



Sandford Hill Primary School Newsletter

Thoughtfulness

Respect

Hard Work

Issue 1 - Friday 9th September 2022

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Queen Elizabeth II 1926—2022

Although the week started with great excitement and happiness as the children returned to school, it ended on a note of sadness, as we learned last night of the sad passing of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

On behalf of our whole school, I am sure you will join me, in sending our heartfelt condolences to the royal family.

As we take the time to reflect on her remarkable seventy-year reign, many of our children's lasting memory of our Queen, will be of the wonderful celebrations we held to mark her Platinum Jubilee. So today, as our school and indeed the whole nation, mourns its great loss, we can take comfort from our abiding memories of that fabulous week in the Summer Term.



Work hard, thoughtfulness and respect.

It was a real pleasure to once again speak to the children in assembly this week. I shared the Starfish Story, below, as well as the book 'Choices' written by Roozeboos. Choices, both insignificant and life-changing, are all around us whether we want to make a splash or just dip our toes into new experiences, there's always a decision involved. I said that wouldn't it be wonderful, if this school year, we all make a positive difference through the choices each of us will make.

The Starfish Story by Loren Eisley

One day a man was walking along the beach, when he noticed a boy picking up and gently throwing things into the ocean. Approaching the boy, he asked, "Young man, what are you doing?"

The boy replied, "Throwing starfish back into the ocean. The surf is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back, they'll die."

The man laughed to himself and said, "don't you realise there are miles and miles of beach and hundreds of starfish? You can't make any difference!"

After listening politely, the boy bent down, picked up another starfish, and threw it into the surf. Then, smiling at the man, he said,

"I made a difference to that one."

Regular attendance at school makes a difference.

Regular school attendance is essential if children are to achieve their full potential. Research commissioned by the Department for Education shows missing school for even a day can mean a child is less likely to achieve good grades, which can have a damaging effect on their life chances. At Sandford Hill Primary School we believe that regular school attendance enables children to maximise the educational opportunities available to them whilst at the same time, missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind in their work.

We therefore politely request that you:

- take a positive interest in your child's work and educational progress;
- support the school by becoming involved in your child's education, forming a positive relationship with school and acknowledging the importance of children receiving the same messages from both school and home;
- ensure your child has regular attendance at school;
- contact the school if your child is absent to let us know the reason why and the expected date of return;
- avoid unnecessary absences; for example, by making medical and dental appointments for outside of school hours;
- ask to talk to a member of the school staff if your child is experiencing difficulties with any aspect of
- their school work or home and family life;
- inform the school of any change in circumstances that may impact on your child's attendance; and
- attend all meetings requested to discuss attendance issues.

With all of these in mind, we do still appreciate that there might be days when your child is ill, require urgent medical or dental appointments which unavoidably fall in school time, or there are other emergencies which may result in your child being absent from school.

If your child is absent from school, we kindly ask you to contact the school office, preferably by 9.30 a.m. on the first morning of absence (or reply promptly to any request or inquiry concerning an absence) by reporting via the ParentMail app, email parent@sandfordhill.org.uk or call 01782 235781 to speak to the office or to leave a message. Thank you.

Dates for the Diary

Friday 23rd September

Swimming starts for Y4 & Y5

Mon 26th to Fri 30th September

Y6 to Stanley Head

Tuesday 27th September

Open evening drop in for prospective nursery parents 3:30p.m.—5:00p.m.

Monday 10th October

KS1 Harvest Assembly p.m.

Tuesday 11th October

KS2 Harvest Assembly a.m.

(St Mary and Chad's Church—Parents welcome)

Mon 17th & Wed 19th October

Open Evenings

Monday 17th October

Y4/RBL River Study

Tuesday 18th October

Y4/RBR River Study

Mon 24th to Fri 28th October

Half Term

School Attendance Target is 96%
This week attendance is 99% which is above our school target.

