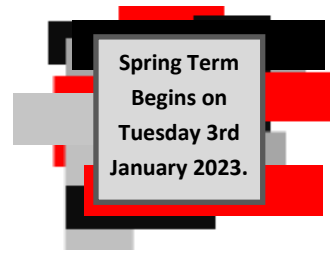




Sandford Hill Primary School Newsletter



Issue 13- Friday 9th December 2022

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Sandford Hill's Special Visitor

Today, we had an extremely special visitor at Sandford Hill. Santa came to visit with his reindeer, Dancer and Prancer and his elves, Jingles and Belle. Each class went along to visit Santa in his grotto and heard the story of how he came to drop in at our school. We made Santa, his elves and the reindeer feel most welcome during the cold weather and kept them topped up with hot chocolate throughout their visit. Although he was very sad to leave, Santa had to return to the North Pole to get ready for Christmas Eve but he knows that he is always welcome at Sandford Hill and hopefully, he'll drop by again soon! Please do look at our school blog to see photos of the children visiting Santa.



Clubs

Club forms will be sent out again next week via ParentMail for you to select the clubs your child would like to attend in the Spring Term. Most clubs are the same as the Autumn Term but there has been a rotation on the year groups that they are available to. The deadline for club applications is Monday 2nd January 2023.

Birthdays

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

- Hana A
- Roman A
- Jessica R
- Pippa L
- Benjamin B
- Lola W
- Dominik S
- Harrison C
- Rosie C
- Amber T



Christmas Carols

On Tuesday, Mr Jones' class went to the Royal Stoke Hospital to sing for visitors in the main atrium. The children sang beautifully and their behavior was fantastic. Last Thursday was the 'Light up a Life' service for the Douglas Macmillan Hospice. Our choir were recorded in advance and the video was displaying on the evening. We are incredibly proud of them all. [Click here to view the video.](#)



Swimming Success!

A huge well done to all of the children below for their swimming achievements this term:

Beginners—**Naomi DSD**

Proficiency —**Caleb B, Zeen A, Max B, Leighton B, Emma B**

We are extremely proud of them all!



The Tony Hughes medal for 'Thoughtfulness and Respect' awarded each week to a child in every class.

N	Arabella S-J
R1	Harper H
R2	Harrison W
Y1/G3	Jacob C
Y1/G4	Haiza N
Y2/G1	Malachi M
Y2/G2	Noah D
Y3/F3	Layla M
Y3/F4	Mya G
Y4/RBL	Kaitlin B
Y4/RBR	Evie W
Y5/1	Peter K
Y5/2	Grace H
Y6/FBL	Ella B
Y6/FBR	Lucy M

Weekly Maths Challenge 1

Dancer and Prancer flew in with Santa and his elves to visit today. They left the North Pole at 6:17am. Their journey took 3 hours and 28 minutes. What time did they arrive?

Weekly Maths Challenge 2

Today, the kitchen served 236 Christmas dinners. A quarter of the children had Christmas pudding. How many children had ice cream instead?

Phonics in School

Below are the phonemes (sounds) the children have been learning about this week.

Year Group	Phonemes (Sounds)	Example words
Rec	CVC words (consonant, vowel, consonant)	pet, tip, hiss, full
Year 1	Polysyllabic words	pondweed, brighter, shelter, starfish
Year 2	Add 'ing' and 'ed' to words ending in 'y'	studying, studied hurry, hurried

Parent Notices

- **Non-uniform**—A reminder that EYFS and KS1 are invited to wear Christmassy non-uniform on Wednesday 14th December. KS2 are invited to wear non-uniform on Monday 12th and Thursday 15th December.
- **PE Kit**—Our school PE kit consists of a red polo, black hoody, black joggers/shorts and trainers. No large logos, colours, patterns or stripes are acceptable. Please ensure your child removes their earrings before coming to school on their PE day. Thank you.
- **Alice Charity Donations**—If you are able to donate any items for children from babies through to teens, it would be greatly appreciated. **All items must be brand new.** Donated items must be brought into school by Monday 12th December. Thank you.

Staff News!

- We would like to say a huge congratulations to Miss Ridgway on the birth of her son Elijah and to Mrs Gater on the birth of her daughter Opal. Both families are doing well.
- A warm welcome back goes to Mrs Mitchell who has returned to our Nursery following her maternity leave. It's lovely to have you back.
- Huge congratulations go to Mrs Hopkinson and Mrs Martin who have recently celebrated their 25th year here at Sandford Hill Primary School. Thanks go to them both for their continued hard work and commitment throughout the

Congratulations and Well Done

- Congratulations to **Quinn-Rose B** who has used the new gymnastic skills she has learnt when taking part in a Christmas display. Brilliant Quinn!
- Well done to **Nina B** who has recently won a local competition to design a Christmas card. Well done Nina, we're all very proud of you.
- Congratulations to **Harry E** for being awarded this amazing medal for being the best goalkeeper at training. Fantastic Harry!



