



Sandford Hill Primary School Newsletter



Issue 24 - Friday 17th March 2023

Co-Headteacher

I can hardly believe how quickly time has passed. I am sure the saying that 'time passes quickly when you are enjoying yourself' is perfectly true. Indeed, there have been countless, wonderful and happy experiences in those years, since I first joined Sandford Hill Primary School in September 1993 as a newly qualified teacher. This September, I will begin my 30th year as a member of staff at the school and I feel extremely privileged to have had such a long association with Sandford Hill. During my career here, I have, through my hard work, played a small part as a member of a fabulous team, (firstly led by Mr Colin Smith and latterly Miss Janet Warner), who have helped make our school what it is today – a thoughtful, respectful and caring community where the children are very much the centre of all of our thoughts. However from the start of the new academic year, as was shared in the ParentMail message sent out yesterday, my role is changing. From September 2023, I will work alongside a co-headteacher with whom I will share the role of the head of the school. This person is yet to be appointed. Although, for family reasons, I am reducing the number of days I will be in school to 3 days a week, I want to reassure you that I remain committed and ambitious to achieve the very best outcomes for all of the children who attend Sandford Hill Primary School.

Sad news

It is with deep sorrow that I have, in the past few days, heard about the sad passing of two fabulous, former Sandford Hill colleagues, Maureen Bentley (Arrowsmith) and Bob Brown. Maureen and Bob made a fantastic contribution to the life of the school and will be greatly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing them.

Teacher Strikes—NEU Industrial Action

This week has once again been affected by industrial action. I would like to thank you for your understanding during the strike days. I appreciate the disruption this may have caused but also understand the reasons why so many of our staff decided to make the very difficult decision to take industrial action. As shared in the Governors letter this week, school budgets are stretched and so the teachers have reluctantly taken action for fully funded pay increases and for better funding for school budgets overall.

Staff absence

I am pleased to report that Mrs Allen, our inclusion leader, is now on the mend following her recent hip replacement surgery. However, it will be a number of weeks before Mrs Allen is able to return to work. Mrs Allen will be greatly missed during her absence and I wish her a speedy recovery.

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

N	Sapphire F
R1	Henry D
R2	Blayke D
Y1/G3	Grace M
Y1/G4	Edie C
Y2/G1	Reggie J
Y2/G2	Keegan A
Y3/F3	Henry R
Y3/F4	Mia G
Y4/RBL	Samuel T
Y4/RBR	Roman A
Y5/1	Harrison D
Y5/2	Molly B
Y6/FBL	Alfie G
Y6/FBR	Sienna-Mae H-J

Weekly Maths Challenge 1

This week, Nursery and Reception went to the National Forest Adventure farm. The children left at 9:15a.m. and arrived back at school at 3:00pm. How many minutes were they at the farm for?

Weekly Maths Challenge 2

There are 450 pupils in school. 80% of the parents in school have made an appointment. What percentage of parents have not yet made an appointment?

Phonics in School

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

Year	Phonemes (Sounds)	Example words
Nursery	The children have been learning the nursery rhyme Old Macdonald had a farm, to fit in with our visit to the National Adventure Farm.	
Reception	oa	goat, toad, coat, oak, soap, road
Year 1	Vowel Sounds: long 'a', short 'a', long 'u', short 'u'	acorn, paper stand, unicorn, uniform, thud
Year 2	'al' saying 'or'	walk, call, small

Parent Notices

- **Bake-Off**—This year's theme is 'Small but Mighty' (cupcakes, cake-pops, cake slices etc). **Y3/4 pupils** are invited to take part in our 'Bake-Off' competition on Monday 20th March and **Y5/6 pupils** are invited to take part on Tuesday 21st March. Cakes will be sold from Y1—Y4 on Monday and N, R Y5 & Y6 on Tuesday. If your child would like to buy a cake, please send them to school with change (no more than 50p) on their allocated day.
- **Eggs-ellent Design**—This year, the School Council will be holding their Design an Egg competition again. Egg design sheets have been sent home tonight and all entries must be returned to the class teacher by Monday 27th March.
- **Bonnet and Egg Parade**—Each year, pupils are invited to decorate a bonnet or egg for our Easter parade. If your child would like to take part, they need to bring in their decorated Easter Bonnet or Egg on Wednesday 29th March. Everyone who participates will receive a certificate and small prize. Judges are always impressed by child spun creativity. Remember - it doesn't need to be perfect!

• **2023 Coin Challenge** This year, we will be collecting small change as part of our coin fundraising challenge. Each class is challenged to **collectively** raise £20.23. If a class completes the challenge, each child will receive a certificate and small prize.

Parking Request

If you are coming to open evening next week, please be respectful of our neighbours and park away from school. Please do not block any resident driveways. Thank you.

Birthdays

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

- Bella H-T
- Myla H
- Erin L
- Ollie S
- Tommy C
- Adrian D-K
- Maisie S
- Sunny M



Swimming Success!

