

With *kindness* in our hearts,
we find *enjoyment* in our learning and
seek *challenge* in all that we do.



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NEWSLETTER

July 2023

Whole School Update

As another academic year at Sandhurst Primary ends, I would like to say a huge thank you to the children for all their hard work, support and friendship of each other. I am, as always, extremely proud of our lovely school and to be able to celebrate so many fantastic achievements.



The end of 2023 has been extremely eventful. In the last few weeks, our youngest children have visited Bodiam Castle and Rye Harbour, whilst our older children have been to the British Museum in London, the Police Open Day in Maidstone and the County Show. We also welcomed a flying display of owls to school and took part in a whole school sponsored walk to St Nicholas Church for a picnic. Our new EYFS children have visited the school and enjoyed a Teddy Bears' picnic with Mrs Lucas and Year 5.



We also said goodbye to George Parkin, our Chair of Governors, in a special leaving assembly for him and welcomed our new Chair, Frances Holland, to the team.

Last week, Year 6 went to the Mission Church for their leaving service. Finally, we finished the term with an amazing Year 6 dinner on Tuesday evening and a lovely leavers' assembly on Thursday.

After the success of the 'Slip and Slide' last year, we had planned to do the same again. Unfortunately, the weather and the hose pipe ban stopped this. Nevertheless, the PTFA arranged a marvellous games day that was enjoyed by all.

Thanks must go to parents, the PTFA and governors for all supporting the school. A special thank you must go to Sophie Willard, the chair of the PTFA, who has held the team together through the 'Covid years' and has now handed over the reins. A new PTFA AGM will be held in September so that the new team can begin to follow on her great work. Please look out for the date.

We hope that everyone has a wonderful summer holiday, and we wish the best of luck to all of our school leavers. Keep in touch – we will miss you all. We will see everyone else back at school on Monday 4th September in our new uniform, too.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Potter Class Update



It has become a little tradition of mine to end the year with a little poem. So, without further ado, Potter Class, this one's for you!

Sticky fingers, runny noses,
Head, shoulders, knees and toes-es!
Shapes and colours, ABCs,
Taking turns and 123s.

Forest school fires, hugs and giggles,
Circle time and lots of wiggles,
Beach trips, construction and dress-up clothes,
Planting a beanstalk and watching how it grows.

Fish and chip Fridays, first time friends,
Thinking days like these will never end,
Potter Class is over before you know it,
No one is sadder than Mrs Lucas the poet.

Just like a butterfly you have flown,
You have learned so much and you have grown,
So take off now and spread your Nightingale wings,
Soar to new heights and learn Year 1 things.

Just remember before you do,
Mrs L, Mrs C and Mrs K are so proud of you!

Well done, Potter Class, you should be extremely proud of all you have achieved during your first year.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Darwin Class Update

What a fantastic last term Darwin Class has had! We have worked extremely hard and have enjoyed all areas of our learning.

Darwin enjoyed their "Magnificent Monarchs" topic. The children enjoyed learning all about King Henry VIII and the fact that he had six wives, along with other significant monarchs in history such as Queen Elizabeth II, Queen Victoria and many more. The children enjoyed using timelines and wrote descriptions about these important kings and queens. Linking to this topic, in art, the children have enjoyed creating beautiful portraits of Henry VIII using watercolours.

In maths, Darwin has enjoyed the statistics unit, learning how to use tally charts and representing the information in different charts and graphs.

Various extra-curricular activities Darwin enjoyed this year were the Nativity, our class assembly, Forest School, sports day, the art exhibition, the Welly Walk and visiting Bodiam Castle. The children thrive when being active and it was great to see them all engage and enjoy these outings.

Thank you for a fantastic year, Darwin. We can't believe how grown up you all are and how hard you have all worked. You have made fantastic progress and we will miss you next year.



Nightingale Class Update

I cannot believe how quickly the year has passed and that Nightingale Class children are preparing for starting Year 2. We will miss them immensely but they are absolutely ready for next set of challenges ahead of them. It has been a true delight to see them grow in maturity, independence and resilience over the course of the year.

One of our true highlights was our class assembly. I was so impressed with the amount of information the children could remember about the Victorian era, as well as their ability to perform so confidently in front of an audience.

