



SANDHURST  
— PRIMARY SCHOOL —

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# NEWSLETTER

May 2023

## Whole School Update



At long last, after all the rain and miserable weather, children and staff have enjoyed a fairly normal and reasonably healthy, few weeks.

As well as completing SATs and assessments, children have enjoyed: playing on the field;

swimming lessons; a visit by Tiny Street; a trip to see David Walliams at the theatre; visits to Safety in Action and to the Living Land Exhibition; and dry sunny Forest School sessions. We also celebrated the Coronation of King Charles III and some of our children attended the Sandhurst Village celebrations, taking part in maypole dancing and performing as a choir. All children were presented with a souvenir Coronation coin to commemorate the occasion. Last week, we welcomed our new Chair of Governors—Frances Holland – into school and even had a visit from the Mayor of Tunbridge Wells.



Today, we finished with a magnificent sports day, family picnic and Summer Fair to celebrate. Thank



you to everyone who has worked so hard to make this term so successful; our children are extremely lucky and we really couldn't do it all without the support of fantastic parents, staff, governors and a supportive PTFA.

For next term, we are already looking forward to trips to Bodiam Castle and the British Museum in London as well as Y6 leavers'

events and, hopefully a lot more sunshine and chances to play!

Have a lovely half term – enjoy the long Bank Holiday week-end and we will see you back in school on Monday 5th June.



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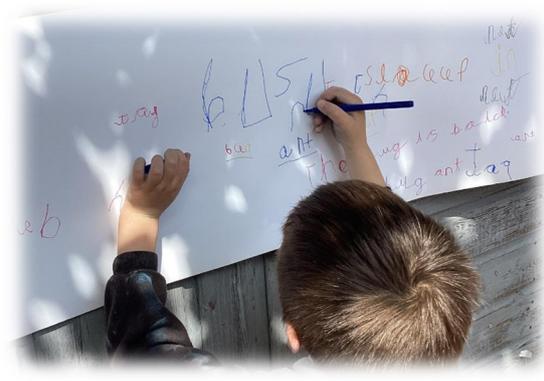
## Potter Class Update



What an incredible term 5 Potter Class have had! We welcomed back our class chickens to our outdoor area after their 'flockdown' at Mrs Norman's house. It has been amazing to learn how to take care of chickens, and we have enjoyed going into their coop to help them become used to being handled again. Our theme for this term has been 'Animals'. We have loved investigating all aspects of this topic. Recently, we have explored animals in the Serengeti and compared them to animals in our country. We all agreed it would be very scary and strange to see a lion walking around Sandhurst. Alongside this topic, we learnt about people who help us in the community. We welcomed 'Tiny Street', a small world role play company, into our school hall and enjoyed immersing ourselves into the lives of doctors, vets, builders and farmers!

Mrs Lucas keeps telling us what superstar mathematicians we are. During the hot weather, we enjoyed exploring maths in our outside area. We have investigated capacity, delved into odd and even numbers and even used natural materials to learn about halving and doubling. Finally, this term also brought another first for Potter Class – we spent all term practising hard for our first ever sports day! We showed mountains of bravery as we participated in three races for our peers and family.

Potter Class wish you all a wonderful half term—enjoy the sunshine!



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## Nightingale Class Update



We have had another busy term in Nightingale Class and the children have immersed themselves into all areas of their learning. We have had a huge focus on phonics in recent weeks and I am delighted with the level of effort the children are putting in to make progress in their reading. They really enjoy seeing the impact of their hard work.

The children have really been engrossed in our topic of 'School Days', especially the Victorian schools in which they couldn't quite believe the punishments! This was topped off fantastically by a brilliant class assembly where they delivered a huge amount of knowledge and fabulous acting skills!

We have loved spending a whole day every week in Windmill Woods. The children have been in their element and really grown in confidence and teamwork. It was the perfect location for our science lessons of 'Plant Parts' and they carried out some fantastic fieldwork.

Please do keep up the reading and phonics sessions at home over the half term. You have access to the School Portal on the Ruth Miskin website so have plenty to choose from.