N1	N/A	Y2/G2	100%
N2	N/A	Y3/F3	100%
N3	N/A	Y3/F4	99.3%
N4	N/A	Y4/RBL	98.7%
R1	96.7%	Y4/RBR	100%
R2	100%	Y5/F1	98%
Y1/G3	100%	Y5/F2	100%
Y1/G4	98.6%	Y6/FBL	97.3%
Y2/G1	97.3%	Y6/FBR	100%

**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**

*"School - where
memories are made"*

Parent Notices

- **Clubs**—School clubs will be starting from Monday (12th September). Tonight, those children who have requested to join one of our extra-curricular clubs, should have brought home a letter to inform them which clubs they have been allocated too as well as the dates they are expected to attend.
- **PE Kit & Days** —P.E. lessons will start next week on the days listed on right. On these days, we ask that your child attends school in their Sandford Hill P.E. kit A reminder that our school PE kit is red polo, black hoody, plain black shorts/joggers and trainers. No large logos/stripes/alternative colours are allowed. **On the days that your child has P.E. we ask that earrings are removed.** Any pupils in the incorrect PE kit in September will be asked to change into the correct kit until the end of the school day. Please see the table to the right for year group PE days.
- **Flu Vaccination**—The school nurses will be visiting next Thursday 15th September to deliver the flu nasal vaccinations to pupils in Reception to Y6. Please ensure you have completed the consent form sent via ParentMail if you would like your child to receive their flu vaccination.
- **Swimming**—Y4 and Y5 will be swimming on Fridays starting 23rd September until February half term. After February half term, Y3 and Y6 will be swimming.

PE Days	
Rec	Mon
Y1	Thu & Fri
Y2	Wed & Fri
Y3	Thu & Fri
Y4	Tue & Fri
Y5	Tue & Fri
Y6	Tue & Wed

School Trips

As the children returned to school on Wednesday, you may have noticed the BBC website headline; 'School Trips Could Be Axed To Keep Staff.' These are indeed very challenging times for us all. As a school we recognise how much the children enjoy school visits and how they really support learning. We are also mindful however, that for the trips to run, we may, reluctantly, need to ask parents and carers to contribute towards the costs but please be assured that we will always do everything we can to keep the requested contributions as low as possible.

Below you will see, we have detailed the planned visits which we intend to take the children on over the course of the year. In an ideal world, we would not ask parents to contribute to the considerable running costs of these. Indeed, thanks to your generosity, we are able to heavily discount trips by allocating the monies raised at the Summer Fayre towards them. As well as this, we are also able to off-set costs thanks to a very welcome charitable donation £1000 From The Jackie Smith Foundation. We also plan to raise further funds this year within school, and the proceeds from these will once again be directed towards keeping down the costs of children's visits for our families. Many thanks indeed for your continued understanding and support.

Who	Where	When
Nursery & Reception	National Forest Adventure Farm Rudyard Lake	March 2023 June 2023
Year 1	Brampton Museum Peak Wildlife Park	March 2023 April 2023
Year 2	Hanley Museum New Brighton Beach	March 2023 June 2023
Year 3	Gladstone Pottery Museum Dewa Centre	January 2023 April 2023
Year 4	River Dee Study Tatton Park	October 2022 May 2023
Year 5	Jodrell Bank Black Country Living Museum	November 2022 May 2023
Year 6	Imperial War Museum Hanley Museum	November 2022 May 2023

Birthdays

Wishing all these children a very *Happy Birthday* for next week:

- Luke Hawkins
- Daniel Inch
- Logan Pullen
- Abby-Jaye Taylor
- Elijah Foy



MUGA Update

You may have seen that work has taken place over the summer and our marvellous MUGA (Multi use games area) is almost complete. We were hoping that it would be finished in time for the children's return but due to weather constraints, we are a little behind schedule. We have placed yellow and black barriers but it is vital that pupils do not run across the MUGA before and after school. Thank you for your support.

Dinner Menu—Week commencing 12th September 2022

All meals are served with a dessert and drink (vegetarian options available). An alternative option of jacket potatoes and sandwiches are available for Reception to Year 6 daily.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Pizza, Paprika Potatoes and Sweetcorn	Meat and Potato Pie and Herby Potatoes	Cheese Whirl with Wedges and Beans	Roast Pork Dinner	Fish, Chips and Peas