



Sandhills Community Primary School

Dear parents and families,

Friday 21st December 2018

We finally made it to the end of term!

It's Christmas time!

It's been a wonderful week in school with the fabulous music assembly, and the Key Stage 1 and 2 Christmas performances and not forgetting the pantomime trip! Thank you to all of our helpers on the trip – I hope you enjoyed it as much as the children did!

The musicians and choir did a fabulous job of entertaining us all and showing off their talent in our Music Assembly on Monday. Many thanks to Paul, Nick, Pat and Mrs Hunter-Lacey and all of the children for a wonderful show.

Key Stage 1 managed to avert an industrial and festive crisis by persuading Santa not to go on strike in their Christmas performance with some great singing as well as remembering their lines and stage cues. Well done to the children, the costume makers, set makers and Key Stage 1 staff for a lovely event.

Congratulations too to the key Stage 2 team and children who sang so beautifully in their Christmas performance. Everyone remembered the song words and the narrators and soloist did a fantastic job and were very brave!

Pantomime

We had a fantastic whole school visit to watch Dick Whittington and His Cat at The Oxford Playhouse on Tuesday! It was lovely to see all our children from EYFS to Year Six enter into the spirit of pantomime and cheer, boo and clap at all the appropriate moments. In some cases, they even appreciated the topical news jokes! They represented our school brilliantly and we had some lovely feedback from parents and staff at the theatre about the behaviour of the children. We are very proud of them all!

Thank you very much to all the volunteer helpers who joined us for the visit and to all the staff who juggled duties and ensured that approximately an hour after the first coach arrived back at school, Key Stage 1 were in the hall ready to perform their Christmas Play to parents - quite a turnaround!

Sue Clark

Deputy Headteacher

Attendance

We are sending home 100% attendance certificates today, as well as certificates for those children who have met or exceeded the school target of 96.5% and those children whose attendance has improved significantly from last year. This was a more complicated task than you might imagine! If you think we might have miscalculated, then please do let us know.

Overall, 197 pupils have attendance above 96.5% since the start of September (with fewer than 4 lates and no unauthorised absence) and 84 of these pupils have 100% attendance.

Celebration Assemblies

Date	Class
Friday 11 th January	No assembly
Friday 18 th January	3S



Music for Schools

On the 31st January, at 6.00pm, we will be holding a Music for Schools event in the evening. Music for Schools provides small group music lessons for children, during school hours.

This is an opportunity for your child to explore and hold different instruments. The children will have been introduced to different instruments in an assembly a few days before, so they may already have some thoughts on which instrument they want to play! It is also a chance for you to sign up your child to lessons in brass and woodwind instruments.

Emma Hunter-Lacey

Music Co-ordinator and Class Teacher

Stars of the Week

Congratulations to our stars from last week:

Evia, Lexie, Sophie, Roman, Isis, Jochebed, Ayat, Leo and Zainab.

Term Dates

We will get the 2019-2020 term dates out to you as soon as possible. I am in the process of liaising with Wheatley Park School and finalising some training dates before I can confirm the INSET days for next year. The main term dates are available on the County website -

<https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/residents/schools/term-dates-and-holidays> .

School Closes	Friday 21 st December 2pm	No After School Club
Christmas Break	24 th Dec to 4 th Jan	
INSET (SCHOOL CLOSED)	Monday 7 th January	
School Reopens	Tuesday 8 th January 2019	
Music For Schools Event	Thursday 31 st January	6.00pm
Half term	18 th to 22 nd February	
INSET (SCHOOL CLOSED)	Monday 25 th February	
Easter Break	8 th April to 22 nd April	
Half term	27 th to 31 st May	
INSET (SCHOOL CLOSED)	Monday 3 rd June	
School Closes	24 th July 2019	

Have a lovely Christmas break and we will see you again when school reopens on Tuesday 8th January 2019.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Emma Coleman
Headteacher