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## Darwin Class Update

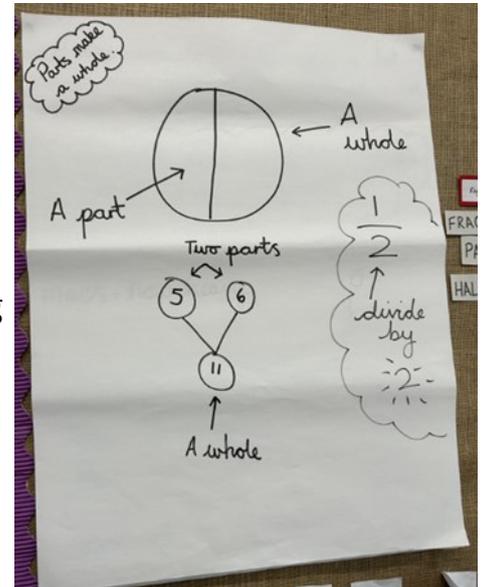
Darwin have had a great term and were introduced to lots of new topics with great success! I also want to say well done to Year 2 who completed their SATs this term. The children showed fantastic resilience and they should be very proud of themselves – we all are!

In English, we wrote fantastic poems about ourselves using various newly-learnt skills, a fantastic letter to the King about our Coronation celebrations and a recount. Children enjoy Big Writes as they can be creative and put all of their weekly learning into a piece of writing!

In maths, Darwin have been learning all about fractions with a hint of telling the time. We managed to link the two by making a connection between a clock being split into quarters and halves which helped us a lot when we needed to tell the time. Darwin enjoyed this unit in maths because it was practical, involving drawing and using lots of resources!

In topic, we began learning about ‘Magnificent Monarchs’ which involved some interesting facts about many of the British kings and queens. The children were particularly interested in King Henry VIII and all of his wives!

In science, we have been looking at habitats, microhabitats and food chains. The children found it interesting and enjoyed making their own food chains, using information they learnt about microhabitats.



## Pankhurst Class Update

Pankhurst have been making the most of the lovely weather and being outside as part of our science lessons this term. We have been studying the functions of different parts of the plants. We observed food dye travelling along the xylem (vessels in the stem) and actually colouring the leaves on the celery we used. We also gathered a selection of ivy from shady and sunny locations. We measured the leaf size and collated the information on a graph to see patterns. Can you guess which area had the largest leaves?



We have enjoyed our White Rose maths lessons this term. Bobby said, "I like the flashback part of the lesson." This part of the lesson is great for practising previous knowledge and skills. We also used scales and weights to consolidate our learning about reading scales.



Our topic this term is 'Emperors and Empires'. The children found some amazing facts about emperors and wrote biographies in our English lessons. You can see in the photo that the children shared their biographies as they studied different emperors.



Finally, we wanted to say thank you to the 'Tractorfest' charity, who subsidised a fabulous day out for Pankhurst class to Detling showground to see the 'Living Land' show. It was such a fun-packed day. We saw a sheep show, petted farm animals, tasted locally produced foods, made our own smoothies using bikes, watched horses ploughing, cows being milked, a birds of prey show and we saw some vintage tractors and engines. We felt very lucky to have had such a fun-packed day out - thank you Tractorfest!



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## Shakespeare Class Update



*Greetings from Shakespeare Class at the end of another busy term.*

*This term has found us learning all about Sumer in our topic lessons - did you know they were the world's first civilisation?*

*We have stuck with the 'ancient' theme in English - our book is set in Ancient Egypt and is about a girl called Lil who has to get a canopic jar back to Egypt to set her grandad free from a curse. We can't wait to see what happens! We have also written adventure stories of our own, based in Egypt.*

*In science, our topic has been electricity and we have had fun investigating circuits and working out why they sometimes don't work.*

*We also really enjoyed putting on a presentation for the Easter service at the Mission Church.*

*It has been so lovely to have some PE lessons in the sun this term, although Year 5 have also really enjoyed having swimming lessons at Claremont School.*

*Shakespeare Class wishes you all a happy holiday.*



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## Churchill Class Update

What an incredibly challenging term Churchill Class has had! The whole class worked their socks off as they prepared for, and then sat, their SATs – we are so proud of them all.

As always, Year 6 relished the opportunity to attend breakfast club during SATs week, where they set themselves up for the day ahead with a delicious meal. Thank you so much to Mrs Lawrence, Miss Chandler and Mr Digby for accommodating Year 6 at breakfast club every day; they loved it!



To celebrate the completion of the SATs and, as a reward for all of their hard work throughout their time at Sandhurst, we managed to secure tickets for the whole class to have the amazing opportunity of seeing David Walliams, in person, at the Assembly Hall. This was to celebrate the release of his brand-new action-packed comic caper, 'Robodog'. Churchill Class certainly experienced a supercharged, one-hour spectacular with Britain's favourite storyteller! The noise, cheering and enthusiasm from all the children was off the scale!



