



SIS NEWSLETTER

February



OPEN AFTERNOON

Next Tuesday (11th February) at 2:00pm, we welcome you into school for our next Open Afternoon. The children have been working extremely hard this term and are keen to share their work with you. Their books will be available for your viewing within their classrooms.

During the afternoon, we will also have some of our RSE and PSHE planning available to you to view alongside some of the resources that we use. Please feel free to drop into the hall to take a look.

Our pre-loved uniform and lost property will also be available in the hall as well.

As before, a member of staff will sign you in on your arrival to the classroom.

SPONSORED READ

To celebrate World Book Day and to encourage a lifelong love of reading, we are running a sponsored read between Monday 3rd March to Sunday 9th March 2025. There will be more information to follow.

Our target is to raise £1500.00 to spend on some new reading resources throughout the school.

For the sponsored read, we are asking you to encourage your child to spend a small amount of time each day either reading to themselves, others or being read to. They can read books, comics, magazines, newspapers, menus, websites, recipes, poems, leaflets, instructions – anything with words! This has previously been well received by the children.



UNIFORM

Please label any items that come into school.

Unlabelled items will be put in to lost property (First Aid Room).

Unclaimed items at the end of the term will be absorbed into spares/pre-loved clothing.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Our world book day celebrations take place after half term.

Please keep an eye out for our letter detailing the parent workshop that will take place on Thursday 6th March.



BEHAVIOUR



At the beginning of the term we were involved in a 'Behaviour audit' as part of the trust's oversight on expectations within schools. We are so pleased to have our positive behaviour for learning culture acknowledged. The children were also able to clearly explain the school rules and values, and similarly, the staff too.

Our next step for improved behaviour is in re-establishing expectations for systems and social norms around school- ensuring consistent use by all. In an infant school, the children are learning about the world around them for the first time, they are having to comply to social norms in order to succeed and have so many more rules and routines introduced, whilst battling with immaturity - when they want to do something, they want to do something! We have to explicitly teach each routine to enable the children to be safe, and to be able to learn.

Over the last three weeks we have re-addressed the following:

- Lining up ('noisy lines do not move') The children do not transition between one place to the next until all children are listening and aware of the adult in front of them. This enables the children to hear all instructions and makes moving through school feel more calm. You can imagine what it feels like trying to get their attention when they are all talking.
- Use of visual timetable/chunking into manageable instructions for the children This enables the children to more easily process the instructions given. They will all be aware of what is expected of them and how.
- Washing hands We are constantly reiterating the importance of washing hands after toileting and before eating. Ensuring that soap is being used and that the water is being shaken off in the sinks as opposed to on the floor. Ensuring the paper towels are thrown into the bin and shoving doesn't happen whilst waiting.

Next week is 'walking through school' - this will ensure that the children do not run into one another when going around corners.

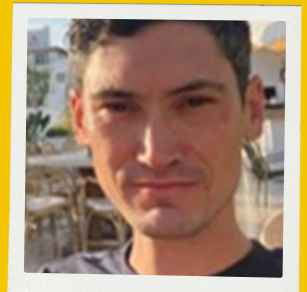
CHILDRENS MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Children's Mental Health Week was launched in 2015 and each year, hundreds of schools, children, parents and carers take part.

In school, we will be talking to the children throughout the week, starting Monday 5th February about ways in which they can seek support from others, and to share what is on their mind.

Please follow the link if you would like to see some of the resources that we will be using:
<https://www.childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/schools/primary-age-activities/#resources>

GOVERNORS CORNER:



Welcome to the Governor's Corner - a new regular feature in the school newsletter. I'm Justin, the Deputy Chair of the Governing Board, and have been asked to introduce this new regular feature to all parents and carers. The Governing Board is a group of volunteers responsible for overseeing the management side of the school. We focus on a range of things such as budgeting, working alongside senior leaders and supporting teachers to provide excellent education to your children. The Governing Board meet once a term to discuss a range of matters that concern the management and standards of the school. Individual governors visit the school in between those meetings to undertake reviews and updates on specific topics. This includes safeguarding, the quality of education and early years education. You can find details of all the things we discuss on the school website though we will be using this Corner of the newsletter to give you the highlights. For now, this is a quick hello but please look out for updates in the months to come. Justin.

FRIENDS OF SANDWICH INFANT SCHOOL (FOSIS)

FOSIS have organised a few events for the coming terms. If you are able to support them in planning or delivering any of the events then please email FOSISfundraising@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk.

