



SOUTH BERSTED CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter

18th September 2026

Open Box Theatre Group

Yesterday, we welcomed the Open Box Theatre Group to the school. They transported our pupils back to the past, to deepen their understanding of their BIG Questions. Our Year 2 pupils travelled back in time to the sights and sounds of a crowded Pudding Lane, whilst our Year 3 pupils explored how early man evolved; from nomadic people to hunter gatherers. Pupils in Year 4 extended their understanding of life alongside the banks of the River Nile in 2528 BC.



To learn more about your child's BIG Question and to find links to further learning, visit our Class Pages section on the school's website: <https://www.southbersted.co.uk/class-pages/>

Each page has an overview of their curriculum, book suggestions and their knowledge organiser for each BIG Question.

If you have any questions related to your child's curriculum, please speak to their class teacher.

Home Learning Challenge

As a school, we shared with our peers the things that we are grateful for and created a school 'blessings jar.'

We then shared that when times may become challenging, or when we may be feeling overwhelmed, we can take out a blessings and reflect on the things that we are grateful for.

We are encouraging all children and families to stop and take the time to create their own jars.

Please share any pictures via Class Dojo by **Wednesday the 23rd September.**

Family Learning

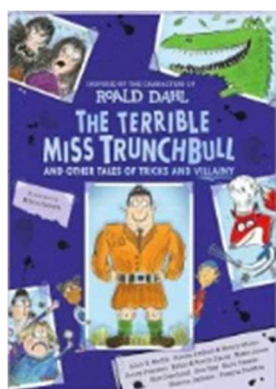
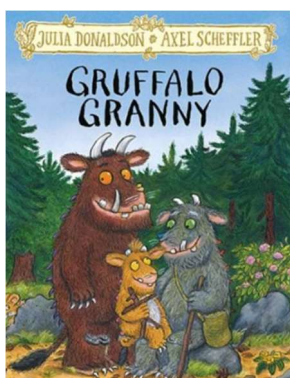
The West Sussex Family Learning team is pleased to launch its latest programme of free courses for parents and carers. Designed to provide practical support for families, our courses help parents, grandparents and carers build confidence, develop new strategies, and support their children's learning and wellbeing.

This term, we are offering virtual courses, including '**How to Help Your Child with Learning in Reception and Key Stage 1**' and '**Managing Screen Time**', alongside in-person courses, such as '**Supporting Children with Anxiety and Building Resilience**', available in Horsham and Crawley. We also offer a range of courses across the county for families with pre-school children, focusing on developing key skills for learning and preparing children for a successful start to their school journey.

These short, practical courses provide useful advice, evidence-based strategies and the opportunity to connect with other families facing similar challenges. To find out more and view our latest courses, please visit the [Family Learning website](#).

Reading Recommendations

This month's reading recommendations are:



Congratulations to all of the children that were entered into our Summer Reading Raffle. This year's winners are Max (Yr 2) and Ariana (Yr 5).

Sports Award

Last night, we were proud to receive the Sussex Girl's Football Award for elite commitment to equal access of girl's football! This is a significant award and one that reflects the school's commitment to sport.

Well done to everyone involved in helping us achieve this award!



Attendance

We have made a positive start to our school attendance target this year!

This week's whole school attendance is 97%.

This week's top three attending classes are:

Class	Attendance
Year 2	98.6%
Penguin Class	98.6%
Year 1	98%

Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6	Week 7
97.6%	97%					

Letters Sent Home This Week

The following letters have been sent out this week. Letters are sent out via MCAS and are added to the News Tab of the school's website.

- Invitations to year 6 open evenings
- Information regarding parent reading evenings for Year 1 and Year 2

Reminder for Parents of Year 6 Pupils

The application process for children due to transfer to secondary school in September 2027 began on the 1st September and will close on the 31st October.

For more information on applying for a secondary school place, please visit West Sussex Admissions:

<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/education-children-and-families/schools-and-colleges/school-places/apply/secondary-school-places/>

Nut Free School

A reminder that we are a nut free school. Please do **NOT** bring nuts in school. Nuts come in foods such as:

- Nutella
- Granola bars
- Peanut butter
- Cakes such as cherry bakewell and batternburg

Up-Coming Events

Please find below a summary of upcoming events for the next three weeks:

Date	Details
September	
Wednesday 23 rd	Year 4 Outdoor Learning
October	
Friday 2 nd	Year 6 Fairthorne Meeting: (8:45 – 9:30)
Monday 5 th	Year 1 Outdoor Learning
Wednesday 7 th	Drama4All Workshops: Penguin Class, Years 1, 2 and 3
Thursday 8 th	Penguin Class – Bed Time Breakfast Event (8:45 – 10:00)
Friday 9 th	Whole School Harvest Event (9:00 – 10:00)

Whole school and class events are also updated on the school's calendar:

<https://www.southbersted.co.uk/calendars/>

INSET Days 2026 – 2027

When considering booking a holiday, please check the school's term dates and INSET Days.

For the next academic year, our INSET Days are:

Friday 23rd October

Monday 4th January

Monday 12th April



Gold Book

Congratulations to the pupils who were in this week and last week's Gold Book.

Each week children are celebrated for displaying the school's values.

Alfred, Reuben (Year 1). Nuala, Molly, Nathan, Ivy, Molly, Isla, Amos (Year 2). Molly, Abram, Dakota, Noah, Rosie, Greyson, Rosie (Year3). Aiden, Olivia, George, Olivia, George A, Archie (Year 4). Billy, Lyla, Nelly, Noah, Jojo (Year 5). Dexter, Theo, Yana I, Harry B (Year 6).

Friends of South Bersted

Thank you to all members of the Friends of South Bersted team! Each year, they work together to provide fantastic experiences for the children that help to raise money for the school. The below poster summarises their commitment and work on behalf of the school over the past 12 months!

Next month, Friends are holding their AGM. If you have the time and skills that would support Friends, please book a place.



UMBRELLAS

Parent Support Groups

Autumn Term 2026

Connecting parents and carers of children and young people in West Sussex with special educational needs and disabilities



Burgess Hill Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

The Cherry Tree Centre

8th Sep / 6th Oct / 3rd Nov / 1st Dec

Littlehampton Umbrellas

Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Creative Heart Community Hub (upstairs)

9th Sep / 7th Oct / 4th Nov / 2nd Dec

Worthing Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Durrington Community Centre

22nd Sep / 20th Oct / 17th Nov / 15th Dec

Umbrellas Online

Thursdays via Zoom

7.30 - 9pm

10th Sep / 8th Oct / 5th Nov / 10th Dec

Horsham Umbrellas

Wednesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Horsham Family Hub

16th Sep / 21st Oct / 18th Nov / 16th Dec

Shoreham Umbrellas

Tuesdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Adur East Family Hub

15th Sep / 13th Oct / 10th Nov / 8th Dec

Bognor Regis Umbrellas

Thursdays, 10 am - 11.30 am

Arun West Family Hub

24th Sep / 22nd Oct / 19th Nov / 10th Dec

If you would like more information about Umbrellas or the link to join Umbrellas online, please contact our outreach team.

outreach-training@reachingfamilies.org.uk



**Reaching
Families**

www.reachingfamilies.org.uk

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