Churchill Class has also worked extremely hard with their writing and, in fact, they were all exceptional authors when they re-told the story of "Goodnight Mister Tom" in their own words. In many cases, this was the longest piece of extended writing they had ever written: the stamina, detail and emotion included in their stories was remarkable – well done, Churchill Class.

We are now beginning to look ahead to term 6, when we will prepare for our leavers' events to say farewell to "The Class of 2023" and celebrate their time at Sandhurst before they begin their transition to secondary school. In the meantime, we would like to wish everyone a lovely (and hopefully sunny) half term.



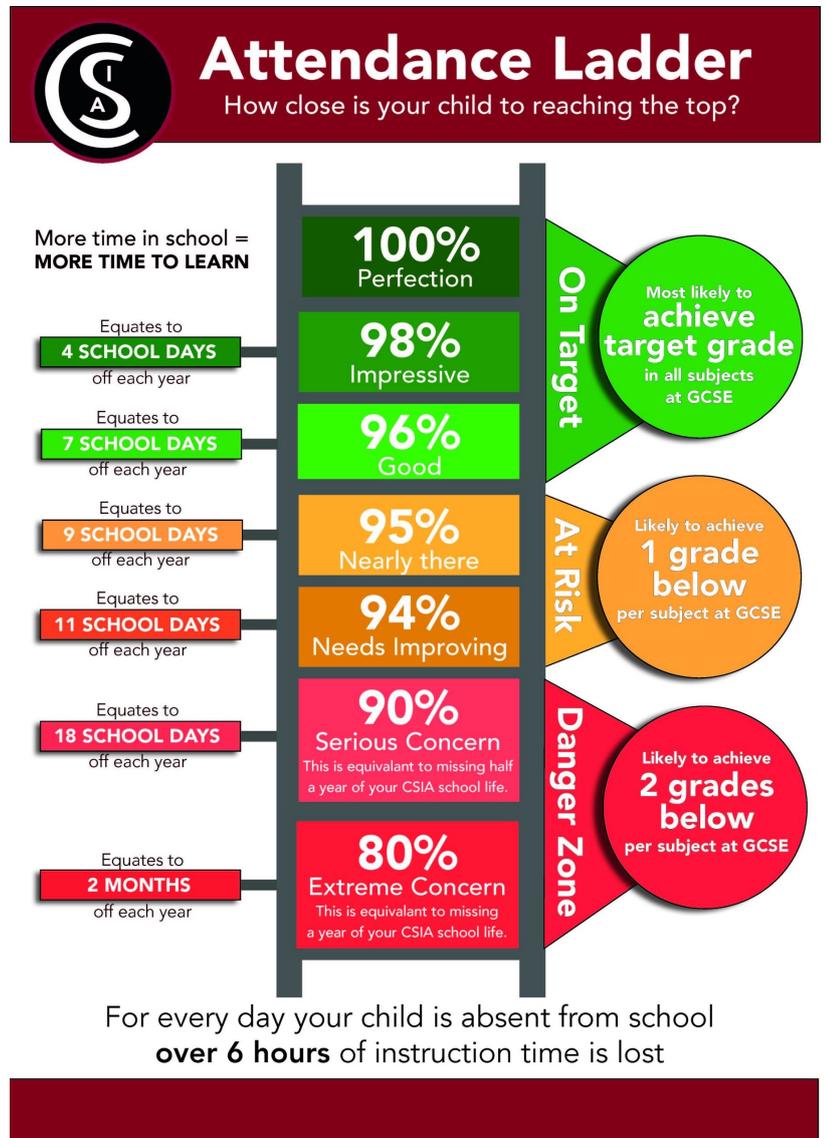
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## Attendance

There will be another bounce after half term for all of those children who have only missed one day of school this term.

Unfortunately, we have had quite a lot of sickness and a fair few families taking holidays in term time, which has made this term's attendance a bit lower once again.

Pankhurst Class are this term's winner for class attendance!



