



Sandhills Newsletter

Spring Term No. 21

6th February 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends

As I am sure you are aware, Ofsted carried out a school inspection last week. Thank you to all those parents who completed Parent View online. We expect to receive the final Ofsted report by the middle of next term and will let you know the outcome as soon as we are able to. The staff worked extremely hard to prepare for the visit and on behalf of the governors and myself, I would like to thank them for their dedication and commitment to our school.

The school has been working hard to improve children's attendance and punctuality. Analysis of attendance data for the past year shows that this is beginning to improve. However, there is still a long way to go. The number of children with attendance below 90% is significantly above the national average. A 90% attendance record means a child has been absent from school for 4 weeks of the academic year, or half a day a week, and the Department for Education categorises this as *persistent absence*.

I have been monitoring the attendance closely and have contacted parents if the attendance of their child is below 90% without good reason. I will be following up on the monitoring that has taken place and writing to parents if their child's attendance falls into the *persistent absentee* category. Parents who do not support the school and ensure their child attends regularly and on time, may be referred to the local authorities Attendance Team, which is the start of a legal process and may result in a court summons and a penalty fine.

Every single day a child is absent from school equates to a day of lost learning. Give your child the best start in life and encourage them to come to school every day and on time – every school day counts.

The current after school clubs will continue after half term until Easter. The clubs for which there is a charge, will be raised on ParentMail at the end of February.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a restful half term and look forward to welcoming you all back for the start of term on Monday 19th February.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J. Settle - Headteacher



Attendance

We all want the children in our care to achieve the very best they can and for this they need to be in school regularly and on time. The attendance for the school year so far is 95.5%, which is below the national average of 96.1%. Our school target of 96.5%, but there is only one class with attendance above this.

The table below shows the overall attendance for each class since the start of the school year in September, and for last week.

Class	Overall attendance	Last week
FSU-C	95.6%	94.0%
FSU-M	95.3%	88.8%
1H	96.4%	95.9%
1S	95.1%	85.6%
2HL	93.4%	95.2%
2S	96.6%	98.3%

Class	Overall attendance	Last week
3N	96.3%	90.0%
4T	95.5%	95.8%
5S	94.5%	92.3%
6G	96.2%	87.3%
6H	95.6%	93.8%

Registration Times

The school gates open at 8.30am and school starts at 8.45am. If your child arrives after the bell at 8.45am, they will be marked as *late* in the register. The gates are closed at 9.00am, and anyone arriving after this should bring their child to the front entrance to sign the late register. Children arriving after 9.00am will be marked as *unauthorized but present* in the register, which will affect their attendance record. Parents will receive an updated attendance record at parent consultations in March.

Superstar Learners of the Week!

I am delighted to list the names of the children awarded Star of the Week! You have demonstrated a growth mindset and worked hard to achieve your certificates – we are all enormously proud of your efforts!



Class	Name	Class	Name
FSU	Joey P	Y3-N	Hazel F Asia B
Y1-H	Isabelle E	Y4-T	Hugo M
Y1-S	Tom H Corey M	Y5-S	Tayte L
Y2-S	Maria M	Y6-G	
Y2-HL	Mahleik S	Y6-H	Tom H

Personal Achievement Cards!

We are enormously proud of the children who have completed a Personal Achievement Card.

Name	Card
Harry G	1

Name	Card
Max V	1

Name	Card
Rhiannon B	1



Maths

On Thursday 1st Feb the whole school took part in NSPCC Number Day. We had lots of fun playing games that involved maths and number including Monopoly, Battleships, Skip-Bo, Mastermind and Top Trumps. Many year six pupils chose to complete an optional extra homework of making cakes with a number theme and children from other classes also, very generously made cakes. These were sold at the end of the day to raise money for the NSPCC. The creativity and imagination that went into the cakes was very impressive!

Thank you so much to everyone - children and the families who supported them - for bringing in games, making and buying cakes. We had a lot of fun and raised money for the NSPCC in the process! You can see some photos from the day on the school website.

Mrs S Clark - Maths Coordinator

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 9 th February	Sign2sing 1H
Friday 23 rd February	4T
Friday 2 nd March	1S

Date	Class
Friday 9 th March	3N
Friday 16 th March	5S
Friday 23 rd March	Science focus Whole School

KEY DATES FOR THE SPRING & SUMMER TERMS

Date	Event
Wednesday 7 th February	Height and Weight Measuring for Foundation Stage and Year 6
Friday 9 th February	End of Spring Term 1
Monday 19 th February	Start of Spring Term 2
Tuesday 27 th February	Parent consultations - 4pm onwards
Wednesday 28 th February	Parent consultations - 5pm onwards
Wednesday 21 st March	Individual school photographs
Thursday 29 th March – 2pm	End of Spring Term 2 Note – no Kidz Club
Monday 16 th April	Start of Summer Term 1
Thursday 3 rd May	Class photographs
Monday 14 th May	KS2 SATs week
Friday 25 th May	End of Summer Term 1
Monday 4 th June	INSET Day – School closed
Friday 15 th June	Assembly with Cas Lester – Author in residence
Saturday 30 th June	Summer fete
Wednesday 25 th July	End of school year – 2pm Note – no Kidz Club