



# Sandhills Newsletter

Autumn Term No 2

11<sup>th</sup> September 2017

## Attendance

The governors and staff, alongside the local authority, firmly believe that all pupils benefit from regular attendance. We want all pupils to achieve the very best they can and for this they need to be in school regularly.

At the end of last year, the annual attendance at Sandhills School was well below the national average. In light of this, we will do all we can to encourage and support parents and carers to ensure that the children in their care achieve maximum possible attendance.

Here is some information about last year's analysis of attendance:

- 2,552 school days were lost due to absence
- The average number of days lost per pupil was 8.2 days
- The best attendance for the year was in year 4

Please ensure that your child is in school by 8:45am, when the bell goes. Any child arriving after 8:45am, but before the register closes at 9:00am will be marked as present and coded late. Mr Pitt will close the gates by 9:00am. Children who arrive after 9:00am should go to the office, where parents and carers should sign the late register. Children will be marked as present, but unauthorised. This year, the teachers are registering children using an on-line system, so please make every effort to ensure that your child arrives on time.

If your child is unwell, please telephone the school office as early as possible and leave a message. If there has been no contact by 10:00am, the office will telephone the first named contact on your child's registration form. Please ensure all absences are followed up with a note or letter. These will be kept on file in the office.

We will give regular updates in the newsletter on progress towards improving the school's attendance. Teachers will provide the attendance record of each child at parent consultation meetings during the year and provide a Certification of Registration for the school academic year with each child's annual report.

Sandhills School target this year is to keep all classes **above 96.5%**.

## Non-Collection of children at the end of the school day

If you are unable to collect your child promptly at the end of the school day due to unforeseen circumstances, please notify the school office as soon as possible. If your child is not collected at the end of the day or after a club, the class teacher or TA will take them to Kidz After School Club in the community hall, and you may be charged for the full session. The class teacher will make every effort to contact you using information on your child's registration form.

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## Sharing Assembly on Fridays

Sharing assembly on a Friday will be at 2:20pm, when one class will show their work per week. This is to maximise the learning time in the morning, and allow classes more time to share the exciting things they have been learning in class. Certificates and Stars of the Week will remain part of this assembly. We do hope you will be able to join us.

The timetable for sharing assemblies up to Christmas is as follows:

Date	Class
15 <sup>th</sup> September	6H
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	2HL
29 <sup>th</sup> September	6G
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Whole School Black History Month assembly Earlier time of 2.00pm
13 <sup>th</sup> October	2S
20 <sup>th</sup> October	5S
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	1S
10 <sup>th</sup> November	4T
17 <sup>th</sup> November	Whole school Anti-Bullying assembly Earlier time of 2:00pm
24 <sup>th</sup> November	1H
1 <sup>st</sup> December	3N
8 <sup>th</sup> December	TBC

## Nuts

A peanut allergy is the second most common food allergy in children and this is increasing. It now occurs in 1 in 50 children. As we have several pupils in school who suffer from a severe nut allergy, please could I take this opportunity to remind everyone that our school has a 'No Nuts Policy'. Those pupils, if they come in contact with a nut product, can suffer life threatening consequences. It can easily be contracted from a simple handshake or touching of a pupil's table who may have had some nuts in their food.

Therefore, we ask that you do not provide any food product in your child's lunch box or snack in school or if they are out on a visit that contain nuts. Examples of these products are as follows:

- Fruit and cereal bars that contain nuts
- Cakes and biscuit that contain nuts
- Sesame seed rolls
- Nutella
- Peanut butter
- Muesli bars
- Nougat

This isn't a definitive list as there are many items with hidden nut and sesame ingredients but these are some of the very worst offenders.



On behalf of the children and families, thank you for helping to provide a safe environment for those children who may have a life threatening reaction.

## **Kidz Club**

The breakfast and after school clubs have been renamed Kidz Club. The cost for the clubs has remained the same for some time, but unfortunately, we are no longer able to provide a reduced price for siblings.

The Kidz after-School is now full every day except Friday. However, if you would like a place for your child, please let us know, as it may be possible to employ another play worker if there is sufficient interest.

## **After School Clubs**

All clubs start next week. Children will be brought to the main entrance promptly at the end of the club and should be collected from there.

