



## Sandhills Community Primary School

### Step by step together

Respect, Relationships, Responsibility, Resilience

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Dear parents and families,

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> October

The youngest children in the school are often frighteningly honest and I was told last week by a very young person that I am growing white lines in my hair – I'm blaming the length of the term! In the same way that all school staff are convinced that August is the shortest month of the year, the first half term of this year has seemed very long. We were all so excited to have things back to being a bit more normal at the start of the term but the children and the staff are starting to look like half term is overdue!

We have been making some changes to the school website over the last few weeks. We now have our new values of Respect, Respect, Relationships, Responsibility and Resilience displayed over the photo banner and we have started updating the curriculum pages so that there is more information about each subject available. If you think of any information that would be useful but is missing from the website then please do let us know, it's an ongoing project!

Please keep an eye out for the booking email for parents evening which is being sent tomorrow at 6.30pm.

#### **Really important! - School Dinners After Half-Term**

Dolce will take over as our catering provider after half-term and the cost of a school dinner will be £2.35 per day (£11.75 per week). In order for your child to have school meals (paid or free), you will need a SchoolGrid account. You will have received an email from SchoolGrid last week, with your login details. By accessing SchoolGrid online you can pre order meals, view recipes, allergens, ingredients and make payments. There is no charge for meals for children in years Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 or for children who are entitled to free school meals, as these are funded by the Government. If you have any questions regarding school meals, you can contact Dolce Customer Care Monday to Friday 8am to 5pm, on 01942 707709 or by email to [customercare@dolce.co.uk](mailto:customercare@dolce.co.uk). If you experience any technical issues with access to SchoolGrid, please contact SchoolGrid technical support on 01506 300310 or by email to [support@schoolgrid.co.uk](mailto:support@schoolgrid.co.uk)

#### **Foundation Stage – Stay and Play**



It was lovely to welcome parents into the EYFS classroom with the first of our stay and play sessions last week. The children loved giving them tours, showing them their work and learning with them. We are looking forward to the next ones in November.

Mrs Nash and Mrs Barnard

#### **Community faith links**

*As part of our R.E. curriculum we would like to develop links with different faiths within our school community. We would like to be able to invite people in to share first-hand experiences of their faith including special occasions and*



like to find out more about this rewarding role and apply should go to the vacancy on the TES website by following this link: <https://www.tes.com/jobs/employer/river-learning-trust-1082673>.

### **Government Tax Free Childcare Scheme**

Do you use after school or breakfast club? Did you know that 'Tax Free Childcare' is a government scheme which helps parents with childcare costs. For every £8 a parent pays into their childcare account, the government will pay in £2, up to a maximum of £2000 per child per year. For further information please visit: <https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>. Please note: we can only accept these payments for after school and breakfast club charges.

### **Diwali – Foundation Class**

Do you celebrate Diwali? Would you be willing to come and talk to the foundation class about the traditions of the festival? Our topic next term is celebrations, and we would love to hear from you if you could spare half an hour in the afternoon on Thursday 4th November. Many thanks in advance, Mrs Nash.

Thank you, Zoe Nash Class Teacher

### **Class Assemblies**

1P	Friday 5th Nov at 2.40pm
6G	Friday 12th Nov at 2.40pm
3S	Friday 19th Nov at 2.40pm
5D	Friday 26th Nov at 2.40pm
4A	Friday 3rd Dec at 2.40pm

### **Term dates**

You can find all the term dates here: <https://sandhills.oxon.sch.uk/information/parents-information/term-dates/>

**Please note that the school is closed tomorrow for INSET training.**

Before I sign off and wish you all an enjoyable half term - it's time to send all our best wishes for the future to Mrs Sarah Ward who is leaving us this week to start her own business. Mrs Ward has worked with lots of classes and lots of children over her years in the school and is always so kind and endlessly patient. She will be popping into school from time to time to help out, so she will be keeping in touch - best of luck Sarah!

Have a lovely half term everyone.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emma Coleman  
Headteacher

### **Community News and Events**

#### **Barton Community Partnership**

Barton Community Partnership are throwing a Halloween Disco at Barton Neighbourhood Centre on Friday 29th November 5.30-8.30pm. There will be a fancy dress competition, pumpkin carving competition, scary food and games, music and dancing. See flyer attached.

#### **Oxfordshire Museums Service**

We have exciting news! Our Free Half Term Family Activities linked to our NEW Mechanicals Exhibition!

Moving Mechanical Makes! Check out our Website... Children's activities at The Oxfordshire Museum | Oxfordshire County Council.

Tuesday 26th October: Push and Pull (2-4pm)

- Join us to make a moving picture based off the new mechanical exhibition

Get your family ticket today! (Up to 3 Children). All children must be accompanied by an adult.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/176207339897>

Wednesday 27th October: Kool Kaleidoscopes (11-3pm)

- Use inspiration from the mechanicals exhibition to create the coolest of Kaleidoscopes!

Get your family ticket today! (Up to 3 Children). All children must be accompanied by an adult.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/176236858187>

Thursday 28th October: Mini Mechanics (2-4pm)

- Watch your creations balance and fly with inspiration from the great outdoors and our new mechanicals exhibition.

Get your family ticket today! (Up to 3 Children). All children must be accompanied by an adult.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/176274260057>

We also have a new Mechanical Trail for you to enjoy. Why not come to the Oxfordshire Museum this Half Term!

Best wishes,

Learning & Access Team

Oxfordshire Museums Service

The Museums Resource Centre

Cotswold Dene

Standlake

Oxon

OX29 7QG