

September Newsletter



THIS MONTH...

03.09.25

- TERM 1 BEGINS
- RECEPTION 1:1 MEETINGS

04.09.25

- RECEPTION 1:1 MEETINGS

05.09.25 + 08.09.25

- RECEPTION INDUCTION DAYS

09.09.25 + 10.09.25 + 11.09.25

- RECEPTION IN UNTIL 1:00

12.09.25

- RECEPTION FULL TIME

15.09.25

- 1:30 YR1 WELCOME MEETING
- 2:15 YR2 WELCOME MEETING

26.09.25

- FOSIS FRI-YAY! (CAKES AND BOOKS)

27.09.25

- OPEN MORNING FOR SEPT 2026 COHORT

29.09.25

- RECEPTION PHONIC TALK

30.09.25

- 2:30 YR 1 AND 2 PHONIC/ READING TALK



WELCOME!

Welcome back to school and a new academic year (or welcome to our school if you are new to Reception!) We are looking forward to starting the term and hearing about all of the adventures that the children have had over the summer. We also hope that you have had a restful break yourselves.

Miss Bennett

COMMUNICATION

Our newsletters throughout the year will continue to provide you with important information on events and learning experiences that take place in school. It is important that these are read as the majority of information will be shared in this format. All further newsletters will be sent out via a MCAS (My Child at School) notification. This newsletter will provide new parents and carers with relevant information on school processes and may be useful for existing parents as a refresher.

There are a few key points to consider with MCAS:

- Every parent needs to download MCAS as this is our primary method of communication
- It is important that you have notifications for MCAS enabled on your phone so that you are alerted when we send out information.
- There are often app updates – please make sure you have the latest one to ensure the app runs smoothly
- As soon as a problem occurs, or you find that you aren't receiving our messages, please come direct to the School Office so we can provide some support.

MCAS will also be used to book your Parent's Evening appointment, pay for trips and book wraparound care (Fun Club).

We aim to send reminders about events but please ask a member of staff if you are unsure of anything. Please also remember that we post on 'X' (Twitter) quite regularly so please go and give us a follow!

We appreciate your active involvement in our school community and recognise the value of WhatsApp class groups as a tool for communication. These groups serve as a platform for sharing important updates, reminders, and relevant information regarding your child's education. As a school, we have not set up these groups and therefore have no control over their content or participants. It is our hope that they are inclusive and are a positive and respectful space for all. We kindly ask that messages be shared with care, focusing on constructive discussions and school-related topics. We encourage a tone of kindness and respect in all interactions and request that concerns or personal queries be addressed directly with the relevant teachers rather than in the group. By working together, we can maintain a supportive and productive communication channel that benefits our children's learning experience. Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

CAR PARK

We kindly remind you not to park in the staff car park unless you have gained approval from myself for exceptional circumstances. The car park is reserved exclusively for our staff, who need reliable access to their parking spaces without interruption. To facilitate safe and orderly drop-off and pick-up, we ask that you park either in the Co-Op car park or at Gazen Salts. These are both free for parents during these drop off and pick-up times and will help to accommodate the flow of traffic during busy times.



MAINTENANCE AND WORKS

One of our recent Year 2 leavers, Jemima Ellis, helped us win the British Gas sustainable schools' competition early last year. This was a huge prize of £15,000 to spend on sustainability or accessibility. Over the summer, the works commenced to install 24 solar panels! Not only will this reduce our electricity bills, but it is a great visual to help us teach the children about ways in which we can support our environment.

The classroom doors have now been replaced with fire doors – these are not quite finished as the painting still needs to be completed, but they're looking good!

The final development is that of the shelter outside of the school office. The roof has now been added and will provide some much-needed shelter from the rain! We have dedicated this area in memory of Kate Perez-Barber, our former chair of governors.



UNIFORM

We offer pre-loved uniform that is available to purchase for a small donation. If you would like to view the pre-loved clothing, these will be out on our open afternoon and throughout various FOSIS events throughout the year. They can also be viewed upon request from the school office during quieter times.

SCHOOL RULES

- Be Safe
- Be Ready
- Be Respectful



OCTOBER 2025

14.10.25

- HARVEST FESTIVAL 2:00

15.10.25

- CATS PROTECTION IN
TO SPEAK TO CHILDREN

17.10.25

LAST DAY OF TERM 1

27.10.25

- SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT
DAY

28.10.25

- START OF TERM 2

31.10.25

- FOSIS HALLOWEEN
DISCO

NOVEMBER 2025

05.11.25

- HAPPY SCHOOL BAG
COLLECTION

19.11.25

- PARENTS EVENING

20.11.25

- PARENTS EVENING

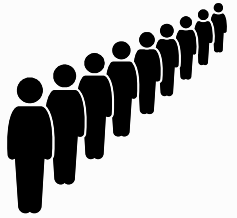
BEHAVIOUR

As the new academic year begins, we start by setting out and teaching the children our behaviour expectations – we call these our 'behaviour norms and routines'. We model, teach and remind our children as the year goes on to enable them to all become successful learners. I have already seen the Badgers practicing their quiet walking around the school – there wasn't a peep out of any of them! If you can support us at home by talking about the importance of following these taught routines in school, it will only positively impact the children's learning and attitudes in school.