Call Elf 'n' Safety!

Eric the Elf has created more mischief again this week. Y3 came in to their classroom upside down! Don't forget to check our blog to see what Eric has been up to this week.



Headteacher's Star Award

Congratulations to these children who received this week's Head Teacher's Star Award for Hard Work.

N	Elena-Grace M-P
R1	Arthur R
R2	Charlie D
Y1/G3	Joseph C
Y1/G4	Ayo K
Y2/G1	Noah M
Y2/G2	Stanley W-L
Y3/F3	Scarlett W
Y3/F4	Woody E
Y4/RBL	Levi K
Y4/RBR	Hollie-Anne D
Y5/1	Ravyn M
Y5/2	Poppy T
Y6/FBL	Charlie B
Y6/FBR	Jamie O

Dates for the Diary

Mon 12th December

Y2/G2 Christmas Assembly 9:00 a.m.
KS2 Christmas Dinner (KS2 non-uniform)

Tues 13th December

Y2/G1 Christmas Assembly 9:00 a.m.
Y6/FBR Care Home Singing p.m.
Chat 'n' Wrap 1:00pm

Wed 14th December

Y3/F4 Christmas Assembly 9:00pm
EYFS and KS1 Christmas Party (EYFS & KS1 non-uniform)

Thurs 15th December

Y6/FBL Christmas Assembly 9:00am
KS2 Christmas Party (KS2 non-uniform)

Fri 16th December

Y6/FBR Christmas Assembly 9:00am
Last Day of Term

Tuesday 3rd January

Spring Term begins

Tuesday 31st January

Y3/F4 trip to Gladstone Pottery Museum

Wednesday 1st February

Y3/F3 trip to Gladstone Pottery Museum

School Attendance Target is 96%

This weeks attendance is 92.6% which is below our school target.

N1	98.6%	Y3/F3	94.3%
N2	92.3%	Y3/F4	94.3%
N3	90.6%	Y4/RBL	89.7%
R1	91.7%	Y4/RBR	97.0%
R2	94.7%	Y5/F1	92.4%
Y1/G3	94.3%	Y5/F2	94.5%
Y1/G4	89.0%	Y6/FBL	93.3%
Y2/G1	91.3%	Y6/FBR	83.7%
Y2/G2	94.6%		

Everyday counts

Attend Today

Achieve Tomorrow

Dinner Menu—Week commencing 12th December 2022

All meals are served with a dessert and drink (vegetarian options available). An alternative option of jacket potatoes and sandwiches are available.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
KS1 Christmas Dinner EYFS & KS1 Sandwiches	Pizza, Potatoes, Sweetcorn/Beans	Chicken Korma or Cheese Whirl	Tomato Basil Pasta or Roast Pork Dinner	Fish Chips and Peas

Scarlet Fever and Strep A Advice for Parents

Scarlet fever

Scarlet fever (sometimes called scarlatina) is an infectious disease caused by bacteria called *Streptococcus pyogenes*, or group A streptococcus (GAS). The same bacteria can also cause impetigo.

Scarlet fever is characterised by a rash, which usually accompanies a sore throat. Bacteria that cause the infection produce toxins (poisons), which cause the rash, a red and swollen tongue and flushed cheeks. The scarlet fever rash can be confused with measles.

Scarlet fever is mainly a childhood disease and is most commonly seen between the ages of 2 and 8 years. Although historically considered a dangerous disease, it is now much less serious. Since 2014, a rise in numbers of cases has been seen with 15,000 to 30,000 cases currently diagnosed each year in England.

Scarlet fever is highly contagious and is spread by close contact with someone carrying the bacteria. It takes around 2 to 5 days to develop symptoms after exposure to these bacteria.

If you think you or your child has scarlet fever, you should consult your GP.

The disease tends to be most common in the winter and spring and the treatment consists of a course of antibiotics.

Protection from scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is spread via the mucus and saliva of infected people. It can also be caught from sharing drinking glasses, plates or utensils they have used. To protect yourself from getting the illness you should:

- wash your hands often

- not share eating utensils with an infected person

- wash, or dispose of, handkerchiefs and tissues contaminated by an infected person

- be aware that you can catch scarlet fever by inhaling contaminated airborne droplets, if someone with the illness coughs or sneezes in the air near you.

