance 89% and below	Room for Improvement 90% - 94.9%	Good attendance 95% - 97.9%	Exceptional attendance 98% - 99.9%	Outstanding 100%
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School attendance for this week:

EYFS	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	SRB
83.5%	91.5%	94.5%	95.0%	83.5%	92.1%	93.0%	100%

ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE OF SCHOOL



If your child takes part in any wider enrichment activities outside of school e.g. martial arts, swimming, gymnastics or attends a local group e.g. beavers, brownies, scouts and achieve an award, we would love to see and share in their accomplishments.

Your child is very welcome to bring in any certificates or awards for us to present to them in school across the week.



2026/27 School Calendar (Term Dates)

September 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
36		1	2	3	4	5	6
37	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
38	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
39	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
40	28	29	30				

October 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
40				1	2	3	4
41	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
42	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
43	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
44	26	27	28	29	30	31	

November 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
44							1
45	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
46	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
47	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
48	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
49	30						

December 2026							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
49		1	2	3	4	5	6
50	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
51	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
52	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
53	28	29	30	31			

January 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
53					1	2	3
1	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
3	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
4	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
5	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
6	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
7	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
8	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
9	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
12	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
13	29	30	31				

April 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
13				1	2	3	4
14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
16	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
17	26	27	28	29	30		

May 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
17						1	2
18	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
20	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
21	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
22	31						

June 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
22		1	2	3	4	5	6
23	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
24	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
25	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	28	29	30				

July 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
26				1	2	3	4
27	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
28	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
29	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
30	26	27	28	29	30	31	

August 2027							
Wk	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su
30							1
31	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
32	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
33	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
34	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
35	30	31					

BLUE – school in session, pupils should attend

PINK – school holidays (red lettering are Bank Holidays)

RED – teacher INSET days, pupils do not attend