For safeguarding reasons, the school office must be informed if for any reason your child is unable to attend a club session.

## **Mindfulness Colouring**

Miss Slade is holding a Mindfulness Colouring Club for Years 1 and 2 every Monday at 12:30pm in her classroom. The children will be colouring in a variety of images whilst listening to relaxing music to calm their minds. Please come along and join in!

## **Orchestra**

Orchestra with Mrs Lloyd will begin on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September, from 3:00 to 4:00pm in the hall. All children who have been playing an instrument for at least a year are welcome. The cost is £50 for 10 weeks up to Christmas, payable in advance. Thank you to those families who registered at the end of last term. I look forward to seeing you all there!

## **Art Club**

Geri will begin Art Club on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September, from 3:00 to 4:30pm in the hall. The cost for this club is £36 for a 6-week term, payable in advance. Please complete a separate registration form available in the school office.

## **Basketball**

Mr Cobb will be running a Basketball Club this term for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 beginning on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September. The club will finish at 4.00pm.

If your child would like to attend, please return the slip promptly, as numbers will be limited. Children will need PE kit, footwear for both inside and outside (when the weather is suitable) and a water bottle.



### **Ball Skills Club**

Mr Cobb will be running a Ball Skills Club this term for Years 1 and 2, beginning on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. The club will finish at 4.00pm.

If your child would like to attend, please return the slip promptly, as numbers will be limited. Children will need PE kit, appropriate footwear for in the hall and a water bottle.

### **Lego Club**

Mr Taylor will be running a Lego Club this term for KS2, beginning on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September. The club will start straight after school and finish at 4.00pm. If your child would like to attend, please return the slip below as soon as possible, as numbers will be limited. Children won't need to bring anything with them other than themselves!

### **Athletics Club**

Mr Cobb is running an Athletics club this term for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 beginning on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September. The club will finish at 4.00pm.

If your child would like to attend, please return the slip promptly, as numbers will be limited. Children will need PE kit, footwear for both inside and outside (when the weather is suitable) and a water bottle.

### **French**

French Club with Christine S. Jones begins again next Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September. Please collect a registration form from the office. The cost for the term is £58 (September to December) which is payable in advance.

## **KEY DATES FOR THE AUTUMN TERM**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> September</b> 4:00pm 4:45pm	<b>Parent Information Evening</b> Classes 1H and 1S (in class 1S) Classes 2S and 2HL (in class 2HL)
<b>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> September</b> 4:00pm 4:45pm 5:30pm	<b>Parent Information Evening</b> Classes 3N (in class 3N) Classes 4T and 5SE (in class 5E) Classes 6G and 6H (in class 6H)
<b>Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October</b>	<b>INSET – School closed for staff training</b>
<b>Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Parent Consultations</b>
<b>Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>Parent Consultations</b>
<b>Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	<b>HALF TERM</b>
<b>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>INSET – School closed for staff training</b>
<b>Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November</b>	<b>Whole school visit to Oxford Playhouse</b>
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> December – 2:00pm</b>	<b>End of term</b>



## Autumn Term Clubs List

Some clubs are run by outside coaches and will incur a charge. If your child stops attending the club, the full terms' fees are still payable. Please contact our School Business Manager, Mrs Jones via the School Office to discuss fees, if your child is eligible for Pupil Premium Funding. Clubs will be successful if all attendees join with commitment, enthusiasm and a positive attitude. Club leaders reserve the right to ask pupils to leave the clubs if behaviour is disruptive or inappropriate.

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

I would like my child to attend the follow club(s).

Day	Year groups	Club	Tick
Monday	Years 3-6	Orchestra - £50 (Sep to Dec)	
Tuesday	All	Art Club - £36 (6 weeks) <i>Please complete a registration form from the office</i>	
	Years 3-6	Basket Ball	
Wednesday	Years 1 & 2	Ball Skills	
	Years 3-6	Lego	
Thursday	Years 3-6	Athletics	
	All	French - £58 (Sep to Dec) <i>Please complete a registration form from the office</i>	

### How will your child go home at the end of their clubs?

Collected by parent/carer

Walk home

Collected by Kidz Club

I give my permission for my child, named above, to attend the clubs selected. I understand that places may be limited and that there is a cost for some clubs.

Parent's name \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_