



# May Newsletter



## FOREST SCHOOL

Rabbits will have the opportunity to participate in Forest School this term. There is a slight variation to the days in which this will happen due to our Open Afternoon and the Year 1 trip:

- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April
- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May (Reception only as Yr1 on trip)
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May
- Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May (change of date due to Open afternoon)
- The final session will take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June



These sessions will be run during the school day, led by Mrs Prestleton, who holds a Forest School Level 3 qualification.

As pupils will be outside in ALL weathers, they should come into school on Fridays wearing clothes suitable for outdoor play, bringing additional items of clothing and boots labelled with their name, in a bag to put on their peg. Boots and waterproofs can stay in school for the whole term.

## THIS MONTH...

**2nd** YEAR 1 MONKTON TRIP

**5th** BANK HOLIDAY

**13th** ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOPS

**14th** ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOPS

**w/c: 19th** ART WEEK

**23rd** OPEN AFTERNOON

**23rd** FOSIS BAKE SALE

**23rd** LAST DAY OF TERM

## SCOOTERS

If your child scoots to school, please ensure they get off at the main gate. Scooters should not be ridden on the playground before or after school.

## HATS AND SUN SCREEN

As the weather warms up, please send your child in with a hat and sun cream already applied.

## GOVERNORS

We have a vacancy on the Local Governing Board if you know of anyone who would be interested. Parents are also able to express an interest. Dr Phil Buckley, our acting Chair of Governors would be pleased to meet and talk about what the role entails. Please email the school office if you are intersted in this role.

The role requires capacity to complete monitoring visits throughout the school day around once a term and attendance at our Local Governoring Board meetings which take place once a term after school hours.

## TOY REQUEST

If you have any of the following items that you would like to donate, please send them into the school office:

- toy animals
- toy cars
- toy pram



## WATER BOTTLES

Water bottles will be sent home every day with your child so they can be washed frequently. Please bring them back to school, containing water only. With the weather brightening up, it's important that the children have a water bottle in school.

## SCHOOL GROUNDS

We've been busy over the Easter holidays making our school grounds even more welcoming and enjoyable for the children. We love the changes and hope you do too! We've tidied up the garden space, making more space for our forest school provision and have got it ready so the children can enjoy their break and lunchtimes out there now that the weather has improved.

A new wooden structure has been added to provide a shaded, quiet zone for children to relax or play imaginatively. We've also refreshed areas of the playground to create more engaging zones where the children can play, explore, and enjoy their break times whilst purchasing more resources too.



## FUNDS - HOW YOU CAN HELP

Parents often ask us how they can support school which we are very grateful for. We have a number of ways that you can do this:

### DOVER LOTTO:

Dover District Lotto is an exciting weekly lottery that raises money for good causes in the Dover district. All good causes supported by the lottery will benefit the Dover district and its residents.

Tickets for the lottery cost just £1 a week. Each ticket has a 1 in 50 chance to win a prize each week, with a top prize of £25,000! There's a better chance of winning the jackpot than the National Lottery or the Health Lottery.

### AMAZON WISH LISTS:

If you would like to purchase from our Amazon Wish Lists, please click on the relevant links on our school website and you will be taken directly to the Amazon page. Just select the item/s that you wish to purchase and pay for them as you would normally and your item(s) will be sent directly to our school.

Please remember to add your name to the gift box so that we know who donated the item(s). Thank you to anyone who has donated to our school.

<https://sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk/page?id=DLSBXJ452E67DCY0GP5F>

## ATTENDANCE

Attendance last week: 99.3%

Overall attendance this year: 94.6%

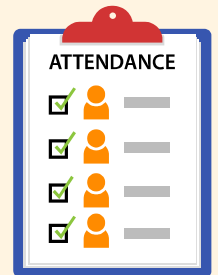
Foxes - 96%

Squirrels - 96%

Otters - 94%

Rabbits - 93%

Robins - 94%



# ROAD SAFETY WORKSHOPS

Kent Road Safety Club will be delivering workshops to the children this month. This is a pedestrian education programme designed for children between the ages of 4-11. Children are engaged through Kagan co-operative learning to understand and promote safer pedestrian behaviour. Key road safety messages are delivered each year of children's formal primary education to act as building blocks to safer pedestrian and cyclist behaviour.

