



SANDHURST  
— PRIMARY SCHOOL —

*Rye Road, Sandhurst, Kent TN18 5JE*

*Tel: 01580 850288*

*Email: [office@sandhurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@sandhurst.kent.sch.uk)*

*Website: [www.sandhurst.kent.sch.uk](http://www.sandhurst.kent.sch.uk)*

# NEWSLETTER

February 2021

## Whole School Update

As another term of home learning ends we want to say a huge thank you once again to everyone: staff, parents, children and carers, who have kept in touch and worked so hard to ensure that our children are kept safe and that learning continues to happen in such a positive manner.

'Well done Team Sandhurst!'

There continues to be enormous amount of preparation to teach our children online and I am so proud of the way in which everyone continues to adapt as best as they can. Thank you to the teachers, they only completed initial Teams training in December! Also to our parents for accommodating 'home school' as well as juggling their own work commitments. Who knew that we would all become so accomplished at using a computer! Special thanks of course, must go to all the children who are continuing to produce some amazing work as well as taking part so enthusiastically on online calls and lessons with their teachers.

As well as home learning, school has lent out nearly thirty laptops to children at home, provided free wifi codes and many free school meal vouchers. We have also accommodated a third of all our children in school at some point over the last term.

We still do not have any updates as to when school will begin to reopen for all students but we hope to have a plan going forward from 8th March.

We will of course inform you as we hear anything.

Do continue to contact Mrs Norman on:  
[headteacher@sandhurst.kent.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@sandhurst.kent.sch.uk) if you need any help or support.  
Happy half term, we miss you all and look forward to opening school again and seeing everyone very soon.



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## Potter Class Update

Our theme this term has been all about 'people who help us'. We have found out about the role of the postman, policemen, fire-fighters, lighthouse keepers, coastguards, doctors and nurses.

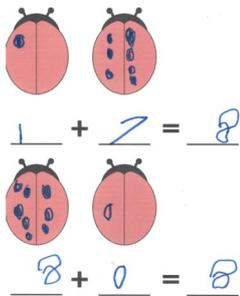
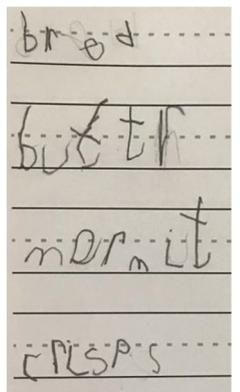
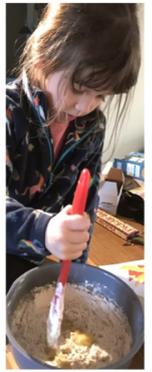
As you can see from our photos, everyone in Potter class has been amazingly busy! We have played a firefighter board game, answering questions about their job. We would like to thank Mr Palumbo for joining us in our live session to talk to us about how he keeps safe in his role as a firefighter.

After reading *The Lighthouse Keepers Lunch*, we made our own lighthouses to keep the coastlines safe. The children did really well writing a shopping list so they could make their own sandwich for a picnic!

In Maths, we have been learning about the numbers 6, 7, and 8. Making sure we have a concrete understanding of what the number looks like in a variety of ways. We have also explored comparing the weight of items and perfected our measuring skills by counting measures for recipes very carefully. Some delicious cakes, biscuits and magic potions were made!

I couldn't leave out a highlight of the term; thank you to the children who dressed up and sang 'happy birthday' to Mrs Knowler. The online catch ups are certainly fun and exciting!

The Potter class team of adults have been blown away by the enthusiasm and commitment to remote learning. Thank you for making a challenging term a pleasure.



## Nightingale Class Update

Wow! What a fabulous team effort Nightingale class have shown us all. You have adapted to remote learning incredibly well and we have seen that parents as well as children have both shown fantastic resilience and perseverance. I am so impressed with the quality of the work that has been produced at home. You have blown me away with all of your work for our class topic of The Arctic creating animal fact files, learning about Inuit culture and creating art inspired by the Northern Lights.



Dear diary  
 Me and Apul wake up early and had a lovely breakfast.  
 We went on our bikes to Hastings. We rode along the seafront, the fish and chips smelled nice so we ate some.  
 After lunch we went for a swim, it was so good.  
 Apul went home I felt sad.



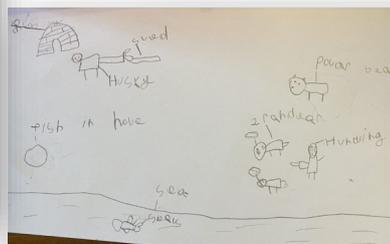
Norwhal

Description:  
 The largest of the cetaceans.  
 A whale with a long tuck.

Habitat:  
 They live in Arctic Waters.

Diet:  
 A narwhal eats squid, fish and shrimp.

Other interesting facts:  
 A narwhal can talk to each other with squeaks and clicks.



**Melt the Ice Experiment**

Materials: heat, cold, water, salt, sugar

Procedure:  
 1. Predict that the ice will melt faster with salt or sugar.  
 2. Record that the ice will melt faster with salt or sugar.

