

Friday 12 September 2025
Headteacher: Miss J Wellbelove



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Welcome back, and welcome to the academic year 2025-2026. Our pupils have settled in to school and are getting used to new routines. Our Hertfordshire School Effectiveness Advisor (SEA) and governors have visited this week and have given such positive feedback about South Hill School. The Senior Leadership and myself are clear on our next steps as we drive our school forward.

Concerns

As part of our South Hill family, please ensure that you speak to a member of our team with any concerns you may have. As a school, we value working in partnership with our families in a proactive manner so please contact our teaching staff, INCO or headteacher via the admin email or school phone number with any concerns so we can support your child the best we can.



Staff Update

This term we would like to welcome Mrs Barratt to the South Hill family. She will be teaching in Year 5 Oak with Mrs Carver. We would also like to welcome back Mrs Skinner from her maternity leave. Mrs Skinner will be with Year 3 Beech, with Mrs Nash. Finally we would like to welcome Mrs Toporas, our new midday supervisor.



Rocksteady Concert—Summer Term

On Tuesday 15 July we enjoyed our amazing rock stars performing in their Rocksteady concerts. The concerts showcased the pupils' talents and hard work over summer term. I asked the pupils afterwards what they enjoy about Rocksteady. They said: 'playing the instruments together', 'teamwork' and 'getting to know different children from different year groups'.



Early Reading in School Workshop

On Wednesday 17th September we invite Reception and KS1 parents to join us in the hall to find out about how we teach reading at South Hill and learn about how you can contribute to your child's reading achievement. This will be at 8.50 am in the school hall.



SPAG Corner

SPAG (Spelling, Punctuation, and Grammar) will be a regular feature in our newsletters this year, as it plays a key role in our English curriculum. Each week, English lessons begin with a grammar starter—such as learning to use "and" to join ideas in Year 1. Children are taught the concept through examples, then practise it in both spoken and written work, often revising punctuation like full stops and capital letters. Spelling is taught daily: through phonics in EY and KS1, and using the Spelling Shed scheme in KS2, together with statutory spellings.



Sycamore Class News

Sycamore class have started the year working extremely hard. We have particularly enjoyed our maths lessons where we have been working with numbers up to 10 million. In English we have started reading Letters from the Lighthouse and producing pieces of writing about the characters. This book links with our history topic where we will be learning about World War II. The children have enjoyed becoming prefects, wet play monitors and play leaders and are looking forward to the year ahead and all the great things planned.



Have your Circumstances Changed?

Have your circumstances changed over the summer holidays? Are you in receipt of Universal Credits? Are you struggling financially and in need of a little support? **Guidelines are changing and you may be entitled to some help. Please follow this link and make an application,** <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/schools-and-education/at-school/free-school-meals/free-school-meals.aspx>, or ask Mrs Coombs in the school office who may be able to assist you.



Emails to the School Office

Please remember when sending an email to the school office, to include your child's name and class. This helps us process your query much more efficiently.



School Nurses

The service accepts referrals for children and young people requiring support for mild mental health issues, emotional and wellbeing concerns including anxiety, low mood, behaviour, self-esteem, stress, and sleep issues. The service will also accept referrals for a range of other health issues such as healthy eating, substance misuse and toileting issues. Referrals can be made by professionals, families or by young people themselves. Referrals can be made online through the following link: <https://www.hct.nhs.uk/our-services/school-nursing>



Daily Mile Friday

We are pleased to be able to continue offering parents and carers that chance to walk the daily mile with their children on a Friday morning before school. The side gates will be open at 8.20 am. Please note that pupils must be accompanied by an adult and not dropped off. The whistle will blow at 8.40am for pupils to go into school.



Yours sincerely,
Miss J Wellbelove
Headteacher



Attendance matters
Every student, every day

South Hill Weekly Attendance

Our target is 97% for the whole school

Wrens	99.1%
Robins	97.8%
Goldfinches	95.2%
Sparrows	96.7%
Owls	94.4%
Kingfishers	95%
Ash	97.9%
Beech	91.4%
Holly	98.3%
Maple	97.9%
Oak	97.7%
Silver Birch	93.3%
Sycamore	93.8%
Hazel	96.9%
Whole school	95.9%



Star of the Summer term

Wrens	Yashaswini
Robins	Atharv
Goldfinches	Aria
Sparrows	Nina
Owls	Zariyah
Kingfishers	Oscar
Ash	Jojo
Beech	Tillie
Holly	Jiyan
Maple	Noah
Oak	Edwina
Silver Birch	Sienna
Sycamore	Sophie C
Hazel	Sofia

September 2025

Wednesday 17th	♦ How to teach early reading parent workshop—EYFS and KS1 8.50 am in the school hall
Thursday 18th	♦ Flu Vaccination Day—children whose parents have consented only
Friday 19th	♦ Y4 Swimming
Monday 22nd	♦ Trampolining @ Sport Centre - selected classes
Wednesday 24th	♦ Trampolining @ Sport Centre - selected classes
Friday 26th	♦ European Day of Languages ♦ Y4 Swimming ♦ Y4 Lockers Park Football Tournament - selected children

House Points

Gade	0
Bulbourne	0
Lea	0
Colne	0

Attachments

- ♦ SEND Parent Workshops
- ♦ Healthy Habits Workshop
- ♦ Healthy Snack Suggestions
- ♦ Storm Basketball Game

[Please follow the link here to see all attachments via our school website](#)