

Sandford Hill Primary Newsletter



Week 28- Fri 24th April '20

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STOP PRESS: For sending in children's work/photos , please use childrenswork@sandfordhill.org.uk (NOT office@ as previously asked)

Welcome

I hope you and your family are well and are enjoying the very welcome spring sunshine. The photographs and video clips that you are sending in to school, showing the activities the children are completing at home, are fabulous. Please can I take this opportunity to say what an amazing job you are doing supporting your child's well-being and learning. Indeed, I am getting a little concerned that, when the government gives us permission to re-open the school, the children won't want to come back!



Daniel I spent a couple of hours brightening up his street to raise the neighbour's spirits

School Website and Home Learning Resources

To further support home learning Mr Walford and Mr Jones have been busily working, throughout Easter, to develop a new school website and I am delighted to tell you that it went 'live' yesterday. It's still found on the same web address: www.sandfordhill.org.uk

The plan has always been to have our revamped website in place for September. Therefore, it is not yet fully finished. However, in order to provide lots of ideas for you to use, if you so wish, the **home learning** tab at the top of the home page has been populated with a wealth of activities. There are many resources to look at, including:

- BBC Bitesize and Oak National Academy which were launched this week.
- White Rose maths scheme (which we use in school), have now created some daily, instructional maths videos (which last no more than 10 minutes), with follow up questions for children and answer sheets that can be found on our website.
- Phonic Play website, for our youngest children, has been made freely available as well as the Oxford Owl website which offers lots of phonic and reading opportunities. Again, the links to these resources can be found on our website.
- Also remember the importance of regular exercise. Please also look at the PE and Physical Activity page where there are examples of fun activities to keep your child fit and healthy.

The website will continue to be developed so we will update you with new information and resources you may be interested to look at.

The screenshot shows the Sandford Hill Primary School website. The header includes the school's name and contact information. The main navigation bar has links to Home, Home Learning, Our School, Useful Information, Safeguarding, EYFS, Reading, Curriculum, and Well-Being and Pastoral Care. The main content area features a large photo of children working together at a table, with the text "Never giving up" and "Thoughtfulness and Respect" overlaid. A red button labeled "Covid19 Advice" is also visible.

Learning without a computer

We do appreciate and understand that families have hugely different personal circumstances. For example, while some parents/carers will have time and the ability to access lots of online resources, others may have less access to technology (maybe one device per family). With this in mind, remember that although teachers are continuing to set two daily Purple Mash '2Dos', other learning is equally as valuable.

Reading regularly with your child can make a massive difference to their progress. Here are some easy ways you can make reading a part of every day:

- ♦ **Don't worry about how long you read for.** Every minute spent reading makes a bigger difference than you realise!
- ♦ **Don't worry about what your kids are reading:** recipes, cereal packets, Argos catalogues... It's all useful! Keep books and other reading materials close by.
- ♦ **Reading to children of all ages is helpful.** If your little one isn't reading by themselves yet, read with them.
- ♦ **Ask lots of questions:** Who, what, where, when and why and ask them to summarise when you've finished.



Your child can learn maths during normal, everyday activities. Here are a few tips for how you can support maths learning every day:

- ♦ **Board games** like Snakes and Ladders or other games with numbered spaces can be great for maths learning. You can even make your own!
- ♦ **Meals and snack times** can be great to teach lots of concepts, like sharing, talking about time, counting how many carrots you have, estimating the number of beans or comparing sizes of potatoes.
- ♦ Use **maths words in conversation and play.** This can include talking about size ("*Which is bigger?*"), order ("*Which is first?*"), shapes and more.
- ♦ **Stories can be great opportunities for maths learning.** One great free resource for maths stories is www.mathsthroughstories.org/recommendations.html but you can use other books too!
- ♦ Use **manipulatives** like bricks or toys of different sizes or amounts.



Thoughtfulness

No Tony Hughes "Thoughtfulness and Respect" medals awarded this week, but it is great to see so many fabulous posts on the school twitter account of our children still thinking about others. Sorry we can't include all the pictures, but you can see some of them dotted through the newsletter.

Mia C whose daddy is in the Royal Navy and has been in the gulf since December. He was due home on Easter Monday but unfortunately his flight was cancelled. Due to recent events, his deployment has been extended until further notice. The crew and families of HMS MONTROSE STB have come up with an amazing idea to meet their loved ones "half way". Mia has taken part in this since Saturday and has been on walks, on her bike and scooter. She is very determined to meet daddy half way. This is all for charity - all money raised will go to NHS charities.