Results:	Heat	Cold	Water	Salt	Sugar
Number of Melts:	4	1	1	1	1
Time taken:	4 mins	30 mins	12 mins	24 mins	43 mins

The heat melted the ice the fastest.  
 The cold melted the ice the slowest.

Why do you think that was the fastest method?  
 In hot water the heat melts the ice quickly.

I am spoilt for choice of photos to share and I have loved seeing the number of excellent 'Big Writes' that Nightingale class have managed to achieve under home environments. We have seen some brilliant icy science experiments, magnificent maths and lovely well-being creative activities to focus some 'down time'

We have especially enjoyed having the company of Miss Ansell to work alongside us this term. Unfortunately, she is moving on to a new setting after half term and I know she would have loved to have a chance to say goodbye to all of the class. We wish her the very best in the future and would love her to visit whenever she can. The children have really enjoyed her lesson activities.



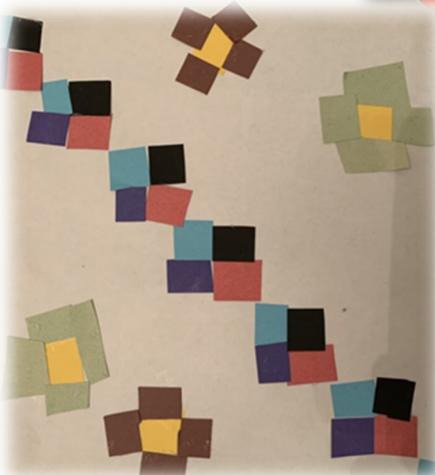
## Darwin Class Update

*I just want to say a huge thank you to everyone at home and at school for working so hard during this uncertain time. I have been so impressed with the effort and dedication that has gone into this online learning. I would also like to thank Miss Hall and Miss Piper, our student teachers, who have worked hard on prepping the learning too.*

*The online check ins and live lessons have been a massive success! I love seeing everyone on a daily basis thank you to those who have joined every session. Thank you to the parents who have set this up for their child and made it happen. I know Darwin enjoy the Friday maths lesson online!*

*Darwin has kickstarted the new topic lesson, Romans, with some fantastic learning. I have had great feedback from parents, who have said that the children have really enjoyed learning all about Romans and all the practical tasks that have come with it.*

*I have been super impressed with the maths and English learning, too. Well done for working so hard, Darwin! I love seeing your online learning.*



## Pankhurst Class Update

Wow! What a strange term we have had in Pankhurst but I have been delighted with how well we have adapted.

So many of you have worked really hard from home, learning a lot throughout this challenging time. A huge thank you to all the parents, grandparents, siblings and other family members who have helped out along the way, as well as Ms Borriani, and the other teachers in school.

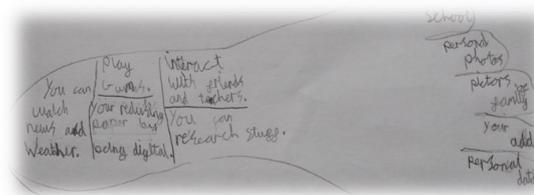
As well as our Romans topic, which has been integrated, throughout our learning we have focused our mind on fractions in maths, written some wonderful and wholly varied pieces of writing in English. We have completed some interesting experiments on our materials topic in science, learned important details about Christianity in RE, thought about our world in PSHE, shopping in French, internet safety in computing, and mosaics (and more) in arts and we have done it all working from home!

I think some of the highlights of working from home has been checking in with you all every day. Although it is very sad we can't be together in the classroom, it is wonderful checking in and seeing the positivity spilling out from most of you in what is definitely been a strange and difficult time.

Whilst we are very keen to get back into the classroom as soon as it is safe, we have loved seeing all your work over this term. Well done Pankhurst, keep up the good work, and keep staying safe. - Mr Pickford.



A young man walked up to the shop window  
The old shop keeper was gone  
The shop keeper jumped up from behind the brick wall  
The village council  
were scattered all around everywhere  
You can buy a golden griffinstone or a magic set for  
The elderly man had disappeared again  
The young man stopped back totally taken aback  
The same had happened  
The old man began to appear out of nowhere  
The man began to tell the clever young man about a magic  
The man quickly ran to tell the world



### HERCULES AND THE GOLD SKELETON SPIDER

For his 13<sup>th</sup> task the king sent Hercules to find a rare spider, called the Gold Skeleton Spider. This spider spun webs of gold and it could throw poison. The king wanted to see the spider alive. Many hunters had tried to kill it with raw fly, bee, wasp, dragonfly, moth, crane-fly and butterfly with poison in the meat, but it didn't work because the spider had poison in it. Instead, the spider threw poison at the hunters and they got killed. The spider lived on a huge triangle web, on a tall hill and there have been lots of trees fallen over, so they need to be moved. Other than that, there have been lots of snow fallen on top of the mountain.

