



Sandhills Newsletter

Autumn Term No 11

20th November 2017

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

I would like to thank all the children and staff for a super assembly on Friday about Anti-Bullying. I was truly inspired by the range of work that was shared, from rap songs about saying no to bullying, wishes written on hands, and motivational messages left around the school.

Bullying does not just happen once; it goes on over time and happens again and again. It is the deliberate act of repeatedly hurting someone on purpose, it is not accidentally hurting someone, and it is hugely unfair. Our work here at Sandhills does not end just because National Anti-Bullying week is over. Children across the school are completing a survey about any experiences they may have of witnessing or being subject to bullying, and how we as a school can better support all of our children to ensure that this sort of behaviour does not happen. We will keep you informed of progress.

Christmas is just around the corner and plans are well underway to celebrate this magical time of year. Children in the Foundation Stage Unit are putting on a traditional nativity, and children in Key Stage 1 are retelling the birth of Jesus through the eyes of the inn keeper, who had a very sleepless night!

Key Stage 2 have planned an evening of music where each of the classes take centre stage, along with the orchestra, wind band and choir. The PTA will be providing mulled wine and mince pies to get you in to the Christmas spirit, so come along and be prepared to join in the singing! Please keep an eye on the newsletter for further information. All key dates and times are at the end of this newsletter.

The Christmas lunch for the Foundation Stage and years 1 and 2 is on Wednesday 6th December. As these children are entitled to the Government's universal infant free meals, there is no charge for this.

All children in years 3 to 6 need to bring a pack lunch on Wednesday 6th December. Children entitled to free school meals in these year groups can have a packed lunch provided; however, these must be ordered in advance via ParentMail. The order form will be sent out today. Please make sure you complete your order by the morning of Friday 24th November, as we must place the food order later the same day.

The Christmas lunch for children in years 3 to 6 is on Wednesday 13th December. The cost of this lunch is £2.20.

Children in the Foundation Stage and years 1 and 2 are entitled to the Government's universal infant free meals, but must pre-order a packed lunch to have on Wednesday 13th December (there is no hot meal option on this day). The order form will go on ParentMail this week and must be completed by the morning of this Friday, 24th November.

The Book Fair will be after school each day this week from 3:00pm to 3:30pm. It will also be open before the assembly on Friday afternoon. Please come along and support the Book Fair.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J. Settle - Headteacher



Personal Achievement Cards!

I am enormously proud of the children who have completed a Personal Achievement card this week.

Name	Card
<i>Claudia</i>	<i>1</i>

Music Awards!

I am enormously proud of the children who have achieved awards for music.

Name	Award
<i>Tallulah T</i>	<i>Bronze Award</i>
<i>Tiffany T</i>	<i>Gold Award</i>

Attendance

At the end of last year, the annual attendance at Sandhills School was 95.58%, which is well below the national average of 96.1%. This year, the school has set an ambitious target of at least **96.5%**, which with your help and support, I am sure can be achieved.

The tables below show the attendance for each class since the start of the school year in September. Percentages in red show classes that have attendance above our target.

Class	Attendance
FSU-C	97.8%
FSU-M	95.5%
1H	97.6%
1S	95.5%
2HL	93.5%
2S	97.0%

Class	Attendance
3N	97.1%
4T	97.0%
5S	96.7%
6G	97.7%
6H	97.5%

The attendance overall this term is **96.6%**, which is above our target. Please support the school to maintain this attendance target.

Children in Need

Thank you to everyone who took part in our Spot-tacular **Children in Need** day on Friday. We raised **£376!**

Thank you for GETTING SPOTTY!

School Council





Sports Club Update



It has been an exciting week in sport with Climbing Club well under way. The children have been showing their skills in rope climbing, bouldering and on the challenging top-out boulder at Brookes Climb. We may have some future Team GB climbers in our midst!

Athletics Club saw our Year 3s and 4s working hard on their throwing technique. It was fantastic to see all the children throwing javelins and Vortex Howlers much further by the end of the session; really challenging themselves.

Football Club was a visual feast this week. The children are taking part in a 4-team league over the next few weeks and in this week's session, the children showed wonderful teamwork, a positive outlook on each game, some great skill and goal-scoring, as well as smiles and laughter. Great to see a talented group of girls showing their skills this week too.

It was also exciting to see coaches from Oxford United starting back at Sandhills. They worked with Year 4 and 2 this week and the children were really buzzing after their sessions. The coaches will be with us for the rest of this term and will continue into the New Year.

Sports Coordinator – Mr Cobb

Technology Spot

At [timestables.co.uk](https://www.timestables.co.uk) you can easily practise all your multiplication tables. The arithmetic problems are clear and simple, so you can immediately get started on practising your tables in lots of fun ways! Give it a try!

End of term - Kidz Club – After School

Please note that school finishes for the Christmas break at 2pm on Tuesday 19th December and there will be no Kidz Club on that day.



Class Celebration Assemblies

We hope that you can come and celebrate the effort and achievements of the children each week at 2:20pm in the hall.

Date	Class
Friday 24 th November	Y1-H
Friday 1 st December	Y3-N

Date	Class
Friday 8 th December	No assembly Xmas Fair!

KEY DATES FOR THE AUTUMN TERM

Date	Event
Thursday 23 rd November – 5:00pm	Phonics Meeting for Parents in FSU & Y1 – Main hall
Friday 24 th November	PTA - Drop off items for Christmas Market
Monday 27 th November	Whole school visit to Oxford Playhouse – morning
Friday 1 st December	PTA - Drop off items for Christmas Market
	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 6 th December	KS1 Christmas lunch
Friday 8 th December	Christmas Fair
Tuesday 12 th December – 6:00pm	KS2 Carol Concert
Wednesday 13 th December – 9:30am	Foundations Stage Unit (FSU) - Nativity
Wednesday 13 th December	KS2 Christmas lunch
Thursday 14 th December – 2:00pm	FSU - Nativity
Friday 15 th December – 9:30am	KS1 Christmas Show
Tuesday 19 th December – 2:00pm	End of term



PTA News ...

Christmas Market

Thank you for the donations made towards the Christmas Market so far. If you are yet to donate and are able to, any of the following items they would be gratefully received but please use this table as a guide.

Class	Donation request
Foundation Stage Unit	New Unwanted gifts or Christmas novelty items
Year 1	Wine
Year 2	Wine
Year 3	Filled jars*
Year 4	Filled jars*
Year 5	Children's books
Year 6	Good condition children's toys

** Filled Jars – Jars filled with sweets, small toys, party bag type items etc*

**Drop off dates to main reception are:
Friday 24th November and Friday 1st December.**

Christmas jumper day – Friday 1st December - in return for donations