Charlie B thanking our NHS workers.



Sophie G who drew a lovely rainbow to be displayed in the local pharmacy.



Maria B made some wonderful bunting to celebrate St George's Day and the fabulous NHS workers.



Olivia W's, Auntie is a nurse at our local hospital, asked if Olivia would send her a rainbow picture to cheer up their ward.



Alana M-I on her daily walk noticed a Cormorant looking very poorly and asked her mum if they could do something for the poorly bird. Alana rang the RSPCA and waited for a couple of hours for them to collect the bird who had broken its leg.



Skylla-Beau R printed pictures by Charlie Mackesy and attached them with a special message, to lampposts and trees around Saxonfields.



Home School Support

Whilst our school has been closed our Home School Link Worker, Mrs Brennan, has continued to support our families. She may not always have the solution, but she can help to point you in the right direction to a service that can help, offering you confidential support whilst you manage the situation affecting your family. If you require her help, Mrs Brennan can be contacted on 07947104540.

Keeping in Touch

All of the teachers are greatly missing the children and so starting next week we are introducing our 'keeping in touch' phone calls. We are putting a three week rolling-rota in place so that the class teacher can ring to say 'hello' to every one of their children. It will also give parents the chance to ask any questions regarding home learning. Please be aware that when we ring, a 'no caller ID' may be displayed. The table below shows:



- the day each teacher will be making their calls; and
- the surname range of the children that will be called in week 1 (for example on Monday, Miss Ridgway will telephone to say 'hi' to all of the pupils in her class whose surname begins with the letter A, B, C, D, E or F)

If you have any concerns regarding home learning, or anything else for that matter, please don't wait for a telephone call from the teacher. You can contact any member of staff via email (childrenswork@sandfordhill.org.uk), the ParentMail Absence option or on the school answerphone, making sure you say who the message is for and we will endeavour to help.

	Teacher	Surname of child		
		27 th April - 1 st May	4 th - 8 th May	11 th - 15 th May
Monday	Miss Ridgway	A - F	G - N	P - W
	Mrs Bullock	A - H	J - S	T - W
	Mr Alcock	A - F	G - M	N - W
	Mrs Gater	A - G	H - S	T - W
Tuesday	Mrs Morton	A - D	H	M - S
	Miss Hodgson	A - C	D - J	K - W
	Miss Harrison	A - C	D - J	L - W
	Mrs Frost	A - E	F - M	S - Y
	Mr Frost	A - Ha	H - N	P - W
Wednesday	Mrs Hulme	A - C	F - K	L - W
	Mrs Powell	A - H	J - P	R - W
	Mrs Smith	A - G	H - M	P - W
	Miss Heath	A - C	D - L	M - W
Thursday	Mrs Salt (N)	A - D	G - M	P - W
	Mr Jones	A - D	F - M	O - W
	Mrs Hassall	A - H	J - P	R - W
Friday	Miss Gregory	A - E	H - M	P - T
	Mrs Carney	A - C	D - K	L - Z

Darci-Jade C
has been
helping
around the
house.



Sam and Ben T
have been
chalking
rainbows on their
house to show
their
appreciation for
all the wonderful
NHS workers.



Nathan B chalked a rainbow
as he wanted to say a big
thanks to the marvellous
#NHS for doing a brilliant job!



Suneyna, Marium and Aliza A all drew and shared
their special rainbows pictures.



Congratulations

- Well done to **Ellie T** who proudly shared her Rainbows badges that she has been awarded;
- Congratulations to **Jimmy R** who has been awarded his Scout Communicator Activity Badge.



Free School Meals

I would like to apologise to those parents whose child has a free school meal for the delay in you receiving your vouchers. However it wasn't for want of trying on our behalf. On a number of days over the past two weeks, Miss Morton has patiently waited in hour-long queues just to get into the government's national free school website (Edenred), only for it to crash. At one point, schools were urged not to visit the website because it was unable to cope with the number of schools that were trying to access it. This resulted in it being shut down over the whole Easter weekend so it could be upgraded to meet the overwhelming demand. Once again, I am very sorry, but everyone should now have their vouchers. Can I also urge any families in need of support, to call our Home School Link Worker, Mrs Brennan, who can be contacted on 07947 104540.