There will also be the opportunity to purchase a commemorative T-towel in Term 5/6 with pupil's self-portraits.

- Thursday 13th February – Break the rules day
- Tuesday 25th February – Costume exchange for World Book Day
- W/c: 3rd March – Sponsored read
- Friday 28th March – Cake and book sale
- Friday 4th April – Easter Egg hunt
- Friday 23rd May – Cake and book sale
- Friday 6th June – Freezer Friday to return
- Friday 27th June – Non School uniform for chocolate tombola contributions
- Friday 18th July – Summer Fair

More information will follow for each event.

We are aiming to raise enough money to purchase:

- Garden benches
- Playground equipment
- Outdoor classroom (pergola)
- Early Years resources
- Little Wandle home reader books (replenish current stock)

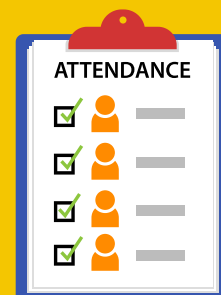


ATTENDANCE DURING TERM TIME

Attendance remains a priority. We have a number of families that are working hard to improve their child's attendance with us, and we thank you for this. The impact of missed education really is significant.

There are a number of ways in which we can support with attendance in school:

- School nurse referrals
- Discussion with SENCO
- Contact from School Liaison Officer (Kent Attendance)
- Support with contacting the doctors – joint attendance
- School based interventions for your child such as Lego therapy, Drawing and Talking



If you feel that you would benefit from any of the above, please contact the School Office where they will direct your enquiry to Miss Bennett or Mrs Russell.

A LOOK INTO THE LAST MONTH...



Police visit

We had a visit from Kent Police this week as part of our safety and community week. The children learnt about the importance of staying safe when using the internet, but also had the opportunity to try on some uniform and hear the sirens from the car.



Forest School

Squirrels have really enjoyed their Forest School sessions on a Friday afternoon. The mud kitchen has been a big hit!



Dogs Trust

The whole school had an assembly about Dogs Trust, with class workshops that followed. They learnt about the work that they do and how we should be around dogs to remain safe.



Science

Rabbits and Otters explored using their senses in science. They had to identify the flavour of the crisps by only using the sense of taste and then identify what essential oil was on the tissue by just using their sense of smell.



Art

Squirrels have been learning about Albert Giacometti and his sculptures. They explored bending foil to make figures.



Pantomime

We had a great time when the Panto visited the whole school. It was a production of Aladdin and the children thoroughly enjoyed! Mrs Dimova and Mrs Taylor even made it on stage. Thank you to all parents that contributed towards the cost. Next year's Panto will be Beauty and the Beast.



Big Bird Watch

After some windy weather at the start of this week, Robins class got to take part in the RSPB Big Bird Watch in our sunny garden! They put out some bird seed and quietly observed the birds before enjoying some time outside with friends 🐦🌳😊



Chinese New Year

Rabbits have been learning about Chinese New Year. They had a go at writing happy new year.



PE

Reception Robins learning how move safely with a partner and to follow instructions in PE 🐘👣

They were so good at the game 'elephant walk', they even walked safely back to class in the same way!

MAKATON

The Makaton signs that we have learnt this term include:

- Home
- Please
- Thank you
- Friend



The children have astounded us in how well they are picking this up.

GARDEN WASTE

We still have a large pile of garden waste (sticks and branches) that need disposing of.

If you are able to help with this at all then please contact the school office.

Any help will be gratefully received.

DIARY DATES

Tuesday 11 February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safety/Community Week • Safer Internet Day • Open afternoon from 2:00pm
Wednesday 12 February	Library visits
Thursday 13 February	Last day of Term 3
Friday 14 February	Inset Day
Monday 24 February	Start of Term 4
Tuesday 25 February	Book Share 2:55pm
Friday 28 February	Parent Rep Meeting
Week commencing: 03 March	Reading Week
Tuesday 04 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents Evening (3:30pm – 5:30pm) • Shrove Tuesday (assembly on Monday)
Thursday 06 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Book Day • Parents Evening (3:30pm – 7:00pm)
Monday 10 March	Science Day 1
Tuesday 11 March	Science Day 2
Friday 21 March	Red Nose Day Down Syndrome Awareness Day: Lots of Socks
Friday 04 April	Last Day of Term 4