



Sandhills Newsletter

Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends

It is hard to believe that we are in the last term of the academic year already! It is an action packed final few weeks which includes sports day, concerts, musical events, a Year 6 visit to IMPS, and much, much more. So please make sure you have all the key dates in your diaries.

It is usual at this time of year to say good-bye to teachers who will begin the next phase in their careers at new schools. At the end of this term we will be saying farewell to Mrs Pearce, Mr Doman and Mrs Ahmad. On behalf of all the staff, I would like to wish them the very best of luck in their new schools, you will all be missed.

As teachers move on, we welcome new staff into the Sandhills family. I am pleased to announce that Miss Slade, a teacher from Madley Brook School in Abingdon, will join us in September. She will visit on our transition day in July, when we will introduce her to her new class. More information about the transition day and classes will be available soon.

This week, the children met Cas Lester, our author in residence. She told us about her career with CBBC and how she became a children's author and shared some very funny passages from her books. We learned about Nixie, a funny little fairy with attitude, how astronauts go to the toilet in space and how Wilfred the unwise gets up to all sorts of trouble when his spells go wrong!

Cas also explained how she is very excited about working with Sandhills to create a library. A letter was sent out earlier in the week asking for donations of books that you don't need any more. **WE WANT ALL KINDS OF BOOKS!** Annuals, fact books, puzzle books, joke books, novels, picture books, fun fact books, graphic novels, poems – and comics! We'll either put them in the library, or sell them at the school fete to raise money for new books.

We would also be very grateful if you could donate some money for new books. Anything from £1 to £10 per family would be brilliant. Every family who donates will get a book named after them on our special 'Virtual Book Shelf' - displayed permanently in the library.

I would like to thank everyone who has sent in books already – keep them coming! And a big thank you to those families who have already made a donation. Please look out for your name on our Virtual Book Shelf when we have our grand opening.



The summer fête is only a week away and there are still some final preparations to be done. The PTA would love to have some more helpers, so if you can spare some time either on the day of the fete, Saturday 17th June or beforehand, please contact a member of the PTA or Anna in the school office. Contributions for stalls are still urgently needed, so please send what you have to the school office. Everything is very gratefully received. Cas, our author in residence, will be at the school fete, so please look out for her– she will of course be on the book stall!

And finally, National Book Tokens are offering a prize of £5,000 for a school – enough to buy hundreds of new books for our library! All you have to do is go on the nationalbooktoken.com website and nominate Sandhills Community Primary School to win!! Our library would be transformed with £5,000 worth of books, so please tell everyone you know to nominate us. You never know, we could be the winning school!

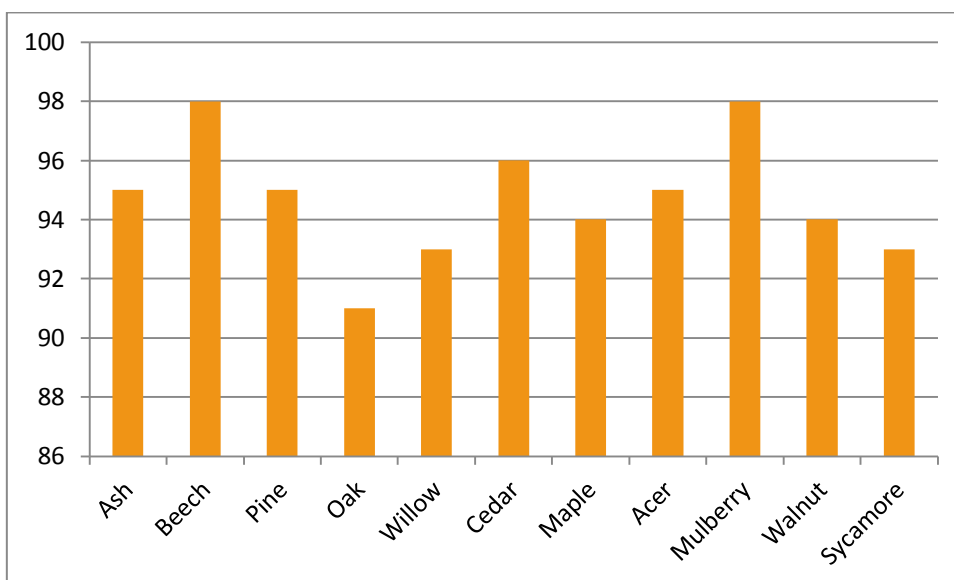
Yours sincerely

Mrs J. Settle

Headteacher

This Week's Attendance

Congratulations to **Beech and Mulberry** classes for achieving 98% 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!



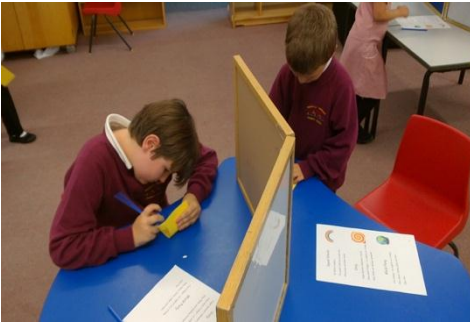
Sandhill's target is to keep all classes **above 96.5%**. Please support your children to attend school every-day.



Sandhills School Election

We have had election fever in school this week! The three parties (Squad Schools, Unity and the World Party) have been campaigning for votes all week and participated in a husting in front of the school on Tuesday. All children involved articulated their policies clearly and defended them well after questions from across the school.

All children in school then participated fully in the British value of democracy, voting on Thursday for their favourite party. With a much higher turnout than the general election, Unity were the winning party with 59% of the vote. We'll see what the party are able to achieve!



Congratulations to all the children involved in planning and participating in the parties' campaigns, the poll clerks who assisted with the voting, and all children for engaging in the democratic process.

Mr Taylor

Mr Taylor's Technology Spot

This week has been Eco-week in school and the children have been learning all about the environment and how to look after it. On that note, the WWF have a fun website for children with fact files and stories about different animals, as well a range of different printable activities and games: <http://gowild.wwf.org.uk/>.

Eco Warrior's Top Tip

Save electricity!

Never charge your phone at night, always charge it during the day!

Remember to unplug your phone when it is fully charged.



KEY DATES FOR TERM 6

Date	Event
Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check week
Tuesday 13 th June/Wed 14 th June	Y6 IMPS trip
Tuesday 13 th June	Foundation trip to Farmer Gows
Saturday 17 th June 12-3pm	School Fete
Friday 7 th July – 2pm	KS1 Summer performance
Tuesday 11 th July – 1.30pm and 6.00pm	Summer Concert
Thursday 13 th July - am	Sports Day
Friday 14 th July - am	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 21 st July 9.20am	Y6 Leavers Assembly
	End of School Year



Earlier this week, a School Term Dates calendar for 2017-18 was put in children's book-bags. Please note there is a slight change from the version sent out in error on Wednesday - term 6 finishes on Wednesday 25th July and not Tuesday 24th July. A new calendar will be put in book bags today.