The routine for coming into school is as follows:

- Children get off bikes and scooters before entering the school gate. They are placed in the correct, allocated spaces
- Children are not permitted to use the trim trail before the start of the school (because of insurance purposes)
- Children wait behind the yellow lines by the doors with their parents (incase the door opens on them)
- Parents/ carers stay until their child has been welcomed into the class by their teacher

An extensive list of the behaviour norms and routines for different parts of the school day can be found in the appendix of our behaviour policy (on the school website).



ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is key to enabling children to gain the greatest benefit from their education and to reach their full potential. Children are expected to attend school every day that the school is open unless they are unwell or there is an exceptional circumstance which has been approved.

- Registers are taken at 8:40 am
- If your child is unwell, it is important that you contact us on the first day that they are unwell, before 10:00 am by calling the school office 01304 612228.
- We must know that your child is safe and their whereabouts known, for safeguarding reasons. You must inform us every day that your child is off and you must provide us with the reason for absence so this can be recorded.
- All children that arrive late (after 8:40am) must report, with their parent to the school office, where the reason for lateness is recorded.
- Children repeatedly arriving after the register has been closed will be marked as late after registration and this will count as an unauthorised absence for the whole session.
- Frequent lateness or absence will be discussed and could be grounds for prosecution or a penalty notice, as per the governments instruction.
- When your child's attendance dips below 90%, you will receive a letter from myself or Mrs Russell, highlighting to you that Kent classify this as a 'persistent absence'.

PE

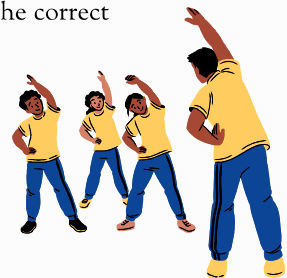
PE kits should be worn to school on the child's PE days. It is important that they attend school wearing the correct kit (red T-shirt with black/ blue shorts or trousers). You will be asked to provide the correct colour kit if your child attends wearing something different.

Hedgehogs: Monday & Wednesday

Puffins: Tuesday & Thursday

Badgers: Monday & Friday

PE will start w/c: 08.09.25



SCHOOL DAY

Gates open: 8:30 am

Teachers collect from playground: 8:35 am

Registration: 8:40 am

School finishes: 3:10 pm

CONTACTING TEACHERS

If there is a message that you would like your child's class teacher to know, please email them directly:

Mrs King (Badgers) - alison.king@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk
Mrs Russell (Puffins) - joanna.russell@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk
Mrs Godden (Puffins) - emily.godden@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk
Miss Hancock (Hedgehogs) - jade.hancock@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk
Miss Jackson (Bees) - hannah.jackson@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk

CONTACT US

It is important that you speak directly to the class teacher if you have a problem or would like something resolved. Please do this before commenting on What's app groups. If you have an urgent matter or query, please contact the School Office.

FOSIS

FOSIS (Friends of Sandwich Infant School) is our school PTFA. Having a team of parents supporting the school through fundraising is a highly valuable source of income that enables us to purchase equipment and experiences for the children that our budget does not allow.

If you have any spare time to support us with organisation or running of events throughout the year, please email Fosisfundraising@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk or let the school office know.

FOREST SCHOOL

Mrs Prestleton will continue delivering forest school provision to all of our children this year. This will begin in Term 2, starting with Puffins. Further information regarding dates and clothing will follow shortly.

SNACK

We encourage the children to try the fruit that is available each day, however if you know that your child will not eat this, then you are welcome to send a small, healthy vegetable snack in with them. This can include other fruit, crackers or breadsticks - No crisps, chocolate, biscuits or sugary snacks please. Anything sent into school should NOT include nuts - including things like Nutella sandwiches.

BIRTHDAYS

In previous years, like many other schools, we have allowed children to bring in small packets of sweets to hand out to children in their class on their birthdays. This year, the Department for Education issued new guidance called "Early Years Foundation Stage Nutrition Guidance". In response to this, we will not be allowed to let children share packets of sweets or cakes on their birthdays during the school day.



Book recommendation

THE PERFECT BOOK FOR OPENING UP HONEST CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN ABOUT GRIEF AND DEATH, WHETHER THEY HAVE LOST A LOVED ONE, OR ARE SIMPLY CURIOUS AND AT THE AGE OF ASKING QUESTIONS.

WE WILL OFTEN HAVE COPIES OF THESE TEXTS SO PLEASE ASK IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BORROW THEM.