



**READY
RESPECTFUL
SAFE**



Newsletter

26th April 2024

Sandfield Primary School, Stoke Road, Guildford, GU1 4DT, 01483 566586

MESSAGE FROM MRS COLLINS

Staffing News

Goodbyes

We say some fond farewells to three members of our support staff this half term.

Mr Tozer, after 17 years at Sandfield, has decided to take some well-earned time for himself. We thank him for all the work he has done over that time, working with individual pupils and small groups. Mr Tozer will now have lots of time to practice his guitar. We take this opportunity to wish him all the best for the future.

Mrs Perera has been a valued member of our support staff in Year 3 and 4. She leaves us to start her own business. Mrs Perera has been with us for 18 months and has shown such patience and kindness to the pupils that she has worked with. I know that the pupils who work with her will certainly miss her very much.

Next Wednesday, Mrs March leaves Sandfield after 7 years. She has worked very closely with the Inclusion Team, supporting children from across the school. We thank Mrs March for her commitment and dedication to the pupils and families that she has worked with over this time. Mrs March always strives for every pupil to be the best they can be.

Hello

We take this opportunity to welcome a new member of staff to our support team. Mrs Thomas joins our KS1 team and is working with individual children and small groups across the phase. Mrs Thomas has a wealth of experience of working with children that need that little bit more. She has made a great start, fitting into our Sandfield team seamlessly.

Help Needed

Trips and visitors are a hugely enriching part of our school curriculum, which provide first-hand experience to reinforce children's learning and personal development. Our staff work hard to plan activities that are in our locality and keep costs as low as they can be. We recognise that everything has got more expensive and this puts pressure on budgets. Our aim is that all children, regardless of personal circumstances, should be able to partake in all costed activities arranged.

However, this year we have noted a larger gap than usual between payments received and the costs of trips. We have set up a special fund that all parents can contribute to at any time during the school year. This fund will be used to top up the shortfalls we are facing. We currently have access to Pupil Premium funding and charity donations, but to continue with the current offer next year, we need to top this up.

Can you help us to ensure that we can continue to offer these invaluable experiences for all?

Contributions can be made by Scopay and choosing '**Parent Contribution Fund**' under Trips. If you have any great ideas to support us, please contact Lucy, our Home School Link Worker, via the school office.

We thank you in advance for your support.

Year 3 & 4 Cross Country Team

Well done to our cross-country team who ran at Boxgrove yesterday. This was their first outing in a long-distance race representing Sandfield. The team supported each other well and showed great resilience during the race. For some this was the furthest they had ever run and learning how to pace themselves is key. A great first effort and some stand out performances. Many thanks to Mrs Holloway and Mrs Dorman who took the team and for all the parents that came along to cheer!



Wishing everyone a good weekend

Mrs Collins and the Sandfield staff

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Children in Celebration Assembly this week were:

Reception: Marcelina and Efe

Year 1: Rex and Leenah

Year 2: Sophie and Mattyas

Year 3: Takondwa and Stefan

Year 4: Adonai and Cody

Year 5: Yin and Connie

Year 6: Tobias and Hasan



NEWS FROM THE CLASSROOMS

Reception Class



Early this week, we celebrated Earth Day and discussed ways we can help keep our planet healthy. We discovered that by making small choices, like turning off lights, recycling and watching our water use, we can make an enormous impact on the future of our world! We made seed bombs using clay, soil, water and wildflower seeds. Each child has taken one home to throw somewhere outside that might need a little more love and care.

Year 1 and 2

This week in Year 1 and Year 2 we have been enjoying Maths. In Year 1 we have been counting in 2s and 10s. In Year 2 we have started learning about fractions and making equal groups- we have lots of budding mathematicians!



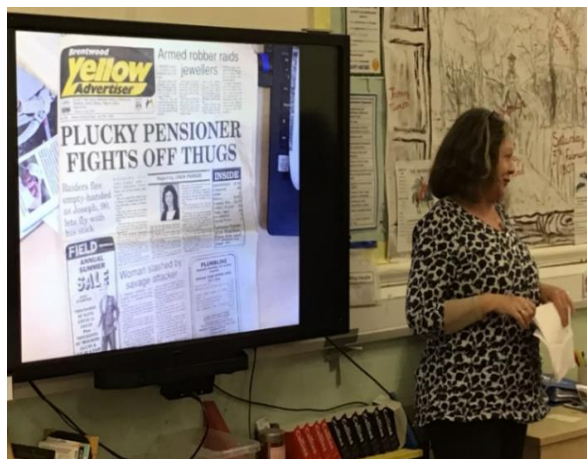
Year 3 and 4

Year 3 and 4 are back in the bouncing world! We are doing plyometric exercises to build our explosive strength as we build to Sports Day, District Sports and Mrs Collins' grand plan to conquer Guildford Sports! The children are doing really well. There are heavy medicine balls to slam down, skipping and hurdles to bound over and we have had to put out extra high boxes to try to challenge some of the springier children in the classes. I would love to say it is because of my excellent demonstrations, but..... Well done all!



