

# Sandford Hill Primary Newsletter



Week 15 - Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Dec

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STOP PRESS: WISHING ALL OUR SANDFORD HILL FAMILIES AND FRIENDS A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

## Generosity from the Heart

This week, our assemblies have been looking back over the term at the various activities that have taken place in support of our school vision. This is ***'To develop and nurture thoughtful, respectful, aspirational, resilient and co-operative pupils who:***

- ***Think and care about others within the school community and beyond;***
- ***Value that everyone is different;***
- ***Aim to be the best that they can be;***
- ***Work hard and are willing to learn by trying and making mistakes, in order to succeed;***
- ***Work collaboratively and with consideration for others .'***

During the term we have been so proud to witness the incredible generosity of our children, our families and our friends in so many different ways. The monetary generosity for our Poppy Appeal, Macmillan Coffee Morning, Children in Need and Christingle has raised over £1,500 combined. The regular donations to the Food Bank, as well as our Harvest Appeal, is thanks only to your generosity. Equally is the importance of people generously giving up their time: to give our children the very best experiences we can; to pick up litter on the way to school unasked; and to volunteer in school in so many different ways. Finally, we are especially proud of the generosity of heart shown. The thoughtful, caring actions, both directed by school, and of their own freewill, that our children demonstrate on a daily basis. Looking after each other, showing respect and care of those in the local community - the dementia home, the DougieMac and the hospital. We believe this is one of the key things that makes Sandford Hill Primary special, and so this Christmas-time as we enjoy our presents and food, we hope that we will all show 'Thoughtfulness and Respect', not only to each other, but also to those that might be needing that extra bit of care. Have a really Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.



## Headteacher Awards

Many congratulations to all of the children who received a Termly Star Award in Monday's assembly. These go to recognise the children's efforts and achievements across the curriculum. Nursery - Myla H, Charlie A

F2/1 - **Harvey P** F2/2 - **Poppy T**  
Y1/1 - **Stanley R** Y1/2 - **Harper-Lee C**  
Y2/1 - **Chloe T-W** Y2/2 - **Chloe S**  
Y3/1 - **Kaytee L** Y3/2 - **Jamie O**  
Y4/1 - **Hayat H** Y4/2 - **Joseph S**  
Y5/1 - **Rebecca B** Y5/2 - **Leo W**  
Y6/1 - **Suneyna A** Y6/2 - **Mya F**

## Congratulations

- Congratulations to **Mya F** who proudly shared her 9 trampolining medals with us. Amazing achievement Mya - well done!



**School Attendance Target - 96.5%**  
This week's attendance continues to be low at 92.1% due to the sickness bug.

F1/1	81.5%	Y2/2	95.2%
F1/2	87.4%	Y3/1	97.1%
F1/3	93.3%	Y3/2	94.8%
F1/4	80.9%	Y4/1	90.5%
F2/1	90.7%	Y4/2	99.0%
F2/2	86.4%	Y5/1	94.6%
Y1/1	95.0%	Y5/2	98.9%
Y1/2	98.5%	Y6/1	98.5%
Y2/1	98.5%	Y6/2	99.6%

## Dates for your Diary

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

School starts for children

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January**

Pantomime - Jack & the Beanstalk

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> January**

Swimming starts for Y4 & Y5

Choir to Young Voices in Birmingham

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

Y6 to 'Safe & Sound' Hanley Fire Station

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January**

Interim Governors Meeting

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**

[School closed to children for Staff training](#)

**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February**

Y1/Y2 Green Cross Code Workshops

**Mon 17<sup>th</sup> to Friday 21<sup>st</sup> February**

Half Term

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February**

Y4 & Y6 swimming start

**Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

Nursery and Y6 group photos

**Mon 11<sup>th</sup> to Thurs 14<sup>th</sup> May**

KS2 SATs week

## 'Light Up A Life' for DougieMac

A very special afternoon was had at the Victoria Hall last Sunday afternoon. The 'Light Up A Life' concert organised by the DougieMac was a lovely opportunity to remember lost loved ones through songs and readings. Our choir did themselves proud in the 24th year of the concert and their singing was the highlight of the concert for many. Well done all.



## Parent/Carer Notices

- **CLUBS** - The ParentMail form to sign up for the Spring Term Clubs have gone live for you to select which clubs your child might like to take part in.
- Receiving a new mobile for Christmas? Please remember to notify the office if you number is changed. Thank you.

### Christingle Service

On Tuesday, Y4/2, Mrs Frost's class led a Christingle Service at the church. The children told of how Christingle originated in Germany in 1747. **Christingle** means 'Christ's Light' and it is a symbol of the Christian faith. Each element of a **Christingle** has a special meaning and helps to tell the Christian story: The **orange** represents the world. The red ribbon symbolises the love of Christ. The four cocktail sticks represent the four seasons and the fruit/sweets represents the gifts God has given. Well done and thank you to Y4/2 for leading this special festive assembly.

Thank you also to all that donated through the Christingle boxes. The Christingle total that goes to the Children's Society was £318.16



### Y1 Grandparents Toys

Many thanks to the family members that joined Y1 on Monday afternoon to share with the children the toys of their childhood. It was lovely to see so many



faces and to show the children some old toys that parents and grandparents used to play with. The children were fascinated by the toys and loved playing with them. A lovely finish to our history topic.

