



Sandford Hill Primary Newsletter

Sandford Hill Primary
Clayfield Grove
Longton, ST3 5AQ
☎ 01782 235518 /235781
office@sandfordhill.org.uk
www.sandfordhill.org.uk

**All clubs
running
next
week**

Week 29 - Friday 3rd May 2019

Election fever as voting counts!

Following local council elections yesterday, one of the only benefits to the school is that we can make use of the polling stations until they are collected, which is incredibly useful as we are currently running elections for our new School Council.

This afternoon, our KS1 children will mark their ballot paper to select their favourite type of biscuit. Then KS2 children will vote to elect next year's members of our School Council. This follows a week of campaigning with speeches made earlier in the week to the school. We do hope there will be a good turn out for voting! Is there going to be a swing, or even a hung parliament? Results will be shared in next week's newsletter.

Well done and thanks to all the children that put themselves forward to become a school council member. It is a nerve-wracking thing to do but a great experience. Thanks also to Mr Frost for organising the elections and overseeing the School Council throughout the year.



Dates for your Diary

Monday 6th May PLEASE NOTE

School Closed - Bank Holiday

Tuesday 7th May

Y3 Learn to Ride

Y1 Parents Phonics workshop 2:30pm

Friday 10th May

Swimming starts for Y2 and Y6

Monday 13th - Tuesday 14th May

Y5 Bikeability L2

Monday 13th - Thursday 16th May

KS2 SATs Week

Friday 17th May

Sir Stanley Matthews - non-uniform for £1

Monday 20th May

Y4 Bikeability L1

Tuesday 21st May

Y2 to 'Down the Rabbit Hole'

Thursday 23rd May PLEASE NOTE

School Closed to Children - Polling Day

Monday 27th - Friday 31st May

HALF TERM

Congratulations

- A big well done to Skyla-Beau R on achieving her Goldfish 3 Swimming Award. Congratulations Skyla-Beau!
- Well done to Lenny M who proudly showed me his Quilter Kids First: Green Laces. He was awarded these for demonstrating the rugby union core values of Teamwork, Respect, Enjoyment, Discipline and Sportsmanship. Fabulous Lenny.
- Congratulations to Ellie T who was awarded a ballet 'star student' certificate and plaque.
- Congratulations to **Jacob W, Oliver M and Mckenzie G** who have made fantastic progress with their cycling this week. Well done boys.



School Attendance Target - 96.5%

N1	98.1%	Y2/2	100%
N2	95.0%	Y3/1	95.8%
N3	89.6%	Y3/2	97.7%
N4	95.2%	Y4/1	96.7%
F2/1	99.2%	Y4/2	97.6%
F2/2	99.6%	Y5/1	96.7%
Y1/1	99.1%	Y5/2	97.9%
Y1/2	100%	Y6/1	100%
Y2/1	96.8%	Y6/2	96.1%

No rest for the staff!

While you were enjoying your day at home yesterday, the teachers were all working hard learning new skills to share with the children. First they did some science with Mrs Carney, focussing on outdoor learning. Next the teachers worked together to revise and update the curriculum, planning exciting topics to do with the children. Then in the afternoon they had a gymnastics session with Miss Heath using some of our fantastic new gym equipment.

In addition, a lot of our teaching assistants did their First Aid refresher training, delivered by Mr Hassall. Thanks to all the staff for their hard work.



Info for Parents

- **Clubs** - Today, if your child applied for a club for this term, they will be bringing home details of the club(s) they have been allocated. Again, the clubs have been oversubscribed, especially in KS1, so if your child has a place, please do ensure that they attend each week.
- KS2 Club spaces are still available for: Y3/4 Athletics - Tues 8:15; Y3/4 Reading - Tues 8:15; Y5/6 Athletics - Wed 8:15; Choir Athletics - Wed 8:15; Y3-6 Glee Dance Club - Wed 3:15; Y5/6 Girls cricket - Thurs 8:15; Equality - Thurs 8:15. Please speak to or e-mail the office (office@sandfordhill.org.uk) to request a place.

- **Thank you** - We do hope you agree that our communication and payment system, ParentMail, is a very convenient way to keep you informed, gain consent, payments, etc. It is certainly a huge time saver to the office and staff, but it also helps us to save money, which is essential in these financially challenging times for schools.