## OPEN AFTERNOON

Our open afternoon during Term 5 will be an opportunity for you to view your child's art work that they will complete during the week. This will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May at 2:00pm.



## MCAS

We have been told that a small number of parents are not receiving our MCAS notifications, or that they can be intermittent. To help us establish where the problem is with this, please ensure that you have the most up to date version of the app, and that your notifications for the app are turned on within the settings of your phone. If the problem still persists with checking these two things, please let the school office know so that we can request help from our IT support team.

## TOYS

A reminder that children should not be bringing toys into school unless it is for Reception's show and tell on their specified days. The school cannot accept responsibility for missing or damaged toys.

## EGGS

On occasions, there will be eggs available to purchase. Holly Richards will kindly be providing these in return for a small donation. There is a white box just past the wooden gates to school, and this will run as an honesty box.

## STAFFING

There will be a couple of staff changes over the next couple of months with Mrs Harding leaving us on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May. Mrs Harding has been a midday supervisor for us for a number of years and has always been supportive in covering as a teaching assistant when needed as well. She has secured a midday supervisor role at Sandwich Junior School.

Mark Stevens is currently our site manager and cleaner. His last day with us will be on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May. Mark will be working at Kent and Canterbury cricket ground as their maintenance manager.

We wish both the best of luck in their new roles but would also like to thank both of them to the contributions they have made in school.

## A MESSAGE FROM FOSIS...

We would like to further develop the lunchtime and breacktime provision for our children. FOSIS fundraising will help us to purchase the following items over the upcoming months. If you are able to offer any of your time to help support the events to go ahead, please contact Jen Cross via the school office.



## STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAYS FOR 2025-2026

We know families like to plan ahead. Please find below the staff development days for 2025/26 academic year:

- ✓ Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025
- ✓ Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025
- ✓ Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2025
- ✓ Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2026
- ✓ Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2026



## YEAR 2 SATS

Aquila have asked that all schools within the trust administer the Year 2 SATS papers in Term 6 so that they have a benchmark for their schools. As this is the case, the papers will also be used to support teacher judgements and as additional evidence for moderation at the end of the year. The papers are no longer a statutory requirement.

Please be assured that the papers will be delivered in a small group situation (no sitting in a hall with tables in rows). The children already have practice in answering 'SATS style' questions so they will not come as a surprise to them. These will be delivered over a two-week period in the classroom at their normal tables.

There will be two reading papers, 2 maths, a spelling test and a Spelling Punctuation and Grammar paper. The whole curriculum is tailored to ensure that children have the appropriate knowledge as set out in the National Curriculum, so the children will be knowledgeable about everything that the paper asks of them. There is nothing for the children to worry about -they will not be required to 'revise' or practise and they will not be aware that it is a test as they will be embedded within the normal lessons. We do not talk about 'SATS' with the children so they will not be overly familiar with the term. The children understand that 'tests' are to help the teachers to identify gaps in learning so that they know what to address or review.

## INSET DAY

Our next INSET day will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> June.  
The school will therefore be closed.

## PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

We have been providing pre-loved school clothing for a number of years now, however have recently found that parents have not been purchasing this. We will continue to offer pre-loved, but at a reduced quantity. If you would like any pre-loved clothing, please ask at the school office so they can help you find the relevant sizing.

## YR1 MONKTON TRIP

Year 1 will be going on a school trip to Monkton Nature Reserve on Friday 2nd May. Transport will be via a coach. The children will get a chance to explore the museum and nature reserve, take part in a mini-beast hunt, search for fossils, and visit the play area. Children will need to bring a packed lunch and water bottle with them on this day and wear trainers/wellies, sun cream, sun hat and a waterproof coat dependent on the weather.

Unfortunately the gift shop will not be available for us.

Please note that this trip includes Yr 1 Rabbits and Yr 1 Otters.



## GOVERNORS CORNER

After a long association with Sandwich Infant School since 2005 I have decided to continue my support of this unique school by becoming a Governor. The children I taught as class teacher in those early days are now in their twenties and becoming parents themselves. The fact that I have taught at this school for so long shows what a happy and nurturing place this is for all.

Initial training completed and after my first Governor's meeting I'm ready to become a visible presence at SIS once again, offering my time and experience where it is needed. I look forward to seeing parents, pupils and staff around the school.

Carol Poole

