



# Sandhills Newsletter

## *Letter from the Headteacher*

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends

The weather was absolutely amazing for the summer fete last Saturday! It was great to see so many of you there soaking up the atmosphere and enjoying the heatwave! The PTA put many hours of hard work into planning what turned out to be a wonderful event. The profit made from the fete was an impressive £1,600, which is significantly more than last year and will go a long way to purchasing books for our library. A huge thank you to everyone who gave up their time and energy both on the day, and in the weeks running up to the fete.

The PTA have barely had time to recover from the heat and nurse their sore feet, and they are planning the next fundraising events! The small team of dedicated parents do a wonderful job raising money and providing opportunities and experiences for your children, for which I am hugely grateful, but they are always on the lookout for the next willing volunteer! If you would like to get involved, don't wait to be asked, tell a member of staff and we will put you in touch with one of the committee members.

As we are approaching the end of the academic year, it is vital that we receive any outstanding payments for items such as After School Club, Breakfast Club, school trips and school meals. Please ensure payment is sent in to school by Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July at the latest, so that it can be processed and banked before the end of term.

I am currently reviewing safety on the school site and politely request that all cyclists dismount before coming on to the school site as there have been a number of near misses. In the interests of the safety of our children I also request that parents do not drive on to the school site and use the drop off bay provided. There have been a number of vehicles that have reversed out of the car park which is a potential risk to the safety of our children.

I would like to extend a huge thank you to the families who have contributed money so generously to our library fund. Our author in residence – Cas Lester – will be in school later this term to help us select a range of books so that there is something for everyone. I will keep you informed of progress.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J. Settle

Headteacher



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## ***This Week's Attendance***

Congratulations to **Acer and Cedar** classes for achieving 99% attendance this week. We just can't seem to get to that 100% mark. It just takes half a day off school to lose sight of that 100% goal!

Acer	97.59%	Oak	97.00%
Ash	92.07%	Pine	91.56%
Beech	95.86%	Sycamore	96.32%
Cedar	99.03%	Walnut	96.00%
Maple	91.67%	Willow	97.33%
Mulberry	95.19%		

Sandhill's target is to keep all classes **above 96.5%**.

Please ensure your child arrives at school by 8:45am and attends every day. Good attendance and punctuality are an essential element to your child doing well at school.

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## ***Superstar Learners of the Week***

The award is given to those children who are making a wonderful effort either with work or their attitude to learning.

Ethan C.J. Jamie-Lee W. Chantal L. Mahleik S. Naomi C. Gracie B. Max B.  
May E. Lola T. Veronika F. Libby H.



Well done to everyone today, we are very proud of you.

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## ***Our Amazing School Choir!***

Our School Choir have been really busy over the last 2 weeks. Many of you would have heard them singing at the Risinghurst and Sandhills Community Fete on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> June and again at our own School Fete last Saturday.

On Monday this week, 24 members of the Choir went to Dorchester Abbey to take part in The Festival of Voices, an annual event now in its 34<sup>th</sup> year. The Festival takes place over 5 nights and we were part of the opening night along with choirs from 7 other schools in Oxfordshire. We arrived at the Abbey at about 2.45pm and joined the other choirs on the stage for a 2½ hour rehearsal with Peter Hunt, our conductor for the evening. He worked with all the choirs to make sure that the singing would be brilliant in the evening. Luckily, inside the Abbey was much cooler than outside the Abbey! The photograph shows the children at the rehearsal. Afterwards we went outside to the Abbey grounds and sat in the shade for our picnic teas and were joined by some of our families.

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At 6.30pm all the parents were seated and the concert started. The children really enjoyed singing the songs and, despite the warmth of the day, sang their hearts out. All the practice we had done at school and during the afternoon really paid off and the sound was amazing – and no doubt brought a tear to a few parents' eyes.

Thank you to Gracie and Tom's mums for coming with us and to all the children who took part on Monday. Their commitment to Choir and the extra rehearsals we had for this special event was incredible and I am so proud of them.

Mrs Marr



### **Mr Taylor's Technology Spot**

I read an interesting article recently about tips for parents in a digital age. One of their ideas was that families who play together, learn together. Whilst their wording sounds slightly cheesy, joining in with your children on a video game can be really fun and a good way to demonstrate good sportsmanship and gaming etiquette.

### **Eco Warrior's Top Tip**

Don't forget to put your grass cuttings onto your compost, rather than in your green bin!

### **VACANCY**

We are looking for a Kidz Club – After School - Play Worker to join our team in September. If you enjoy providing high quality, creative play and care for the children, preparing and serving snacks, and communicating with parents and carers, this could be just the job for you!

Please speak to Anna in the office. Interviews will take place before the end of term.



## KEY DATES FOR TERM 6

Date	Event
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> July	Transition Day <i>Children spend the morning with their new class teacher for next year</i>
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July – 2pm	KS1 Summer performance
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Disco – To be confirmed
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> July – 1.30pm and 6.00pm	Summer Concert
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July - am	Sports Day
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July - am	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 9.20am	Y6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2.00pm	End of School Year