If you think you, or your child, have scarlet fever:

- see your GP or contact NHS 111 as soon as possible

- make sure that you/your child take(s) the full course of any antibiotics prescribed. Although you or your child will feel better soon after starting the course of antibiotics, you must complete the course to ensure that you do not carry the bacteria in your throat after you have recovered

- stay at home, away from nursery, school or work for at least 24 hours after starting the antibiotic treatment, to avoid spreading the infection

You can help stop the spread of infection through frequent hand washing and by not sharing eating utensils, clothes, bedding and towels. All contaminated tissues or handkerchiefs should be washed or disposed of immediately.

Symptoms

Scarlet fever symptoms:

- the first symptoms of scarlet fever often include a sore throat, headache, fever, nausea and vomiting.

- after 12 to 48 hours the characteristic fine red rash develops (if you touch it, it feels like sandpaper). Typically, it first appears on the chest and stomach, rapidly spreading to other parts of the body. On more darkly-pigmented skin, the rash may be harder to spot, although the 'sandpaper' feel should be present

- fever over 38.3° C (101° F) or higher is common

- white coating on the tongue, which peels a few days later, leaving the tongue looking red and swollen (known as 'strawberry tongue')

- swollen glands in the neck

- feeling tired and unwell

- flushed red face, but pale around the mouth. The flushed face may appear more 'sunburnt' on darker skin

- peeling skin on the fingertips, toes and groin area, as the rash fades.

It usually takes 2 to 5 days from infection before the first symptoms appear. However, the incubation period may be as short as 1 day and as long as 7 days.

Scarlet fever usually clears up after a week, but it is advisable to visit your GP to get a full diagnosis and proper treatment.

Getting scarlet fever

Scarlet fever is highly contagious. Bacteria are present in the mouth, throat or nose of an infected person, or someone carrying the bacteria without symptoms, and are spread by contact with that person's mucus or saliva. This might be on cups, plates, pens, toys or surfaces, such as tables which might have been used or touched by someone carrying the bacteria. You can also catch the disease by breathing infected airborne droplets produced by a person's coughing, sneezing or normal breathing.

Individuals at risk

Scarlet fever is mainly a childhood disease, with around 90% of cases occurring in children under 10 years old. It is most common in children between the ages of 2 and 8 years, with 4-year-olds most likely to develop the illness. Occasionally, outbreaks of scarlet fever occur in nurseries and schools. People of all ages can catch scarlet fever, but the disease is much less common in adults.

Diagnosis and treatment

- Most cases of scarlet fever will clear up on their own, but it is still best to see your GP if you, or your child, are showing symptoms. Having treatment for the illness speeds recovery and reduces risk of complications. You will also become non-contagious more quickly.
- In most cases, doctors can diagnose scarlet fever from the symptoms alone. The diagnosis can be confirmed by taking a throat swab, which is then sent to a laboratory to identify the bacteria causing the infection. In some cases, a throat swab is not enough and a blood test may be needed.
- The usual treatment for scarlet fever is a 10-day course of antibiotics. The fever will usually subside within 24 hours of starting this, but it is important to take the whole course to completely clear these bacteria from your throat and protect others from becoming infected.
- If scarlet fever is not treated with antibiotics, it can be infectious for 2-3 weeks after symptoms appear. Provided all prescribed antibiotics are taken as directed, most cases will not infect other people after 24 hours of treatment. Current guidance advises that children should not return to nursery or school and adults to work until a minimum of 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment.
- If you have a high temperature you should drink plenty of fluids. You can also take paracetamol or ibuprofen to relieve discomfort.
- Once you have had scarlet fever you are less likely to get it again.

Potential complications

Most cases of scarlet fever have no complications at all. However, in the early stages, there is a small risk that you might develop one of the following infections caused by the same bacteria (GAS) responsible for scarlet fever:

- ear infection, throat abscess, pneumonia, inflammation of the sinuses (sinusitis), skin/soft tissue infection (cellulitis), joint inflammation (arthritis), septicemia, meningitis

Household contacts of scarlet fever patients are also at risk of developing scarlet fever or other infections caused by the same bacteria (see list above) and should seek medical advice if they develop new symptoms of concern.

On rare occasions, patients with scarlet fever can at a later stage of the disease develop:

- bone or joint problems, liver damage, kidney damage, heart damage

Patients, or their parents, should keep an eye out for any symptoms which might suggest these complications in the first few weeks after the main infection has cleared up and, if concerned, seek medical help immediately.

Further information

If you would like more information about scarlet fever, please visit the NHS.uk website: www.nhs.uk/conditions/Scarlet-fever/Pages/Introduction.aspx.

If you have any concerns about your health, see your GP or contact NHS 111.