Our time at Forest School was brilliant. It was lovely to see how the children shine in a different environment. It was great to do our science lessons whilst in the woods, too, getting hands-on with different plants, including nettles for baking nettle bread!

The progress we have seen in reading and writing is phenomenal. I have been looking back over the children's books and it is wonderful to see the change in their writing from early mark making to extended pieces of writing, using rich descriptive language.

We have covered a large amount of topics in maths and we have some buddy mathematicians. As a class, the children have become very secure with their place value knowledge as well as counting in 2s, 5s and 10s. I would encourage practising these over the Summer holidays.

Our topics have taken us on walks around the village to learn about our local area. We enjoyed using Google Maps to get a better understanding of aerial views. The children then drew their own maps of the classroom and of the school. We have learnt about the environmental effects of littering and the need to recycle.

We have shared some lovely activities such as cooking salads and preparing sandwiches, making apple crumble, creating 3D taxi models and going on trips to Bodiam Castle and the fabulous Christmas pantomime. I look back with fond memories of this year and I will really miss Nightingale Class. I hope you all have a wonderful Summer and good luck for next year.



Pankhurst Class Update

We have had a fabulous term 6 in Pankhurst Class. Our science focus has been plants and nutrition and we have made observations and developed our vocabulary of the parts of plants and their functions. We were lucky enough to have been invited to St Nicholas Church by Revd Ylva, to survey the plants and wildlife growing in the locality—the homemade lemon cake also went down a treat!

During our light and shadows lesson, the children explored the effects of the varying light colour when looking at shadows.

In DT, we have been learning about greenhouses. Thinking about how to make sturdy structures, we used cocktail sticks and sweets to model how an angled support really helps.

We have been so lucky to have had Philippa from 'Project Salus' visiting weekly during this term. She has worked with the class on building self-esteem and looking after our well-being. The children really enjoyed these sessions and made some lovely visual representations of how we are all important. Thank you to Mrs Lucas for organising this.

Looking back on the year, Ms Boriani and I are so proud of the children's progress in all areas of the curriculum and in their self-confidence. For us, the highlight was the wonderful trip to the Living Land show in Detling. We wish all of Pankhurst Class a restful and fun-filled summer break, and look forward to seeing you in September!



Shakespeare Class Update



It has been a great final term for Shakespeare Class with lots going on as always!

Year 5 have wowed Mrs Bromfield with their swimming progress and everyone has also enjoyed playing rounders in PE.

In English, we have continued to base our writing on our Egyptian-themed book but we also wrote instructions for next year's Year 4 and 5 on how to survive Shakespeare Class! We did that when Mrs Bromfield was out for the day!

Our school trip was so much fun; we went to London on the train to visit the British Museum and saw some very peculiar street entertainment in Covent Garden.

We have also completed some incredible art and DT projects, creating clay sculptures and trying to work out how the pyramids were built.

We have had a really fun year but we are looking forward to our summer holiday and moving into Churchill Class in September.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Churchill Class Update



It's that time of year when we have to say a very fond farewell to the incredible Churchill Class of 2023! And what a fabulous term we have had, celebrating their primary school years!

Churchill Class thoroughly enjoyed their last school trip together at the Kent Police Training College in Maidstone for their fantastic open day. The children loved sitting in the police car, learning all about border control, watching the police dog show and visiting the custody cells...as well as trying on some of the uniform and equipment!

Churchill's production of "Cinderella and Rockerfella" was a roaring success and their performances had the audience in fits of laughter; it was full of non-stop enjoyment and show-stopping moments. They really were sensational!

Following the show, the next morning brought a time of reflection and calm as we ventured over to the Mission Church for a lovely Church service. Churchill Class treated us to a beautiful rendition of Amazing Grace which was exceptionally moving.

Churchill's fabulous celebrations culminated with the hugely anticipated "Year 6 Dinner/Prom". All the children looked amazing and thoroughly enjoyed their delicious meal and an evening of dancing. As always, thank you so much to Mrs Lawrence for her exceptional hard work in organising, preparing, catering and running such a wonderful evening for Churchill Class.

Good luck and thank you Churchill Class of 2023 – keep aiming high and being happy!

Attendance

As we come to the end of the academic year there is good news!

