



**READY
RESPECTFUL
SAFE**



Newsletter

4th October 2024

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

MESSAGE FROM MRS COLLINS

New Attendance Information for all Families

Over the summer, The Department for Education released new guidance regarding Penalty Notices for unauthorised leaves of absence. This guidance became statutory from 19th August 2024.

At Sandfield we work hard to create an environment where all children feel that they belong and want to come to school. Whilst we understand that there may be days when children are too unwell to come to school or exceptional circumstances occur, we really value your support in making sure that your child is in school and on time every day.

What Parents/ Carers Must Do:

- Send a Studybugs message before 09.15am each day of your child's absence.
- Tell the school in advance, of any medical appointments and send in the corresponding appointment via parents@sandfield.surrey.sch.uk.
- If you are not sure whether your child is well enough to attend school, please consider sending them in as they often perk up on arrival. Our staff team will monitor children carefully throughout the day and, under your instruction, can give basic medication (calpol, antihistamine etc.) if we have received written instructions from you to do this.
- Wherever possible medical appointments should be made after school or in the school holidays, and pupils should either come to school before or after their appointment, if this is possible.
- Have a backup plan if your normal transport methods are not viable, or if you are unwell yourself. Consider calling on a family member, neighbour or friend to help you out.
- If you and your child are experiencing difficulties with school attendance, then talk to us as a first step so we can help.

What We Will Do:

- Check your child's attendance every day.
- If we do not hear from you by 09.30am regarding your child's absence and we are unable to contact you via telephone, we will call the next contact on our list to make sure that you and your child are safe.
- Send you termly information on your child's attendance.
- Phone home to discuss your child's attendance with you.
- Write to you if we need to share concerns or celebrate improvements with your child's attendance.
- Implement any strategies that we (family & school) feel would help you or your child.
- Invite you into school for attendance meetings if we are concerned.
- If we cannot establish a reason for absence, then we may make a welfare home visit or refer to external agencies for further support.

From this academic year, a Penalty Notice may be issued as an alternative to the prosecution of a parent/carer for their child's unauthorised absence from school and will be used by Surrey County Council when leave of absence in term time is 5 days or 10 sessions or more.

This can be met with any combination of unauthorised absence (e.g. 4 sessions of holiday taken in term time plus 6 sessions of arriving late after the register closes all within 10 school weeks). Please be aware that The Education Regulations 2013 state that Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Holidays in term time are not exceptional circumstances.

We want to work together with families to ensure that all pupil's achieve their potential in school and to avoid penalty fines or prosecution.

A full version of this letter will follow in our communications and is also available on the Attendance page of our website.



Cross Country at Holy Trinity

A big well done to our cross-country team who showed great resilience in the latest competition on Pewley Down. Some particularly good performances and personal bests achieved by the children. We are proud of you. The key is to keep practising and building stamina.

Play Leader Vacancy

At Sandfield we want to ensure that our school offer is the best it can be. To that end, we wish to employ a Play Leader for lunchtimes. The post involves planning, delivering and evaluating lunchtime activities for children. Activities for children will include a range of games, creative activities both inside and outside on the playground.

The role will operate during our lunchtime period for KS1 and Key Stage 2 for 2.5 hours per day from 11:30am – 2:00pm. This is a permanent post and will suit someone looking for part-time hours. The full advert can be found in this week's communication section. If you have any questions - please just ask us. :)

Wishing you an enjoyable and sunny weekend

Mrs Collins and the Sandfield Staff

KEY DATES

Autumn Term 2024

Monday 7th October – Individual School Photos (and sibling groups)

Tuesday 15th October – PTA Annual General Meeting at 8:45am, all are welcome!

Tuesday 15th October – 3:40pm – 7:00pm – Pupil Progress Meetings with the Class Teacher

Wednesday 16th October – 3:40pm -4:30pm Pupil Progress Meetings – **Year 3 ONLY**

Thursday 17th October – 3:40pm – 6:00pm – Pupil Progress Meetings with the Class Teacher

Tuesday 22nd October – 9:30am Sandfield Open Day - Tours for prospective parents

Wednesday 23rd October – 9:30am Sandfield Open Day - Tours for prospective parents

Thursday 24th October – Year 1 & Year 2 Alice in Wonderland Guildford Walk, packed lunch needed

Friday 25th October – INSET day

Monday 28th October – Friday 1st November, Half term

Monday 4th November – INSET day

Wednesday 18th December – Whole School Christmas Lunch and Whole School Christmas Sing-A-Long

Friday 20th December – 1:30pm – End of Term

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Children in Celebration Assembly today were:

Year 1: Zarlish and Antonella

Year 2: Dawood and Florence

Year 3: Sophie and Olive

Year 4: Nina and Kristoff

Year 5: Teddy and Mathilda

Year 6: Ariella and Anes



THIS WEEK IN CLASS!

