



SANDWICH INFANT SCHOOL

Where everyone is valued and learning is fun

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Newsletter November 2021

Dear Parents,

Nativity

We will not be holding our Nativity in church with an audience this year because of the continued high incidence of Covid-19 and other illnesses. Many other schools have done the same hoping that parents understand we are putting the safety of the school community first. We will be recording the event and sharing it with you. If the weather is kind we will try and put on a small outdoor singing event at the end of term.

FOSIS

We were delighted to receive a cheque for £6603.34 from the Cooperative Local Community Fund. This is an enormous boost on top of the money that FOSIS have raised. The Nearly New Sale this month made a profit of £1223.67. FOSIS have raised additional funds through the Children's Christmas cards and are now planning the Christmas Fair. Please volunteer if you can spare an hour on the afternoon of Friday 3rd. Don't forget to send your child in non-uniform this Friday in exchange for bringing in a Tombola prize. I believe FOSIS have also spoken to a certain special gentleman about Christmas presents for the children.

Poppy Appeal and Children in Need

Thank you for your generosity. We raised £78.12 for the Poppy Appeal and £189 for Children in Need. The children looked fabulous in their pyjamas!

Christmas Jumper Day

We raise money for Save the Children by wearing Christmas jumpers instead of school sweatshirts (normal school uniform otherwise). This takes place on Friday 10th December this year. Jumpers do not have to be bought – you are welcome to decorate a school sweatshirt or other top for the occasion. The suggested donation for children is £1.

Staff Changes

Many of you will know Mrs Catherine Beal who has worked in the school since 2008. She started as a midday supervisor and then moved into a teaching assistant role. Sadly, Mrs Beal has been on sick-leave for a number of weeks and has decided that she is best to take a break from work to fully recover by resigning. We have been fortunate to find Mrs Vicky Chadwick to take Mrs Beal's place in Dragonflies until the end of the academic year. Mrs Chadwick is an experienced teaching assistant who has also recently qualified as a teacher.

Absence from School

I know many people start to think of summer holidays immediately after Christmas. The governors have asked me to remind you that we are not able to give permission for family holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. As many people had holidays cancelled during the pandemic, rebooking these cannot count as an exceptional circumstance. Attendance rules are different for children who are not statutory school age (prior to the term after their fifth birthday) so they would not be issued with a penalty notice. However, children of statutory school age who have five days absence for a holiday are liable to receive a penalty notice from the local authority.

Christmas Cards

Children are welcome to bring in cards for their friends and teachers. These should be placed in the class post boxes. Please make sure the child's class name is clear on the envelope as we have several children with the same first name.

Thank you once again for all your support and patience during the pandemic. It has made my life as a headteacher so much easier that you have accepted the changes we have had to make in your children's interest. We all wish you a very Merry Christmas with your family and friends and look forward to a Happy New Year in 2022.

Libby Wood

Upcoming Dates

Friday 3 rd December 2021	Christmas Fair
Friday 10 th December 2021	Christmas Jumper day in aid of Save the Children
Friday 17 th December 2021	Christmas Parties and end of Term Two
Wednesday 5 th January 2022	Beginning of Term Three for children
Friday 21 st January 2022	Sleeping Beauty pantomime (in school)
Monday 7 th February 2022	Beginning of Safety Week
Thursday 10 th February 2022	End of Term Three for children
Friday 11 th February 2022	Staff Development Day with Sandwich Junior School
Monday 21 st February 2022	Beginning of Term Four
Monday 28 th February 2022	Beginning of Art Week
Tuesday 8 th March and Wednesday 9 th March 2022	Parents Evenings
Friday 18 th March 2022	Red Nose Day
Friday 1 st April 2022	End of Term Four
Tuesday 19 th April 2022	Beginning of Term Five