Congratulations to the following children who have achieved the following swimming awards:

Length— Bellamy M, Layla M, Jack H, Jaxon H, Nina B, Scarlett W, Alfie H and Oliver C.



Dates for the Diary

Monday 20th March

Y3/4 Easter Bake Off
Open Evening 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday 21st March

Y5/6 Easter Bake Off
Y4/RBR Recorder Festival 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday 22nd March

Y4/RBL Recorder Festival 12:30 p.m.
Open Evening 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday 29th March

Easter Bonnet and Egg Parade

Thursday 30th March

Y2 visit to The Potteries Museum
Governors Meeting 6:00 p.m.

Friday 31st March

Last Day of Spring Term

Monday 3rd to Friday 14th April—Easter Holiday

Tuesday 18th April

Y3 trip to Dewa Centre

Monday 1st May

May Day Bank Holiday—School Closed

Thursday 4th May

Local Elections—School Closed to Children

Monday 8th May

Bank Holiday for King Charles III's Coronation

Headteacher's Star Award

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

N	Reggie B
R1	Kingsley D
R2	Clayton L
Y1/G3	Ethan D
Y1/G4	Jack S-G
Y2/G1	Charlie A
Y2/G2	Layla C
Y3/F3	Bellamy M
Y3/F4	Poppy T
Y4/RBL	Anna T
Y4/RBR	Theo C
Y5/1	Sophie L
Y5/2	Sebastian H
Y6/FBL	Leila H
Y6/FBR	Evelyn L

Dinner Menu—Week Commencing 20th March 2023

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
Sausage and Mash	Pasta Bolognese or Pizza	BBQ Pork Loin or Fishcake	Roast Turkey Dinner or Cheese Lattice	Fish Fingers

Parent Notices

- **Open Evening**—A reminder that open evenings are on Monday 20th and Wednesday 22nd March 2023. Each evening will run from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. and there will be a creche available in the school hall.
- **Clubs**—Clubs have now finished for the Spring Term. New club forms will be sent out on Monday and club letters will be sent home on Thursday 30th March. If your child would like to attend clubs in the Summer Term, please ensure that you respond to the ParentMail form no later than Monday 27th March.
- **Milk**—Milk for the Summer Term will be available to purchase on Monday via ParentMail. Those who are entitled to Free Meals will no longer receive Free School Milk. All orders must be purchased via ParentMail by Wednesday 29th March.

Attendance League—Week Ending 17th March 2023

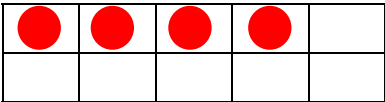
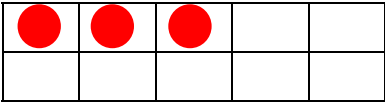
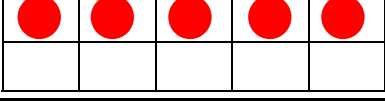
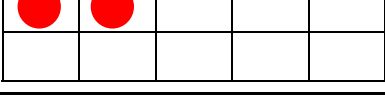
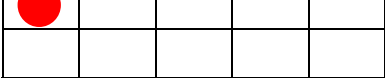
Class	Played	Won	Drawn	Points
Y6/FBR—Mrs Bullock	7	5	1	16
Y2/G1—Miss Gregory	7	5	0	15
Y2/G2—Mrs Smith/Mrs Drakeford	7	4	1	13
Y6/FBL—Mr Jones	7	4	0	12
Y5/F1—Mr Frost	7	4	0	12
Y4/RBR—Mr Alcock	7	3	0	9
Y3/F3—Miss Jones	7	3	0	9
Y4/RBL—Mrs Carney/Miss Gerrard	7	3	0	9
Y1/G3—Miss Humphries	7	3	0	9
Y5/F2—Mrs Hassall	7	2	1	7
Y3/F4—Mrs Frost	7	2	0	6
Y1/G4—Mrs Johnson	7	1	1	4

Week 7 fixtures (13.03.23 – 17.03.23)

Y1/G3 97.8% v Y3/F3 97.3%
 Y2/G2 100% v Y5/F2 100%
 Y1/G4 95.7% v Y3/F4 96.8%
 Y2/G1 94.0% v Y5/F1 97.8%
 Y4/RBL 91.8% v Y6/FBR 94.6%
 Y6/FBL 92.2% v Y4/RBR 95.1%

Week 8 fixtures (20.03.23 – 24.03.23)

Y1/G3 v Y5/F1
 Y2/G2 v Y3/F4
 Y2/G1 v Y4/RBR
 Y6/FBL v Y5/F2
 Y1/G4 v Y6/FBR
 Y4/RBL v Y3/F3

Class	Percentage Attendance	Points This Week	Running Total
R1—Miss Hodgson	96.9%		13
R2—Mrs Davenport	93.5%		12
N3—Mrs Schifano/Mrs Mitchell	100%		9
N1—Mrs Morton	91.7%		6
N2—Mrs Salt	90.2%		5