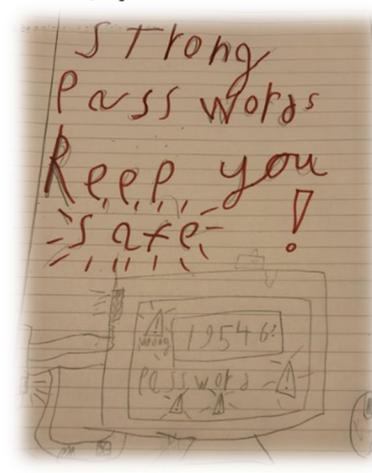
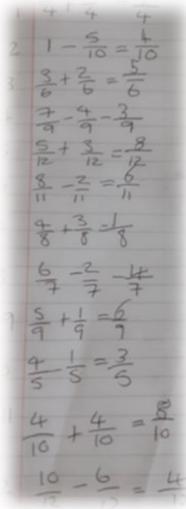
#### Instructions to capture the Gold Skeleton Spider.

What you will need:

- ◆ Some trousers with fur in them
- ◆ Some armour
- ◆ A strong net as long as 1m
- ◆ Some boots with fur inside
- ◆ A top with fur
- ◆ And a helmet

Instructions:

- (I) First get out your net ready to throw it at the spider.
- (II) Then climb the mountain and move the trees to make access.
- (III) Then go into the cave that should be right in front of you.
- (IV) Next hide behind a rock or something like that.
- (V) Next try to find something that spiders eat.
- (VI) After that try and trick it with the food and lay it on the ground.
- (VII) If it does not work do it again.
- (VIII) Then while it is eating make a wall behind it and in front of it with stones.
- (IX) After that go down the mountain and get John from inside the house at the front.
- (X) Then climb up the mountain again.
- (XI) Then throw the net over the spider with John.
- (XII) Now go to the castle without John to show the King the spider caught in the net.



## Shakespeare Class Update

A big thank you to all the children in Shakespeare Class and their families for fully embracing yet another 'new normal'. Myself, Miss Brinsley, Mrs Lawrence and Miss Lawrance have been delighted on a regular basis by the amazing work that the children are producing in all subjects.

Along with the other Key Stage Two classes we are loving our new topic of the Romans and have made some fabulous artifacts. We have been experimenting with different materials in science: testing out materials for their magnetism and electrical conductivity, to name but two.

We are working hard in English, each week we produce a Big Write, incorporating what we have learned in our lessons. In maths, we have learnt how to do long multiplication and are now becoming fraction mathmagicians, not an easy thing to do remotely!

We have also been enjoying our daily check-ins, it is great to see so many happy faces.

Well done Shakespeare Class, keep up the good work.



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## Churchill Class Update

Well, what a delight it has been to return to work to teach the "Awesome Class of 2021" for their last four terms with us. Never would I have believed, when I left for maternity leave last year, that I would be returning to a virtual online teaching world but, my oh my, Churchill Class have risen to the challenge. Even though it's been virtually, we are having a great time getting to know each other in our PSHE work and during our video calls!

Mrs Channon and I are often running out of superlatives to use for this amazing class, who keep wowing us with their work. One thing is for certain, the dojos have gone through the roof and each week the race for the winner has been highly contested. Science, art and topic are all proving to be particularly popular online learning lessons for Churchill Class (as you can see from the photos of some of them wearing their laurel leaf crowns - like Julius Caesar). Equally though, we are delighted with the English and maths work being sent through to us on a daily basis, particularly all the work surrounding our class text "Holes".

Our daily video calls are a highlight of the day (especially the games that we end each call with). Thank you so much to all the children and parents of Churchill Class for the best welcome back to Sandhurst; it has been such a joy sharing in your hard work and I can't wait until we can all be back in the classroom together.



Enjoyment

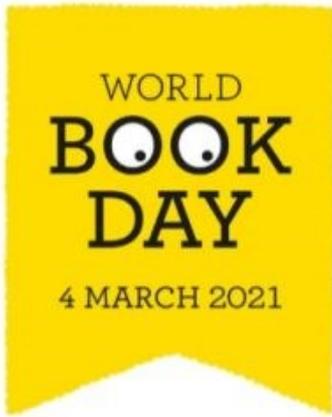
Challenge

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## Reading and Book Week



We are delighted to announce that, even in lockdown, we are still going to celebrate one of our favourite days of the year, World Book Day!

This year, World Book Day is on Thursday 4th March. Whether your child is at home or at school, we would love them to dress up as one of their favourite book characters to celebrate this day with us! They can share their costumes with each other during their live video check-in and see who their teachers have dressed up as, too.

The theme of our book day celebrations this year is "A Book That Makes Me Smile". We felt that in this current climate, it would be lovely to take some time to enjoy the books that always bring a smile to our faces.

To celebrate World Book Day, on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th March, teachers will be diverting from their usual online learning timetables and children can expect some extra special staff storytime opportunities, to build story tents or dens (at home/school) and writing, drawing and reading activities all linked to "A Book That Makes Me Smile".

In addition, we have just registered for £1 digital book tokens for every child, which we hope to be able to send out to you all very soon.



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## Diary Dates

### Term 3

Ends Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

### Term 4

Starts Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Ends Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

### Term 5

Starts Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021

**Bank Holiday Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2021**

Ends Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

### Term 6

Starts Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**INSET 18<sup>th</sup> June, 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> July 2021**

Ends Friday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2021