Reception Class

After two weeks of talking about what makes us special and unique, the children closely observed their physical features. With an adult, they chose the colour of their skin, hair and eyes. They used mirrors to help them as they painted a self-portrait.

PE day for Reception Class WILL BE TUESDAY next week due to school photos on Monday



Year 1 and Year 2

Year 1 and Year 2 have been discussing the difference between an aerial map and a map with symbols. The children were very excited to find our school on the aerial photograph. They were also able to locate River Wey, and they found a phone symbol as well as different places of worship.

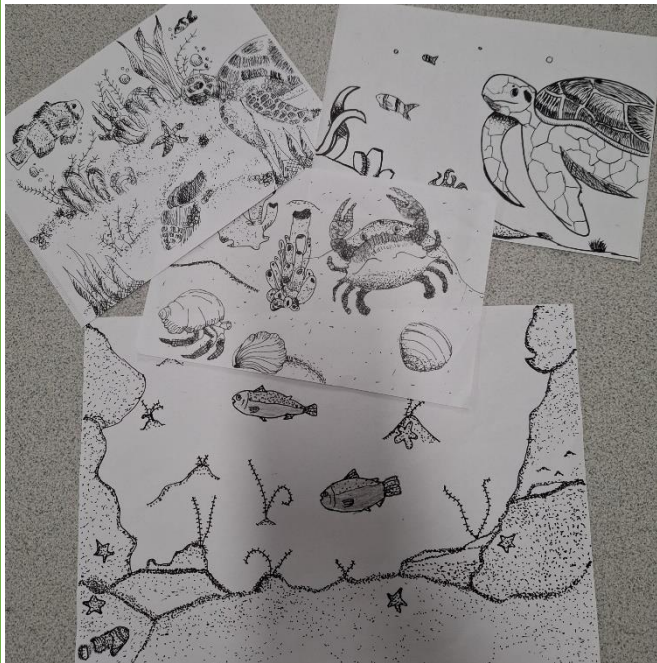
PE days for Year 1 & Year 2 are Mondays and Wednesdays

Year 3 & Year 4

Year 3 and 4 have thoroughly enjoyed a musical extravaganza in the shape of a choral workshop run by the Director of Music from Holy Trinity. The children learnt some fun warm up games which tested their co-ordination and listening skills and they even managed to learn a real choral piece where they were split into three groups led by some willing volunteers! Well done!

PE days for Year 3 & Year 4 are Tuesdays & Thursdays





Year 5 & Year 6

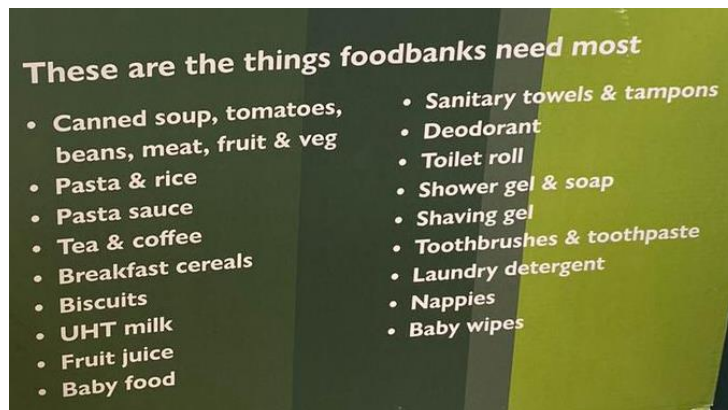
We are extremely proud of our recent artwork on an ocean theme, linked to the Treasure Island text in English. We have studied how to produce pen line drawings using stippling, crosshatching and contouring. Which of these techniques can you spot in these excellent examples?

PE days for Year 5 & Year 6 are Thursdays and Fridays

NEWS from the PTA

Harvest Assembly

This year, Harvest Assembly is on Wednesday 9th October. Children are invited to bring in food donations which will go to the North Guildford Food Bank. Please note that we can no longer accept fresh produce and all tins, packets, etc. need to be put onto the worktops in the Learning Lab. Please see below a list of the types of items that you can donate 🖱



REMINDER! PTA Annual General Meeting

The PTA's Annual General Meeting (AGM) on October 15th, following drop-off at 8:45 AM. All parents are automatically a member of the PTA when your child starts at Sandfield and you are all warmly invited and encouraged to attend!

Thanks a lot!

Charlotte

COMMUNITY NEWS

Surrey County Council are recruiting for Cycle Instructors. If you are interested and would like to know more, please follow the link>> <https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/jobs/search/details?id=1934>