



Sandhills Community Primary School

Dear parents and families,

Friday 25th October 2019

Parent Consultations - Monday 11th & Tuesday 12th November

Parent Consultations take place after half-term on Monday 11th and Tuesday 12th November. Appointments will be available to book on ParentMail from Monday 4th November at 6.00pm. If you are unable to book an appointment online, please speak to the office as soon as bookings are open. If you have already met with the class teacher to review your child's Profile as part of our meetings for parents of pupils with SEND, *please do not book another appointment for this parents evening.*

Sport report, End of October 2019

Last night was the perfect way to end this half term. Our wonderful Year 6 children took part in a netball tournament at Wheatley Park. Sandhills came third, narrowly missing coming second by one point. The games were incredibly exciting and it looks like we have a really excellent school netball team. Hopefully, we shall play more matches in the coming weeks. Thank you to Morgan, Amelie, James, Gabby, Harrison, Gracie, Joe and Claudia. Not only was the netball excellent, but our Sandhills children played with great teamwork, positivity, respect and moreover, we all had fun. Our year 6's set the tone for Sandhills sport. Positive attitude, respect, fun; some things to aim for in all of our sport this year!! Thanks also to parents for their support.
Mr Cobb

Forest School



Over the past few sessions the children have been looking at sustainability, through using the plentiful Willow that grows on the school site to use when they ask for bendy, green wood, compared to the oak that once cut down cannot be grown again. Year 2 have been

able to observe the speed of the growth of Willow, Silver Birch and Oak, through reflection from when they visited in Foundation.

Year 2 have also been watching the changes in their aptly named "thorny, thorny Blackthorn" and Hawthorn, enjoying the branches becoming bare and exposing those thorns and dark black-purple or bright orange-red fruit that disappear where the Muntjac deer can reach. Children have gained more and more confidence in their play, embracing and enjoying riskier play that they create. They drag branches (the Forest School way) to make structures that come out of their curiosity and imagination. All of this done with their growing understanding that they or something that they have made may fall down, but they used their growing resilience to try again.

They have enjoyed using all of their senses, one group experiencing Petrichor, the smell that happens during rainfall, enjoying that they could know when it was likely to rain and looking forward to it, knowing that they would be warm in their waterproof suits. Climbing, running, jumping twisting and turning are a big part of their experience, using their vestibular sense to spin fast, sway and move slowly on a rope swing. The vestibular sense is the one that we as adults don't use so much but is so important for a child's development, often seen when children spin around and balance and it's so much fun! Children will often be laughing and giggling when they are testing out this sense.

In the Forest the children learn to be kind and will talk about what that means to them, their immediate surroundings and the wider community. They will say that they are "kind to each other, the trees, creatures and themselves". During snack times Foundation sit waiting so patiently, full of anticipation, for the Robin to arrive and eat the seed that they have left. While Year 2 have been thinking about which other animals may have visited, showing real understanding of native woodland creatures.

If you're are interested in the ethos of Forest School, volunteer helpers are most welcome and needed, please see the office to arrange a visit. You would be able to meet another volunteer who could talk to you about what it is like and what it is expected.

Mrs Wetton, Forest School Leader.

Forestschoollassociation.org

Year 2 Scented Garden

This week Year 2 have had a variety of exciting activities to end our first topic 'The Scented Garden'. These included, making lavender biscuits, creating our own egg and cress sandwiches using our cress grown in class. We also enjoyed producing artistic fruit salads before having a picnic. A great end to the term!

Miss Slade



There are lots more lovely photos of the event on the school website:

<https://sandhills.oxon.sch.uk/making-a-fruit-salad-22-10-19/>

Celebration Assemblies

Don't forget that you are invited to join us for a cup of tea in the foyer from 2.20pm before Celebration Assembly.

Date	Class
Friday 25 th Oct	2H
Friday 1 st Nov	Half term
Friday 8 th Nov	2S
Friday 15 th Nov	1S
Friday 22 nd Nov	1P
Friday 13 th Dec	No assembly

Have a lovely half term.

Yours sincerely,
Mrs Emma Coleman
Headteacher

Diary Dates

PTA Pumpkin Competition			Friday 25 th October
School Disco		5.30-7.30pm	Friday 25 th October
Half term			28 th October to 1 st November
Year 4 Concert		11.00am	Wednesday 6 th November
EYFS	Read Write Inc Info	3.00 -4.00pm	Wednesday 6 th November
	Read Write Inc Info	6.00 -7.00pm	Wednesday 6 th November
Anti-Bullying Week			11 th to 15 th November
Parents Evenings		4.30pm – 7.00pm	Monday 11 th November
		3.15pm to 5.00pm	Tuesday 12 th November
Children in Need			Friday 15 th November
Year 6 Junior Citizens		am	Wednesday 20 th November
PTA Wreath making		7:30pm	Friday 29 th November
PTA Christmas Fayre		2pm	Saturday 7 th December
Year 5 Medieval Day			Monday 16 th December
Panto Trip		am	Tuesday 17 th December
Christmas Holiday			Friday 20 th Dec to Friday 3 rd January
INSET School Closed			Monday 6 th January
School Reopens			Tuesday 7 th January