



## Sandhills Community Primary School

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Dear parents and families,

Friday 22nd March 2019

### School Review

Three colleagues from the River Learning Trust came into the school last week to review our progress in improving the school and to look at what we should focus on next.

There were a number of positives: the progress children make in the foundation stage, particularly in early reading and writing; the progress tracking systems we have in place; the behaviour of the pupils; the improving attendance, particularly of disadvantaged pupils, and the team work and commitment of the staff.

They have asked us to concentrate on improving how we teach and develop the children's writing skills; how we support teachers and TAs in teaching children with SEN and in having really high expectations of what we and all of the children can achieve.

Onwards and upwards!

### STOP PRESS, Music Assembly on the 1st April.

[Please come along to listen to a special Music Assembly on the 1st April at 2.00pm.](#) We will have our rock band, choir, our woodwind and brass musicians perform. Some children who have piano and guitar lessons will also perform. [Your child's music teacher will be in touch to discuss any additional arrangements, however I would be grateful if any children who play with Pat and have woodwind or brass lessons, could please bring their instruments in on the 1st April.](#)

Emma Hunter-Lacey

Music Co-ordinator and Class Teacher

### Sport report, March

#### South Oxon Netball finals

Thursday evening saw the finals of the South Oxon Netball competition, played at Wallingford.

Sandhills played 7 matches against some very well drilled and excellent teams. Due to our lack of recent Netball practice, it took us a few matches to get used to the positions and techniques of high 5

netball, but we played a really really focused and tight defensive game against Great Milton to draw and then won a spectacular match against Valley Road, 3-2.

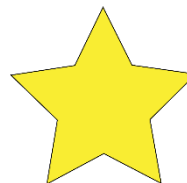
Sandhills ended up coming 7th, with the knowledge that over 60 schools were involved in this tournament, and we were in the top 7.

It was a wonderful evening of great entertainment, a good deal of learning for our team and a good base to play some friendly matches over the summer. Well done to Morgan, Matthew, Max and Max, May, Izzy, Amy and Grace, and a huge thanks to Cushla Cooper our inspirational netball expert and to the parents and grandparents who enabled us to get to the competition and back.

Thank you!

Mark Cobb

### Stars of the Week!



Congratulations to our Stars of the Week: Ella, Immy, Jack, Ayra, Izzy, Imogen, Anya and Frankie.

### PRIMARY POPS CONCERT

Last Thursday, the KS2 choir performed at the second Primary Pops Concert to be held at the Oxfordshire Centre for Music. They sang a huge range of songs and thoroughly enjoyed performing "Spice up your life" and "A million dreams" on a packed stage. The children performed not once but twice and were an absolute asset to the school. Their behaviour, manners, singing and company were all fabulous. Thank you Choir for a fantastic event!

Emma Hunter-Lacey

Music Co-ordinator and Class Teacher

### Maths Challenge

Six children from Years Five and Six took part in the Garsington Primary School Maths Challenge on Wednesday. Tayte, Taylor, Max, Gracie, Jude and Adam worked in pairs to compete against pairs of children from other partnership primary schools. As well as working hard at solving different mathematical puzzles and challenges, they met children they may quite possibly go to secondary school with and of course, enjoy the biscuits that were provided!

It was a lovely event to take part in and we are very grateful to Garsington Primary School for inviting us. We also really appreciated the help of some older students from Wheatley Park who marked all the answers.

The puzzles included completing a magic square, a Countdown type of activity and working out a three, four and five letter word with the largest value according to a code. The top four pairs were presented with prizes and although on this occasion, we weren't one of these, I am very proud of how well the children represented our school.

Sue Clark

Deputy Headteacher

**Colorbox Photographers** will be visiting on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> April to take class photographs. As last year, they will also go into classes and take mono photos of children individually working during their lessons in their class environment. Proofs of these will be sent home with the children and parents will be able to order copies.

### Celebration Assemblies

Date	Class
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	4T
Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> March	3S
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	3D

Have a lovely weekend!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Coleman  
Headteacher

### Diary Dates

<b>Family BINGO</b>	Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	5pm
<b>Music Assembly</b>	Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	2pm
<b>End of term</b>	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>2pm</b> No After School Club
<b>Easter Break</b>	8th April to 22nd April	
<b>Easter Bonnet Competition</b>	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	
<b>Half term</b>	27th to 31st May	
<b>INSET (SCHOOL CLOSED)</b>	Monday 3rd June	
<b>School Closes</b>	24th July 2019	
<b>School Reopens</b>	Wednesday 4th September	

2019-2010 Term dates are now available on the school website - <https://sandhills.oxon.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/TermDates2019-20-Calendar.pdf>