*Reminder: School starts at 8.50 am. Phonics lessons start at 9.00 a.m. sharp.*

*Please try to get your children to school on time, so that they don't miss out.*

*Staff need their time after school to mark and plan for the next day, please try to collect your children on time too.*

## New Uniform Update

### School Uniform from September 2023

- Grey trousers/shorts/skirt or pinafore dress
- White blouse/shirt with a Sandhurst tie, **or** a white polo shirt without a tie
- Navy blue Sandhurst sweatshirt or cardigan
- Grey socks or tights
- **Black, flat shoes (not trainers, boots or sandals)**

### PE

- Navy blue or yellow Sandhurst PE shirt
- Navy shorts/plain leggings or jogging trousers (no logos)
- Navy blue or black school PE hoodie
- Trainers or plimsoles

NO HOME SPORTS CLOTHES

### Forest School

- An old coat
- Old warm trousers (not jeans)
- Waterproof trousers and a raincoat (can be supplied by the school)
- A warm jumper/sweatshirt
- Wellington boots
- Warm socks
- A hat/scarf and gloves in the winter

### In addition

- A coat should be in school every day.
- A navy Sandhurst fleece may be worn as an extra layer
- Children may choose to wear a navy or yellow gingham dress in the summer
- Plain stud earrings may be worn (not hoops or dangling earrings)
- Long hair should be tied back; short hair should be an appropriate length, natural colour and style suitable for school (no tram lines or coloured hair dye please)
- No nail varnish, make up or additional jewellery to be worn.

***Please ensure that all clothing is clearly labelled***

Phillips Man's Shops will be stocking the new uniform from Easter. More details to follow as to how you can claim your free sweatshirt or cardigan – this will be purchased by the school and available for you to pick up from Phillips Man's Shop.

**School uniform is available from:** Phillips Man's Shop – Cranbrook (01580 713011)

We have a limited stock of some second-hand uniform; please ask at the school office for details.



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## Healthy Lunchboxes

- We have noticed that some children's lunchboxes are full of processed food only.
- One lunchbox contained nine different processed items inside - which was rather overwhelming for their infant child.



What is a healthy packed lunch for school?

**Starchy foods like bread, rice, potatoes or pasta.**

Protein foods like meat, fish, eggs or beans.

A dairy item, like cheese or yogurt.

Vegetables or salad and a portion of fruit.

There is nothing wrong with the odd chocolate biscuit or cupcake once or twice a week.

There are several websites which can give you ideas on healthier options. The NHS has a good one for children's lunchboxes with recipes too.

Tesco's kid's lunchbox ideas is on this link [Lunch Ideas For Kids | Recipes For Kids | Tesco Real Food](#) .

## Cup Cake Challenge



Congratulations to all of our cup cake makers. There were so many wonderful designs and all children who took part won vouchers to spend at our summer fair. All cakes made were sent there too.



Thank you to Tanya Parker from Sandhurst Tearooms who was our judge for the day.



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## Sport Day Celebrations



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## Sport's Day Celebrations



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## Summer Fair



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## Diary Dates 2023

	End of Term 5
29th May	Holiday
5th June	Children back to school
13th June	New intake visiting
	New intake Parents Evening 7.00 p.m.
15th June	Whole school Art Exhibition
19th June	New Intake visiting
23rd June	INSET Day - children not in school
28th June	New intake visiting
4th July	Year 6 trip to Kent Police Open Day
6th July	Year 1 and 2 Bodiam Trip
10th—15th July	Meet the Teacher –sessions after school
11th July	New Intake Teddy Bears picnic
12th July	Reports to Parents
13th July	Shakespeare Trip to British Museum
13th July	Year 6 Performance
14th July	Jump Up Afternoon
17th July	Rock Steady Concert
18th July	Year 6 Dinner
20th July	Year 6 Leaver's Service
20th July	End of Term
21st July	Inset Day - children not in school
1st Sept	Return to School



## Term Dates 2023 - 2024

### Sandhurst Primary School Term Dates 2023/2024

#### Term 1

**INSET**

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023**

Starts

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Ends

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2023

**Holiday**

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 – Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2023

#### Term 2

**INSET**

**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

Starts

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2023

Ends

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023

**Holiday**

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 – Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

#### Term 3

**INSET**

**Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024**

Starts

Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024

Ends

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024

**Holiday**

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2024

#### Term 4

Starts

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2024

Ends

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2024

**Holiday**

Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March 2024 – Friday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2024

#### Term 5

Starts

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> April 2024

**Bank Holiday**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Ends

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2024

**Holiday**

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2024 – Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2024

#### Term 6

Starts

Monday 3<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**INSET**

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024**

Ends

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024

#### **INSET DAYS**

1<sup>st</sup> September 2023, 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024, 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2024, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2024