



## Newsletter 2 – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2025

| DAY                                       | WHAT'S ON                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>EVERYDAY</b>                           | Cygnets: bring reading books, reading records, spelling books, water bottles<br>Swans: bring water bottles, a healthy snack<br>Wear PE Kit on Monday and Thursdays                                                     |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>15<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 3&amp;4 Trip to Giffords Circus IS CANCELLED DUE TO HIGH WINDS</li> <li>ASC Sports Club 3.15-4.15pm COLLECTION WILL BE AT SCHOOL TODAY</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul> |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>16<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open Morning for Reception 2026 9.30am</li> <li>Lunchtime Chess Club</li> <li>KS2 Science Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> <li>ASC 3.15-4.15pm</li> </ul>                                  |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>17<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest School Rec, Year 1 &amp; Year 4</li> <li>Lunchtime Nature Club (Y2-6)</li> <li>KS2 French Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                           |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>18<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country Dancing Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                          |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>19<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadline for Thank You Card Competition</li> <li>Musical Mania Lessons</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                      |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>22<sup>ND</sup> SEPT</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sports Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                                     |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>23<sup>RD</sup> SEPT</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Year 3 &amp; 4 Swimming Starts this week. Packed lunches.</li> <li>Lunchtime Chess Club</li> <li>KS2 Science Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> <li>ASC 3.15-4.15pm</li> </ul>               |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>24<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forest School Rec, Year 1 &amp; Year 5</li> <li>Lunchtime Nature Club (Y2-6)</li> <li>KS2 French Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                           |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>25<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country Dancing Club 3.15 – 4.15pm</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                          |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>26<sup>TH</sup> SEPT</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nasal Flu Vaccines today</li> <li>Musical Mania Lessons</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                                     |

### Year 3 & 4 Trip to Giffords Circus IS CANCELLED

Unfortunately, high winds are forecast for Monday and Giffords Circus have cancelled the show. We will let you know if we can make other arrangements.

### Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week:

Swans – Lyra for her contribution in lessons.

Cygnets – Maggie for her hard work in Reception.

## Message from Miss Davies

### **New Ofsted Education Inspection Framework (from November 2025)**

I am sure you have heard in the news this week about the important changes that Ofsted is making to the way schools are inspected. The new Education Inspection Framework will come into effect from 10 November 2025 for all state-funded schools, early years, and further education providers.

These changes are the result of Ofsted's national consultation and aim to give parents clearer, more balanced information about schools.

### **Key Changes in the 2025 Framework**

- New Report Cards – Instead of one overall judgement, schools will now receive a detailed "report card" with grades in key areas, plus written commentary.
- New Five-Point Grading Scale – Inspectors will use the following:
  - Urgent improvement
  - Needs attention
  - Expected standard
  - Strong standard
  - Exceptional
- Inclusion as a Standalone Area – Inspections will look more closely at how schools support children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), those from disadvantaged backgrounds, and children known to social care.
- Safeguarding Judgement – Safeguarding will now be reported separately as either *met* or *not met*.
- Leadership and Staff Well-Being – Inspections will consider how school leaders support their staff as well as pupils.

These changes mean inspection reports will provide more detail about how well a school is performing in different areas. Instead of focusing mainly on exam results, Ofsted will give a clearer picture of the overall quality of education, the care schools provide, and how well children are supported to thrive.

We welcome these changes, as they reflect many of the values already central to our school. We are:

- Continuing to strengthen our curriculum to ensure it is broad, balanced, and ambitious.
- Reviewing our provision for inclusion and ensuring all children receive the support they need.
- Maintaining high expectations for behaviour, attendance, and personal development.
- Supporting staff well-being so that teachers and staff can continue to provide the best for your children.

We will share more information as Ofsted releases updates and once the framework comes into practice. If you would like to read more, you can find the official information on the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/education-inspection-framework/education-inspection-framework-for-use-from-november-2025>

Also from September have been using new Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework. There is a requirement now for all children 5 and under to be supervised while eating to reduce the cases of choking. Within that we also have to follow the following guidance.

<https://help-for-early-years-providers.education.gov.uk/health-and-wellbeing/food-safety>

While prepping lunches and snacks please keep this in mind.



## Book Club

In the Swans there are two Book Clubs. I would like to be part of these again this year, and I would like you to be too. I would like you and your child to share the book and both of you to attend the club meeting. You could have it as their bedtime story, read a bit each, read it separately and discuss. It could be their book, from library, or download it onto a kindle. The aim is you, as a family, are sharing the book and the love of reading. The clubs will at 3.00pm, obviously some parents will be working so I understand if you cannot come to each meeting but maybe you could email your thoughts, zoom in or send a note with your child.

**Year 5 & 6 Book Club** will be on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 3.00-3.30pm

**Year 3 & 4 Book Club** will be on Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> September 3pm – 3.30pm

Please email Miss Davies at [mdavies@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:mdavies@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk) if your child wants to take part in Book Club.

## Open Mornings

Our open mornings for Reception 2026 start on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September at 9.30am, please pass on the dates to anyone you know who has children due to start in Reception in 2026. The other dates are 30<sup>th</sup> Sept, 16<sup>th</sup> October, Sat 8<sup>th</sup> Nov (time tbc), 20<sup>th</sup> Nov, 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec & 16<sup>th</sup> Jan 26, starting at 9.30am.