### Farewell Mrs Moss

Today we sadly bid a final farewell to Mrs Moss. Thank you for all you have done for Sandford Hill and very best wishes for your new job in the Health Service.



### Recent blog posts to check out .....

- ⇒ [Nursery Christmas Dinner](#)
- ⇒ [Nursery Christmas Party](#)
- ⇒ [Foundation Stage Christmas Party](#)
- ⇒ Y1/1 [Family Toys Afternoon](#)
- ⇒ [Year 1/2 Grandparents Afternoon](#)
- ⇒ [Year 1 Christmas Party](#)
- ⇒ [Y2/1 Christmas Party](#)
- ⇒ [Year 3 Oatcakes!](#)

### The Tony Hughes Award for 'Thoughtfulness and Respect'

This medallion, in memory of our former Chairman of the PTFA.

F1/1	Noah D
F1/2	Mason H
F2/1	Niamh J
F2/2	Winnie M
Y1/1	Daniel C
Y1/2	Bobbi M
Y2/1	Florence B
Y2/2	Oliver H
Y3/1	Poppy J
Y3/2	Marium A
Y4/1	Tyler C
Y4/2	Gracie-Mae C
Y5/1	Niamh B
Y5/2	Lily D
Y6/1	Evie E
Y6/2	Mohammed A

### Silent Christmas Auction

Many thanks to all the parents that made bids in our Silent Auction. The top bidders were as follows:

- Seagull Photography - Louis S
- 4 Ninja Warrior Passes - Samuela T
- 2 Winter Wonderland Passes - Ollie W
- Family Pass to Cineworld - Isaac P
- £20 Toby Carvery Gift Card - Logan T
- £15 Dining Out Gift Voucher - Mawgan H
- £20 Amazon Voucher - Stanley W-L
- Bottle of Gin - Leo M

Many thanks also to all our sponsors for the kind donations which together raised £235.52 towards the children's Christmas parties and presents.

### Headteacher's Star Awards:

Congratulations to these children who won the Head Teacher's Star Award.

Class	Award Winner	Class	Award Winner
FS1/1	Keegan A	Y3/1	Skyler T
FS1/2	Charlotte W	Y3/2	Jenna B
FS2/1	Henry R	Y4/1	Alexander S
FS2/2	Winnie M	Y4/2	James W
Y1/1	Daniel C	Y5/1	Lewis D
Y1/2	Sonny L-P	Y5/2	Callum H
Y2/1	Ellie-Mae G	Y6/1	Leya E
Y2/2	Leighton B	Y6/2	Amelia O

### New technology present? Stay safe online

Some of our children may receive gifts of technology that link to the internet for Christmas, be it a new smartphone, tablet or games console. While their device will provide them with hours of entertainment, it can also present risks. [ThinkUKnow](#), a leading e-Safety organisation, offers the following advice to make sure that our children are safe online over the Christmas period and beyond:

#### 1. Set up parental controls

Parental controls can be a great tool to help protect young people online, and should be installed on any new device that the children use. See this [Thinkuknow article](#).

#### 2. Start a conversation with your children about communicating safely online

A new device enables young people to gain access to new communities through online gaming and social media. Remind them of some key strategies for safer internet use:

- Be careful with what the children share, including images, videos and personal information.



**Thoughtfulness and Respect**



- Take control of who sees what they post by using privacy settings.
- Be mindful of who they are chatting to and gaming with – do they really know and trust them? If not, don't share personal details or agree to meet them in other online spaces.

### 3. Remind young people how to report anything worrying

It's important that young people know where to go if they come across something online that worries them or makes them feel uncomfortable.

Talk the children through how they can use the school's [Whisper button](#) to report concerns and how to make [a report to CEOP](#) if something has happened to them online or they're worried about what a friend is doing online. The children can also contact [Childline](#) if they have any other worries or concerns.

We also encourage parents/carers to remember that **our focus shouldn't be to put young people off using their new device.** Scaremongering is not effective and makes young people far less likely to ask you for help if they encounter a threat online. Aim to provide a balanced view that encourages them to share their thoughts and engage with new ideas about staying safe. But also and probably most effective, is to join in with them: set up a family group they communicate with; learn how to play their online game; or get them to teach you how to use their new device. After all, they are often quicker and better at using them anyway! Thank you

### Christmas Art Competition and more

Our School Council have had a really busy end of the year with a very successful Christmas Art competition and the secret gift decorations. Many thanks to all the children that created the most beautiful Christmas pictures. The School Council found it so difficult to judge as they were all so good, but the 3 winning pictures can be seen below. Very well done to **Bella B**, **Tayla D** and **Jessica B**. The competition raised a fantastic £90.75 for school and/or charitable causes.



↑ Bella B  
Nursery

Jessica B  
Y6 ↓



Tayla D  
Y3



### Shhh Secret Gifts

In addition, this week our school council have been giving children the opportunity to create a special secret gift for loved ones. We really hope you like them!

Thank you again for the donations, the gift making has raised £188.35