Year 5 and 6

We had a fantastic guest speaker this week – Mrs Parker! Mrs Parker spoke to the children about her previous Role as a journalist and shared her top tips for writing a newspaper article to attract the reader's attention. Using 'real-life' examples, Mrs Parker explored the power of the headings, photos and first paragraph to engage the audience. Ask your children how a Colin the Caterpillar birthday cake was used in a newspaper article about pot holes! We look forward to reading the children's articles on The Highwayman.



IMPORTANT MESSAGES

Headlice

Please can we ask everyone to continue to check and treat your child if necessary. If live headlice are seen, you will be contacted to collect your child, treat the infestation and return them to school.

General Illnesses

We currently have cases of Whooping Cough and Slap Cheek reported across the school this week. Please contact your family doctor if you need any advice.

Reception 2024 Places

The deadline for accepting your place for your child is Tuesday 30/04/2024. Please ensure that you have accepted the place as this may be withdrawn if you miss this deadline.

REMINDERS

Trips and Events

Please note that school trips are only possible if we receive parental contributions. Late contributions or missing contributions mean that we may not be able to run trips

in the future and we would like to remind you to please always try and make contributions on time. If you have any questions about contributions, please contact Lucy Lidstrom, HSLW via Studybugs before any deadlines are due.

Year R Bocketts Farm Trip 29th April: contributions to be paid on or before **24/04/2024**

Year 6 Residential 2024: (3rd-5th July 2024) – Final instalment due on or before **30/04/2024**

Year 5(6) Residential 2025: (19th-21st May 2025) – 2nd instalment due on or before **30/04/2024**

Years 5 & 6 Swimming: contributions to be paid on or before **04/06/2024**

Year 4 String Scheme: summer term contributions of £20 to be paid on or before **05/07/2024**

Clubs

Please can we remind all parents and carers to check the start and end dates of clubs when making the booking. Please make a note of these as they often do not correspond with school dates. If you need any further information, please contact the club provider directly.

MESSAGE FROM THE PTA

Clothes Recycle Day

Thank you to everyone that donated bags of clothing etc., for the collection that took place yesterday. We will let you know how much we have raised in due course.

Family Fundraiser - 'SANDFEST'

Don't forget to keep the date in your diaries for this year's family fundraiser 'SANDFEST' on 22nd June 2024. More details to follow soon!

ATTENDANCE

Statutory Attendance Reminder

Each term we have a statutory obligation to remind parents of the school's attendance policy.

Brief information is listed below but please make sure you familiarise yourself with the full policy which is on the school's website.

- School must be notified by 9.15am each day that a child is absent – via Studybugs
- If a call is not received and we are unable to contact you, further steps to investigate can be taken, which could result in a home visit from the school or police – we need to make sure everyone is safe
- Children in all year groups who need to leave / arrive during the school day must be signed out or in to school, by an adult via the office
- Medical appointments should be made outside of school hours for routine dentist and doctor appointments wherever possible - for any medical / well-being appointments during school hours a StudyBugs message can be accepted in advance - evidence of the appointment will still need to be provided via email (parents@sandfield.surrey.sch.uk)
- A StudyBugs message can also be used for secondary visit absences
- A Studybugs message should be sent for any other absence of less than one day
- An Application for Leave of Absence in Exceptional Circumstances should be completed, in advance, for any absence of one whole day or more, other than illness - this form can be found on the parent page of the website
- Leave of absence is not authorised during examination periods or at the beginning or end of terms
- Punctuality to school is crucial and for registration at the beginning of the day - lateness into school causes disruption to that individual's learning and to that of the other pupils in the class
- The school gates are open from 8.35am to 8.45am and registration takes place as children arrive
- Pupils who arrive after 8.50am will be recorded as late to school and receive a late mark in the register
- Registers close at 9.05am - after this time lateness is recorded as an unauthorised absence and a missed session
- Persistent lateness of a pupil will be referred to the Home School Link Worker and/or the Local Authority Inclusion Officer and can be subject to penalty notices.
- If children are taken out of school without authority for 5 or more days (which do not need to be consecutive), they will be liable to receive a penalty notice. Currently the amount payable under a penalty notice is £60.00 per parent per child if paid within 21 days. Thereafter the amount increases to £120.00 if paid between 21 and 28 days. If the penalty notice remains unpaid after 28 days, the Local Authority will consider a prosecution in the Magistrates Court. Please note that penalty notices are issued per parent per child so a family of two parents and two children will receive 4 penalty notices.