- ◆ Whole school attendance is looking at 93.5%, compared with last year, which was 90.6% .
- ◆ Persistent absentees—students with less than 90% attendance was 32.1% (52 pupils) last year and this year it is looking to be 18.8% (30 pupils).
- ◆ The children have enjoyed their reward bounces and attendance colouring competitions as well as their class treat afternoons.
- ◆ Boys' attendance is 94.6% and girls' attendance is 92.4%.
- ◆ Years 2 and 4 are the best attendees in school.
- ◆ Pre-Covid, our attendance was 97.4% for the whole school and the number of persistent absentees was 2 pupils. This is what we need to head for from September 2023 onwards.



We have five superstars who were awarded a 100% Attendance medal today:

Well done to Thomas in Churchill, Thomas in Shakespeare, Olivia in Pankhurst, Olivia in Potter and Lilia in Shakespeare. These children haven't missed a day in school all year—an amazing achievement!

Well done to all pupils and parents in our school for bringing our percentage up this year and let's try to get back to our past percentages which will help all of us.

Reminder: School starts at 8.50 am. Phonics lessons start at 9.00 am 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, so 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

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



SANDHURST
— PRIMARY SCHOOL —



Cinderella & Rockerfella

Churchill Class produced a fabulous end of term performance of Cinderella & Rockerfella. Their enthusiasm in being on stage, dressing up and enjoying time together was amazingly evident. Big thanks must go to Mrs Saunders, Mrs Channon and Miss Lawrance for helping to put on such a marvellous performance and to all our families for being a great audience.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Cinderella & Rockerfella



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

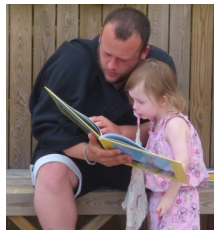
Y6 Leaving Assembly and Church Service

Thank you to Revd David and Lin Hayes, who hosted a special leaving celebration for Y6 children, staff and families. All the children took part and sang beautifully. As part of the service, each child was presented with a Bible to remember their time at school.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Y6 Leaving Assembly



Other Leaving Assembly news



Congratulations to our Reading Challenge Winners and to five children who have earned one hundred percent attendance this year.



Thank you to everyone who raised money from our sponsored 'Welly Walk'—well done to these Sienna, James and Olivia, who each raised over £100! We have raised over £1700 so far and this will go towards an outside shelter on the field.

Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

End of Summer Term special celebration day

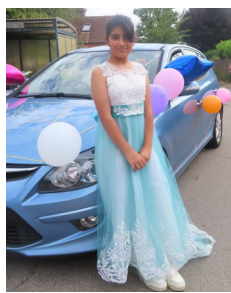


Thank you to the PTFA for organising the hire of these giant games. We had a wonderful day playing with them.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Y6 Leaving Dinner



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Stop Press.....

Congratulations to Miss Chandler—Mrs Wilding to be!

We wish you all the best for your wedding over the summer!



And...finally, well done to the whole Caterlink Team at Sandhurst, for winning the Kent Award for the cleanest school kitchen in Kent.

Diary Dates so far 2023-24

20th July	End of Term
21st July	Inset Day - children not in school
1st Sept	INSET Day
4th Sept	Children return to school
15th Sept	School Photographer - individual photos

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Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Sandhurst Primary School Term Dates 2023/2024

Term 1

INSET

Friday 1st September 2023

Starts

Monday 4th September 2023

Ends

Friday 20th October 2023

Holiday

Monday 23rd October 2023 – Friday 27th October 2023

Term 2

INSET

Monday 30th October 2023

Starts

Tuesday 31st October 2023

Ends

Friday 15th December 2023

Holiday

Monday 18th December 2023 – Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Term 3

INSET

Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Starts

Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Ends

Friday 9th February 2024

Holiday

Monday 12th February 2024 – Friday 16th February 2024

Term 4

Starts

Monday 19th February 2024

Ends

Thursday 28th March 2024

Holiday

Friday 29th March 2024 – Friday 12th April 2024

Term 5

Starts

Monday 15th April 2024

Bank Holiday

Monday 6th May 2024

Ends

Friday 24th May 2024

Holiday

Monday 27th May 2024 – Friday 31st May 2024

Term 6

Starts

Monday 3th June 2024

INSET

Monday 22nd and 23rd July 2024

Ends

Friday 19th July 2024

INSET DAYS

1st September 2023, 30th October 2023, 2nd January 2024, 22nd July 2024, 23rd July 2024