

Sutton Valence Primary School

Encouraging respect, inspiring resilience and building positive relationships...



As we reach the end of another busy and successful half term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our wonderful staff, pupils and families for their continued support and enthusiasm throughout the term.

This week, we also say a fond farewell to Mrs Powell, who has been a tremendous support to the school community. Her dedication, kindness and commitment to our children and families have made a lasting impact, and she will be greatly missed by everyone. We thank Mrs Powell for all she has contributed and wish her every happiness and success for the future.

At the same time, we are very much looking forward to welcoming our new Headteacher, Mr Jones, after half term. We are excited for this new chapter for the school and know that he will receive a very warm welcome from our whole community.

We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable half term break, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for the final part of the school year.

Y3 & Y4 Living Land

Our school trip to Living Land was a fun and educational day where we learned all about farming and the countryside. We saw large modern and vintage machinery used by farmers and enjoyed The Sheep Show, where we learned about different breeds and how wool is made, with some very funny dancing sheep!



In the Touch & Taste area, we tried strawberries, milk, and honey while learning where these foods come from. We also explored the Discovery area, which had lots of interesting activities about animals, nature, and safety. One of the best parts was the Animal Zone, where we met farm animals like cows, sheep, chickens, and rabbits. Overall, it was a great trip that helped us understand more about farming and food.

Y4 Shang Dynasty

During an exciting online workshop hosted by the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford, we learnt all about the fascinating Shang Dynasty. We were shown incredible oracle bones and other ancient artefacts from the Shang Dynasty, helping us to understand what life was like thousands of years ago. We also discovered that many modern Chinese characters are based on the writing system created during this period. As part of the workshop, we had the opportunity to paint Chinese characters ourselves and design colourful lucky bats, which are symbols of good fortune in Chinese culture. It was a fun and educational afternoon enjoyed by everyone.

Y2 Science Museum

Year 2 had great fun at the Science Museum. We explored the Space Exhibition, where we really enjoyed looking at the spacesuit, moon rock and globe projector. We went to the Pattern Pod workshop where we could do lots of games and interactive activities. We also learnt a funny fact, that there are 96 bags of wee and poo on the moon! It was a long day and the children were exceptionally well behaved despite this.



Newsletter Friday 22nd May 2026

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Changes to the school day

From 1st June, we will be making a small change to the school day to support a calm and positive start for all children.

Our new morning timings will be:

- 8:30am - Gates open and children can enter school for a rolling soft start
- 8:45am - Gates close and registers are taken
- 8.45am-9.00am - Your child will be marked as late
- 9am - Registers close (after 9am your child will be marked unauthorised)

The soft start will allow children time to settle into class and begin their learning calmly and positively.

Thank you for your continued support in ensuring children arrive at school on time and ready to learn.

School Parking Requirements

Due to the continued increase in Breakfast and After School Wraparound attendance, we are reminding all parents and carers of the school's parking requirements.

For Breakfast Club, you must use the designated visitor parking spaces only and park correctly within a marked bay. The visitor parking spaces are on the right as you come down the drive, in front of the school office. The main car park is reserved for staff use to ensure they can arrive promptly and supervise pupils safely at the start of the school day.

For After School Wraparound, parents and carers may use the school car park; however, vehicles must be parked sensibly and fully within marked bays at all times.

For all other after-school clubs, parking is to be in the Village Hall car park only.

Incorrect parking causes disruption and creates safety concerns.

Notices

- Please can we ask that you make use of the whole drive during drop off in the morning. This is to make sure the flow of traffic continues, the main road doesn't get clogged up with traffic and more children are able to exit their cars in one go. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, you are still able to drop them off at the end of the drive and an adult will be there to ensure your child walks to the KS1 and Reception gate.
- **Please can we remind you to use the paths around school and NOT walk on the drive at drop off or pick up.**
- Please be mindful about parking when not using the village hall car park. Avoid parking on other people's driveways, or parking so paths are blocked as children are having to walk in the road.

KEY DATES	Monday 1st June	First day of term	Tuesday 2nd June	Y6 Safety in Action
	Tuesday 9th June	Y6 Magistrates Talk	Tuesday 16th June	KS1 Sports Day
	Wednesday 17th June	Class photos (Y6 to wear school jumpers for photos)	Thursday 18th June	KS2 Sports Day
	Tuesday 23rd June— Thursday 25th June	Y6 Bikeability	Friday 17th July	Last Day of Term
	Tuesday 1st Sept—	Inset days	Thursday 3rd Sept	First day of term