The ParentMail app particularly saves us money, as sending text messages to all contacts at 4p per message costs approximately £25 a message. Having the app means we can message in Economy mode, so you get an immediate alert, but it doesn't cost the school. Most families already have the app downloaded, but 9% of families don't, so if you are one of those, but have a smartphone we would be grateful if you would download the app to help us save more money that we can spend for the benefit of the children. Thank you. Do speak to the office if you need help.

Y1 Parents Phonics Workshops

Thank you to all the Y1 parents/carers that have indicated that they will be coming along to one of our Y1 Phonics Drop-In sessions.

The repeated sessions are being run on:

- ⇒ Tuesday 7th May
- ⇒ Tuesday 14th May
- ⇒ Tuesday 21st May
- ⇒ Tuesday 4th June

All the sessions will start at 2:30pm in the classroom with your child and will be finished in time for you to take your child(ren) home at the end of the day.



Getting Messy!

On Wednesday 15th May, the Foundation Stage will be learning outside for the whole day in our fantastic, newly cleared woodland area - thanks to our John Muir club.

The children will be learning through very messy activities, using mud, clay and paint.

Would parents/carers of all Nursery and Reception children therefore please send them to school on

Wednesday 15th in old clothes and wellies that you don't mind getting very messy and which may not come clean after washing!



Sandford Hill Primary News

Read more and watch videos on the blog - sandfordhill.schoolblogs.org

And the bike goes on.....

This week two more of our cycle school activities took place. Our Y2 children had their Learn to Ride session on Wednesday which was greatly enjoyed by the children. The trainer Nick Simms quickly identified those who could already cycle who went off on the red ash, while those who were newer to cycling were started on balance bikes (bikes with no pedals).



Then today we have the first in a series of Balanceability sessions for Reception children. They too will start on balance bikes and once confident will progress on to pedal bikes.



We hope you noticed our new storage garage for the bikes erected in the Easter holidays. As well as bikes for the children, there are also some adult bikes (bought through Ward funding) and we will be sending information soon about opportunities for you to come and ride with your child(ren) after school - so watch out for that!

This week's blog posts to check out

[Strawberries Library Visit](#)

[Nursery's Very Hungry Caterpillars](#)

[KS1 Spelling Bee Winners](#)

[Teacher Training Day](#)

The Tony Hughes Award for 'Thoughtfulness and Respect'

This medallion, in memory of our former Chairman of the PTFA, is presented each week to a worthy child from each class.

N1	Alfie H
N2	Jack H
F2/1	Stanley R
F2/2	Ollie E
Y1/1	Leah B
Y1/2	Evelyn T
Y2/1	Alfie G
Y2/2	Dominic M
Y3/1	Oliver J
Y3/2	Erin D
Y4/1	Amina K
Y4/2	Mason L
Y5/1	Jailyn H
Y5/2	Yvie J
Y6/1	Ashton B
Y6/2	Caitlin C

Headteacher's Star Awards:

Congratulations to these children who won the Head Teacher's Star Award last week for their hard work, attitude and/or progress:

Class	Award Winner	Class	Award Winner
N1	Sophie G	Y3/1	Alex S
N2	Alfie H	Y3/2	Charlie S
FS2/1	Shaye K	Y4/1	Amina K
FS2/2	Evie G	Y4/2	Kinga I
Y1/1	Briley S	Y5/1	Freya E
Y1/2	Oliver H	Y5/2	Koby M
Y2/1	Logan T	Y6/1	Francesca C
Y2/2	Joshua V	Y6/2	Ryan H

The 'Digital World' is the 'Real World'

Over the Easter break, we are sure that many of our children have made use of that wonderful place which is the internet. It offers so many opportunities for them to learn, connect and play. Whilst they are online, as adults, we all have a responsibility to ensure that our children are safe and, if they connect with others, they do so in a thoughtful and respectful manner.

The best way to find out what your child is doing online is to ask them to tell you about it. Encourage them to use devices in rooms where you are, so that you can see what sites they're visiting and share with them. If they are reluctant to do so, then maybe they are hiding something from you.

Do make use of the parental controls on your home broadband and as always, **please remind the children to only post and share messages which are polite and kind.**

