



Friday 17th October 2025

A Great Start to the Academic Year!

Dear Parents and Carers.

We have had a fantastic start to the new school year! Pupils have settled quickly into their new classes and are already showing great enthusiasm for learning.

Thank You and Best Wishes to Mrs Dunn

At the end of this term, we will be saying farewell and thank you to Mrs Dunn, who will be retiring after many years of service to our school. We wish her every happiness in her retirement.

Achieve Well Champion Award

We are proud to share that Southwold Primary School has been recognised with the Achieve Well Champion Award. This award reflects the school's strong focus on supporting pupils' wellbeing and physical health through our curriculum, enrichment activities, healthy eating, and physical exercise.

Look out for our new termly "Achieve Well" newsletter, launching in Autumn Term 2, where we'll share tips and updates on how we continue to promote wellbeing across school life.

Uniform and PE Kits

Thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring pupils wear the correct school uniform. It's wonderful to see children taking pride in their appearance.

Please remember that pupils must also change into the correct PE kit for their PE lessons.

As the weather becomes colder, please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the season — a warm coat, hat, gloves, and suitable footwear are essential for outdoor play and learning. Pupils spend time outside every day, so being well prepared helps them stay comfortable and ready to learn.

Attendance – Be an Attendance HERO!

Regular attendance is essential for your child's learning, progress, and wellbeing. We encourage all pupils to be an Attendance HERO – Here Every day, Ready, On time. Every day at school counts and being punctual helps your child make the most of every lesson and opportunity. Thank you for supporting your child to attend school consistently and on time.

OPAL Play – Outdoor Play and Learning

Our OPAL Play provision continues to grow, encouraging creativity, teamwork, and fun through outdoor play. As the weather turns colder and wetter, please ensure your child brings a pair of wellies and a waterproof coat to school at the start of next term.

Children will not be able to play on the school field unless they are wearing wellies.

We are always looking to develop our OPAL spaces further. Donations of loose parts such as tyres, crates, pipes, planks, fabric, or other safe building materials are greatly welcomed.

If you, a family member, or a friend have skills or talents that could help us — for example, in building dens, enhancing the mud kitchen, or creating a play gym — please let the school office know. Your support can help us make our outdoor spaces even more exciting and inspiring for pupils.



Afterschool Enrichment Opportunities

We aim to provide a wide range of experiences for all pupils through our afterschool clubs. This term:

- Year 5/6 Football Club has returned.
- Year 6 pupils enjoyed an exciting Archery session.
- Year 2 had fun taking part in Glow Dodge ball.

Next term,

- Sports – Dodgeball and Archery
- Art and Crafts Club (Tuesdays)
- Drumming Club (Wednesdays all places have been allocated)
- Dance Club (Wednesdays) has proved very popular — all places have now been allocated.

Please register your interest by completing the reply slip sent home with your child. A variety of different clubs will be offered throughout the year.

Community and Celebration

We were so proud of our school community during our Harvest Festival – your generous donations of food and toiletries will help support local food banks. This demonstrates our pupils' growing understanding of kindness, empathy, and helping those in need.

This term, we also celebrated:

- World Mental Health Day
- Black History Month
- Diwali

A special thank you to everyone who supported Mrs Taylor's Memorial Fund "Sweet Treats" event, which raised £104 towards a memorial in her honour. Our staff and pupils are now planning further fundraising events to continue supporting this meaningful project.

We are also proud to share that staff raised £180 for Macmillan Cancer Support through their coffee morning!

Parents' Meetings and Book Fair

We were delighted with the excellent turnout at our recent Parents' Meetings. It was lovely to see so many of you taking the time to meet teachers and discuss your child's progress as they settle into their new class.

Thank you also for supporting our Scholastic Book Fair — funds raised will be used to purchase new books for our school library, helping us continue to foster a love of reading across the school.

Thank you for your continued support and for helping make Southwold Primary such a vibrant and caring school community.

We wish everyone a restful half term and look forward to seeing you all in Autumn Term 2!

Kind regards,

Mrs Salmeron