



Sandhills Newsletter

Letter from the Headteacher

Dear Parents, Carers, Families and Friends

Sports' Day was absolutely fantastic last week! The weather was perfect for the event and the children showed great support for each other and sportsmanship. A sea of red T-shirts could be seen on the field as the red team were victorious and completed the customary lap of honor. Many thanks to the PTA who provided tea and coffee throughout the morning, which was very much



appreciated by the staff too!

Remaining with a sporting theme, well done to all the children who represented Sandhills School at the Area Sports event on Friday night. The children came third overall, which was a fantastic achievement – well done everyone! A huge thank you to all the staff who gave up their time to take the children and cheer them on.

The final week of a school year is a time to celebrate the achievements from the year, and say good bye to families and sometime colleagues as well. Sadly, at the end of the week, we must say good - bye to Mrs Ahmad, Mrs Pearce and Mr Doman. They have all been part of the Sandhills family for a number of years and will be very much missed. We wish them the very best of luck as they begin their next ventures and hope they will come and visit us. There are memories written by some of the staff later in this newsletter.

Friday's assembly will be a time of reflection as we say good-bye to children and families who have been associated with Sandhills School, some for many years. I'm sure that there will be excitement at new opportunities and perhaps even moments of sadness at a special time coming to an end. For all our leavers, I hope that one day you will look back on your time at Sandhills and feel a sense that



good foundations were laid for the person you have become. It is sometimes only when we look back that we appreciate how we were inspired to learn and face new challenges, which enabled us to achieve our very best. I hope that the children at Sandhills will one day reflect on their time with us and feel they have been encouraged to develop a sense of integrity to make the right choices, as well as do long division!

Before I finish, I would like to thank everyone for making the Sandhills family the very special place that it is: my colleagues, who work tirelessly to provide the very best education for your children; the Governors, under Saskia Jamieson's guidance, who play a pivotal role in the development of our school; the PTA, who fundraise tirelessly to provide additional resources and exciting opportunities for your children; the many volunteers who listen to children read and help with trips, and of course the children themselves, who are a credit to you, their teachers and our school.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a happy and restful summer break and I look forward to another exciting year in September, when we do it all over again!

Wish very best wishes



Mrs J. Settle
Headteacher

A fond farewell

Mrs Ahmad

We are very sorry to be saying goodbye to Mrs Ahmad this term. Mrs Ahmad has worked at Sandhills for over ten years and made a very significant contribution to the school in that time. She has taught children in Foundation Stage, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two both as a full time member of staff and then returning to a substantial part-time role after having her children. She has always been a huge enthusiast for PE and sport in the school and created many opportunities for children in one of her roles as PE Coordinator. She even led by example by completing the Brighton Marathon in 2016! Mrs Ahmad was also Key Stage Two Coordinator for a number of years and we are very grateful for everything she has brought to our school in all these different roles. We will all miss Mrs Ahmad hugely and wish her all the very best in her new role at Larkrise Primary School in September. Mrs Clark

Mrs Pearce



Mrs Pearce has been a valued member of our Sandhills family. It has been a pleasure to work alongside her. Mrs Pearce embraces any opportunity to help out at school, whether a staff event, PTA disco or the many buddy events we have had over the last few years. Mrs Pearce has also worked hard to inspire the next generation of netball players with her many clubs! Her calm and caring nature supports the children that she works with to do their best and she will be greatly missed. We wish Mrs Pearce the very best at her next school. Miss Chappell0..

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Mr Doman

We are also sad to be saying good bye this week to Mr Doman, who has been a teacher at Sandhills for 3 years. During this time, he has taught children in Year 5 and 6 and has been involved in supporting children through after school booster classes for SATs. He has worked with all school staff supporting the development of their skills as teachers and TAs, introducing new initiatives and techniques to ensure the involvement of reluctant learners and developing a growth mindset. He has also worked with our Newly Qualified Teachers ensuring that their first year of teaching is a success. Mr Doman has decided to leave to teach in a school in Didcot to be closer to his daughter who is about to start at school. We will miss his sense of humour and fun and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.
Mrs Newman

Last Week's Attendance

Well done to Cedar, Mulberry, Oak, Walnut and Willow for achieving above our school target last week.

Acer	94.48%	Oak	97.33%
Ash	88.97%	Pine	87.81%
Beech	94.48%	Sycamore	95.26%
Cedar	97.74%	Walnut	96.80%
Maple	90.94%	Willow	98.00%
Mulberry	96.67%		

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.

Superstar Learners from last Week

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





Ruben H. William G. Amy N. Jacob H. Hazel F. Roxy T. Andrew M. Benjamin L. George B. Tallulah T. Lily-Rose W. Ella W. Rhys G.

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

Bicycles

If you bring your bicycle to school, please make sure that you remember to take it home on Friday.

Area Sports

I am overwhelmed at the fantastic team performance from our year 4, 5 and 6 athletes. They blasted their way to 3rd and I was almost overcome at the spirit, talent, teamwork, enthusiasm, determination and total enjoyment displayed by all our athletes. Many medals, many champions, but every one of them was a winner. I have never seen such a brilliant display from our school at Area Sports. Thank you so much to the athletes, the incredibly supportive parents and the staff who came along and made it a wonderful night. I am still buzzing!!! Thank you all of you!! Mr Cobb

School Uniform

The staff and Governors believe that a school uniform fosters a sense of pride in our school, and we encourage all our children to take responsibility for their appearance. Updated guidelines on the school uniform can be found on our school website, using the following link:

ParentMail

We are pleased to announce that we will be using ParentMail from the autumn term. ParentMail offers a range of services which will be available online or via a new school APP, such as ordering and paying for children's school lunches, as well as payment for school trips, Kidz Breakfast Club and Kidz After School Club. Parents will also be able to book their parent evening appointments using ParentMail.

We will let you know further information in the autumn term. Parents will be sent a link just before we go live on the new system inviting them to register. Mrs Jones – School Business Manager

Mr Taylor's Technology Spot

Snapchat recently added a new feature called Snap Map, which has raised a number of concerns over user privacy and safety. The feature allows users to share their location with their friends on the app. As some children use Snapchat, it is worth being aware of this and the privacy concerns that it raises.



Your location can be hidden from everyone using Ghost Mode, so if your child uses the app, you might want to check if this is turned on. There is a short article with more details here: <https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/scotter-primary-school/UploadedDocument/c36042d6f10b48b6a0374a1c551e4201/what-is-snap-map.pdf>.

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 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
Friday 21 st July 9.20am	Y6 Leavers Assembly
Friday 21 st July 2.00pm	End of School Year
Wednesday 6 th September	Start of new school year

Letter from the Unity Party

Dear Parents

As you may know, we had an election at Sandhills a few weeks ago. The winners were the Unity Party. Our main policy was to allow fidget spinners in school. We have written a letter to the staff to try and convince them that this was a good idea. First, they had their doubts but they understood there was strong backing from the Sandhills pupils. As a result, fidget spinners are allowed in school for a trial period under the following rules:

- 1. Fidget spinners are only allowed at break and lunch times*
- 2. Fidget spinners have to be in book bags during lesson time*
- 3. Only one fidget spinner per child*
- 4. No swapping or trading spinners*
- 5. The school takes no responsibility for lost or damaged fidget spinners*

If these rules are broken, the ban will be put back in place. This starts tomorrow.



By Tom, Emily and Orchid.