## Message from the Chair of Governors

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome.

As we come to the end of our second week back after the summer holidays, I would like to extend a warm welcome on behalf of the governing body to families who are new to our school community, and a welcome back those returning. There is energy in the air as the children settle into their classes, rekindle and make new friendships, and begin exploring new horizons in learning and growth. Change can be worrying for the children, and I am thankful that Southrop school staff recognise this and tailor adjustments to the need of each child.

### School development

Last week, you will have received the School Development Plan (SDP) priorities, setting out our shared ambitions for the year ahead. These priorities reflect our commitment to placing children at the very heart of everything we do. Our collective aim is to provide a truly holistic educational experience; one that nurtures academic curiosity and achievement, while equally fostering character, wellbeing, and personal growth. We want every child in our care to soar in life and learning, developing the courage, friendship, and forgiveness that underpin our school's vision and values.

### Governance

The governing body have a busy schedule of learning walks planned for the year ahead and will continue to provide constructive feedback to the school leadership on the implementation of the SDP. As a governing body, we challenge and support the school as a "critical friend". The body went through a lot of change last year and our new team undertook a vast amount of training and role development. Our committed members are now excited to use our learning to implement continuous improvement in the work we do. We will keep you informed and consulted through feedback opportunities, but if you would like a more active engagement then...

### Engagement

In the coming days, I will be sending out an invitation for the first meeting of our new Parent Council. This initiative is an integral part of our ongoing work to ensure transparency and encourage meaningful engagement with parents. We believe that, by working together, we can support every child to "earn their wings"—celebrating not only their academic successes, but also their growing confidence, resilience, and sense of belonging.

If you are new to the school and would like to get involved, please do not hesitate to contact either the school office or myself. We welcome your voice in shaping the journey ahead.

Thank you for your continued support and partnership as we strive to provide the very best for every child entrusted to our care.

Yours sincerely

Dale Hall

Chair of Governors

## Naming School Uniform

Please can you name all items of school uniform. Every term the lost property box is full of unnamed items which have either been left at the field or around school. If the clothing is named then staff can easily return it to the rightful owner. If you have second hand items please ensure you replace the name. Thank you

## Reminder - Thank You Card Competition

We're excited to launch a "Design a Thank You Card" competition! This is open to all pupils and is a lovely way to encourage gratitude and creativity. The winning design will be professionally printed and used as our school's official thank you card. Entries should be submitted to the Office or Class Teachers by Friday 19<sup>th</sup> September. We can't wait to see the children's beautiful and thoughtful designs!

## Remember Forest School Wed 17<sup>th</sup> September

Next week Reception, Year 1 & **Year 4** will be going to Macaroni Woods. Please make sure your child is dressed for the weather with long trousers, long sleeved tops and wellington boots. Please make sure they have waterproof clothing if it has been wet or it is raining. The following week **Year 5** will be going along with Reception and Year 1.

## Urgent - tortoises in need of a winter break!

We are still looking for a winter home for the tortoises. Jeremy and Shelly had a wonderful summer holiday exploring the Morris's and Pressdees's gardens and we are very grateful to these families. We are conscious that the nights are rapidly drawing in. In past winters the Harwood-Hopes, Mrs Dawson, Miss Hall and Mrs McLellan have looked after the tortoises at home. We are now looking for someone to have them over this winter; this support allows us to continue having them as school pets and they are very popular with the children. Please let your class teacher or Mrs Simmons know if you are able to help out for all or part of the winter.

## Swans



This week we had fun making balloon rockets to test out forces. We were inspired by the work of rocket fuel scientist Mary Sherman Morgan.

Over the term we will be floating boats, inspired by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, creating chain reactions, making and flying hoop gliders, creating structures, inspired by Gustave Eiffel, and using an ingenious way to make objects appear invisible using different liquids, inspired by Marie Curie.



Please sign your Swan child up if they would like to join the club, it's not too late!



## Cygnets



Last week children in Cygnets made their own Celt costumes and ambushed Ms Davies.

This week we have enjoyed our first trip to the Forest where the children learnt the rules and how to act responsibly.



## Fellowship Walk

Would you be interested in a school fellowship walk?

Going for a walk can be beneficial in itself, just to get outside, get out of your head and find space and peace. Walking can wake us up in body and spirit and walking with others in the beautiful Southrop countryside is a great way to start the day!

Please do come and join me on Friday 26th September, 8.00 – 8.45 am for a family fellowship walk. Everyone is welcome, including well behaved dogs on leads! Children need to be

accompanied by their adults to take part. If you have a great route you would like to share please let me know and if you can't make 26th September don't worry-we are hoping to make it a regular event. **Mrs Dawson**

*When the Lord was giving the promised land to Abraham, He said, "Arise, walk through the length and the breadth of the land, for I will give it to you" (Genesis 13:17).*



A huge thank you to everyone that attended our AGM 2025. Please see attached our new committee for this academic year. Our first meeting will be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2pm, in the Nurture Cabin. This will be to discuss events throughout the year. If you are interested in coming, everyone is very welcome, please just let me know in advance. Big thanks to everyone for your on going support and to the new committee, here's to another successful year!

Kelly

[PTA@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:PTA@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk)