

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



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NEWSLETTER

December 2023

Whole School Update



Potter Class

On behalf of all of the governors, staff and children at Sandhurst Primary School, I would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

Despite an increase in coughs, colds and stomach bugs, it has been so lovely to enjoy time with Team Sandhurst. Our children and staff have worked hard and have had a fantastic Christmas term.

The fun has included: parties, The Twinkly Nativity, a wonderful carol service at St Nicholas Church, Christmas lunch and jumper day, Christmas shopping, a Christmas Fayre and a wonderful pantomime by a travelling Theatre Company.

Thank you so much for all the presents, cards and good wishes we have received and a huge thank you, also, for all of your continued support throughout the year.



We would also like to say a special thank you to our PTFA team who continue to work extremely hard to ensure that our school continues to be as fabulous as it is.

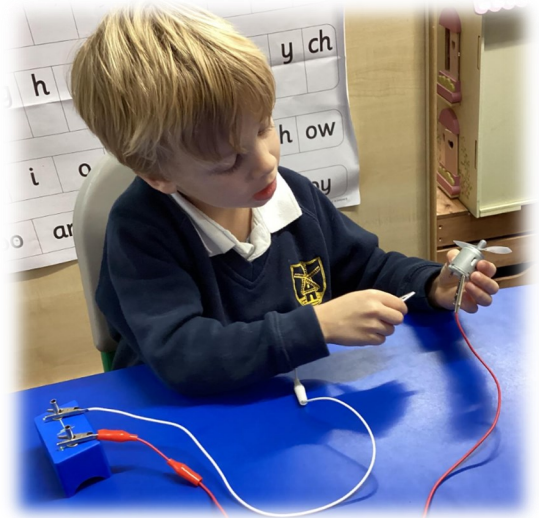
Today, we bid goodbye to Mrs Bromfield and wish her well as she leaves us for new adventures away from the education system. I know the children and staff will miss her greatly. We also wish Miss Lett a fantastic wedding on Saturday and look forward to hearing all about it on her return in January as the new Mrs Haynes.

Hoping that everyone has a wonderful and relaxing Christmas holiday, we wish you all the very best for the New Year and look forward to seeing everyone back, safe and healthy, on Wednesday 3rd January 2024.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Potter Class Update



What an amazing Christmas term we have had in Potter Class!

We have spent this term exploring 'Marvellous Machines' and it has been incredible to watch the children progress with their learning. We have used tools to take machines apart and to explore what is inside; we learnt about transport from the past and present; and we even developed our coding skills to programme our class robots. We have thoroughly enjoyed developing our communication and language skills in our role play areas this term and we had great fun building Santa's workshop in the large construction area. We transformed ourselves into various Christmas characters to sing on our sleigh creation, too.

Potter Class have been working exceptionally hard with their phonics and writing this term. I have been blown away by the early reading that has developed in the last few weeks, and it has been wonderful to watch the class write simple sentences. In maths, we have been exploring numbers to 10. They have worked hard to write all their numerals and they are starting to write the numerals 1-9 with increased accuracy.

Finally, Potter Class must be commended for their sensational performance in the EYFS and KS1 Nativity show. It takes a lot of courage to stand on the stage and perform for a huge audience, and Potter Class did it with confidence, style and the best dance moves in town!

Potter Class wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



Nightingale Class Update

We have had another busy and wonderful term in Nightingale Class. We have delved deeper into our learning about life in the 1950s and the children created some brilliant leaflets. We shared our leaflets with some other classes to show them what we had learnt about the decade.

In science, we have been busy learning about the human body and our five senses. We had fun testing our sense of smell and taste to identify different foods, although some were more pleasant than others! We also learnt how important our senses are to keep us safe, and how difficult it must be to live without our sense of sight or hearing.

In maths, we have been powering through addition and subtraction. We have been aiming high and have learnt part, part whole model and fact families. We can now write number sentences for addition and subtraction. We will keep practising this throughout the next term. We have loved learning about 2D and 3D shapes, especially using the feely bag to give clues to our friends.

We have learnt all about the Hindu festival of Diwali which is a celebration of 'good versus evil'. We have been creative in our learning of the story of Rama and Sita by drawing scenes from the classic story, making Diwali lanterns and Rangoli patterns.

We have seen fantastic progress in reading in just two terms. Thank you for your continued support from home; please do keep reading over the holidays.

The build-up to Christmas has been full of festive cheer, including our wonderful Nativity! I hope you enjoy lots more Christmas fun over the holidays.



Darwin Class Update

Wow – what a busy term full of Christmas cheers and lots of fun learning.

In English and topic, we have been looking at significant people from the past such as Neil Armstrong, Rosa Parks and Emmeline Pankhurst. The children enjoyed writing newspaper articles and speeches about these significant people.



In maths, Darwin have been looking at addition, subtraction and shape. The children loved the shape unit, particularly when we investigated the 3D shapes.

In DT this term, we have really enjoyed learning why we cook our food, using different tools, reading recipes and designing a healthy school meal.



In science, Darwin have been learning all about animals and their habitats. One lesson they particularly enjoyed was about animal food chains.

The nativity was brilliant. Well done to Darwin for having the lead roles with lots of speaking parts and doing a fantastic job singing. Everyone loved your performances!



Pankhurst Class Update



Pankhurst Class have thoroughly enjoyed their second term of Forest School sessions. Even through the heavy rain, the children always returned to school with a story to tell and smile on their faces. The Christmas decorations they made will certainly be treasured at home!

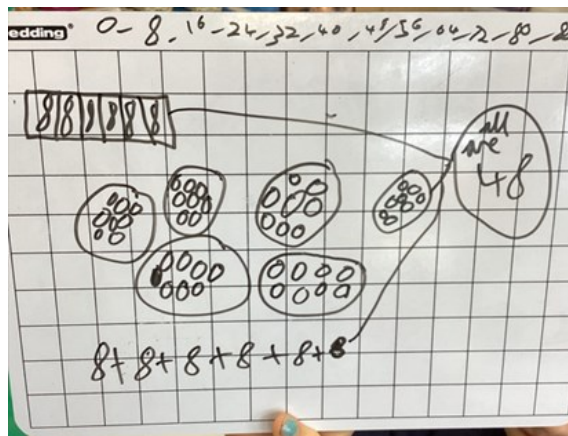
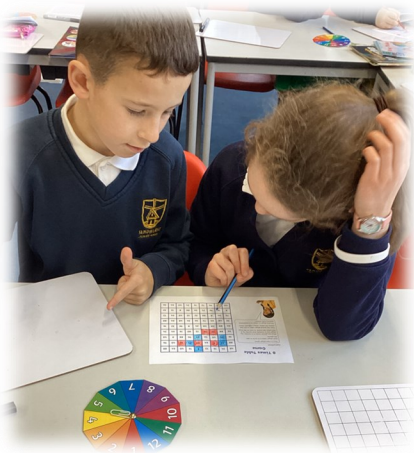
To end our 'Through the Ages' topic, we have studied the Bronze and Iron Ages. The children have really enjoyed learning about how the discovery of different metals influenced the current world we live in.

It has been remarkable to see how much the children's maths skills have developed this term. We have had a focus on multiplication and division; as you can see from the white board workings, the children found the different models to demonstrate different times tables an effective tool when working out the eight times tables.

Pankhurst have had a go at using 4-digit grid references when map reading in geography. They were able to list grid references for locations that were physical and human features.

In computing, we have been developing out typing skills. Have you tried BBC Dance Mat? It is a really great game for developing typing skills!

Wishing everyone a merry Christmas and a healthy happy New Year, from all of the Pankhurst Team!



Shakespeare Class Update



What a busy term it has been for Shakespeare Class! Along with all the usual busy Christmas preparations, the children also had to prepare for their class assembly, which was magnificent. They performed a Horrible Histories style show all about the different people who invaded England after the Romans left.



The children have also been enjoying some practical activities in DT.

They have made healthy snacks: vegetable crisps and hummus, and they have also worked really hard at weaving. They found it tricky at first but persevered and became quite the experts!



Happy Christmas from Shakespeare Class!



Churchill Class Update



'Twas the term before Christmas in Churchill Class,
Buddies were looking at books with a glance,
Churchill were full of excitement for Grease,
We can get an hour of silence at least.

We are a calm class most of the time,
We get cool treats and we have great rhyme,
In DT we made lots of food,
Despite our hard work, some people despised it ... rude!

We liked our escape room,
That didn't lead to doom.
We made our own stall for Children in Need,
We made fake blood – no-one was made to bleed.

Don't forget the decorations we made for the library,
We made Christmas things that were very, very merry.
The mobile library is very good too,
Lots of books for me and you.

We exercised in science and counted our heart rate,
Then relaxed for a one minute break.
Hope you like the things that we do.
Remember that fun is at home too.
Ava Milham

'Twas the term before Christmas in Churchill Class,
It rained so we weren't allowed on the grass.
We had an escape room in RE,
And played hockey in PE.
It was so fun all term round,
In our tests, we didn't make a sound.
Sometimes we made some food,
Nobody was ever in a mood.
We read and played with our buddies,
We never needed to worry about our studies.

Mrs Saunders is obsessed with Christmas,
When we were off, she always missed us.
It was so cool in the mobile library,
We made posters for everything you could imagine,
Mrs Lawrence had nail fashion.
From measuring heart rates to writing poems,
In class assembly we were allowed to show
Cool trophies or badges from home,
And we could have help with rhymes from Chrome.

For Children in Need we did a fair,
It was all made with love and care.
Throughout this term that we all enjoyed,
Not one person destroyed our fun,
Even if there was no sun.
To say thank you to the teachers we give lots of cards,
They are like our special guards.
By Faith Roxborough

News from out and about

Well done to Olivia Frederick!
Olivia entered a club competition in artistic roller dance and she came first place in her event.



Earlier this term, Esme was awarded a yellow belt in Judo. She started learning judo at school a year ago and then joined a competitive club run by an Olympian. Esme is aiming for the 'Nationals' next year. Amazing news!

Attendance

Attendance is 94.4% across the school so far this year. This time last year we were at 91.9%, so this is a great improvement. Strangely, boys are still ahead of the girls but not by much. 94.7% for boys and 94% for girls. Come on girls - you can do it!

As of today, twenty children have under 90% attendance and are classed by the DfE as Persistent Absentees. Last term there were twenty-nine children with under 90% attendance so, again, an improvement. These children's parents have been written to just to make them aware of the situation. Any children who have improved from last term will receive a congratulations certificate next term too.

There will be another Attendance Bounce after the Christmas holiday for all children who missed no more than one day of school in Term 2.

Please remember that we are happy to administer medicine in school, if you think your child is recovering and could cope with a day at school.



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.

Whole School Pantomime



What fun we had at the whole school pantomime - oh yes we did!

The school hall was transformed into Never Never Land for the morning as Hurricane Productions descended upon our school hall for a morning of pantomime fun. The children were delighted to join Peter Pan, Wendy and fearsome Captain Hook on an adventure to find the lost treasure of Skull Island.

We booed, we hissed, we cheered and danced our way through a morning of swash-buckling entertainment. Thank you so much to the PTFA for paying for the entire performance and providing us with delicious popcorn as well!

Carol Service

Thank you to Reverend David and the team at St Nicholas for hosting our KS2 carol service.

We were so proud of our children for the manner in which they sang, spoke and acted. Thank you, also, to our families for coming out on such a bleak evening and filling the Church to the brim!



The Twinkly Nativity



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Community

TESCO A huge thank you to Tesco and Waitrose this Christmas.

Waitrose provided chocolate and sweets for the children this week. They also donated fantastic picture books and soft toys for each class. These are based around the theme of the John Lewis Christmas advert.

Tesco provided enough Christmas crackers for the children to have one each to pull on their Christmas Dinner Day.

So generous of them.

WAITROSE
& PARTNERS





#WE ARE
THE HAWKS!!!
COME JOIN US!!!

WE NEED YOU!!!!

U8's/Yr3

TRAINING:-THURSDAY NIGHTS AT
BETHANY 6.30-7.30pm.
MATCHES:-SATURDAY MORNINGS!!
hawkhurstunitedjfc@gmail.com



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Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Community

Tenterden CommunityAd Magazine

www.communityad.co.uk

High Halden Hornets FC

Generating a footballing buzz in the local area.



A grassroots football club who welcome a variety of different ages, High Halden Hornets FC play at Hopes Grove in Ashford. Tom Wilson has been helping promote this fantastic family club and we caught up with him to find out more about High Halden Hornets FC...

To readers who may not know, can you explain your footballing background, role at High Halden Hornets and how long the club have been running for?

I am fairly new to the club, with my son having been part of the Under 7's team last season and now moving up in to the Under 8's for this season; so I have been associated with the club for about 18 months.

I come from a keen footballing background having been a player myself from the age of 8 right the way through to my late 20's playing for Snodland Town FC.

For High Halden Hornets I have taken on the role of keeping our social media up to date and reporting on news about the club and

where I can providing match reports for the Under 8's team. I do this to generate a buzz for the club and publish the good work that they are doing. The club itself has been running for many years – it evolved from the High Halden School Football team in the summer of 2010 and became a village club for the last 13 years.

We have seen various teams come and go (as we don't have teams beyond the completion of the under 15's).

What is your ethos as a club?

As a club our ethos is simple; we strive to give every child in the community and surrounding areas an opportunity to play football within a safe, friendly, caring and supportive environment.

What would you say have been the club's most memorable moments in its history?

Throughout the years our teams have been successful in accomplishing League and Cup wins on several occasions as well as having success in locally run 5 a side competitions in the summer. We have been to France on a few occasions to compete in weekend tournaments and pit our skills against other international grass roots clubs.

We have an excellent relationship with the Chelsea FC Development Academy, where we currently have a few players who had been invited to join them and train and play matches against other Academy teams. We are also affiliated to Tenterden FC.

Our U15 team from last season played in the East Kent League and won the league and cup double and went on to play in the Kent League. Our current oldest team is the U13s who also play in the East Kent League and are doing extremely well.



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A few of our children play for the High Halden Hornets FC and were featured in the Tenterden Community newsletter.



Three team members played in a Chelsea Academy match



Are you currently looking for new players and if so, how can people get in touch to find out more?

We always welcome enquiries from players looking to either get

into football or who are already established and looking for a new club. At present we have 3 active teams; U7's, U8's and U13s but we also have a development team of 5 and 6 year olds who are being trained to become our U7's next season.

If anyone is interested in joining our club teams, then please feel free to contact us via Messenger on our High Halden Hornets FC Facebook page. Our club President is Lesley McCarthy and our club Secretary is John Terry. Our U8's are looking for a strong, established defender for next season when we move to U9's.

What aims do you have for this season?

Our aims for each season are those of our ethos, to enable our players to enjoy their football within a family friendly and supportive club.

Our teams have lots of players who all go to different schools and before joining our club were largely unknown to each other and

now they are all best of friends and do lots of activities together outside of just playing the football. When playing in competitive competitions, we aim to be as successful as we can but above all, aim for our players to enjoy themselves.

What future goals/visions do you have for High Halden Hornets FC?

We are looking to grow for the future and seek to continue to bring teams through from our development players to eventually have a team at every age group representing High Halden Hornets. We have a strong sponsor for our entire club, Sylvagen, who are fantastic in their support of our club.

We are developing more qualified coaches and supporting them with achieving their coaching badges. We are also encouraging our older players to be involved in coaching the younger players which has proven successful. We are also funding our teenage players to acquire their Refereeing qualifications.

The club is very much a "family" which offer support and friendship to all and there is an evident bond between our teams, players and supporters.

Keep up to date with the team by visiting the High Halden Hornets FC Facebook page.

Please mention CommunityAd Magazine when responding to advertisements Follow Us 39

Diary Dates so far 2023-24

15 th Dec	Last Day of Term Christmas Holiday
3rd Jan	Children back to school
10 th Jan	Open Morning 9.30 -11.30
1st Feb	Hearing and Vision Tests Year R
12th-16th Feb	Holiday
19th Feb	Term 4 Begins
18th-21st Mar	Bikeability-Year 6
25th –27th Mar	Year 6 Residential to Bewl Water
28th Mar	School Photographer - Class Photos
1st Apr	Easter Holidays
15th Apr	Term 5 Begins
6th May	Bank Holiday
13th May	KS2 SATs week
27th May	Holiday
3rd Jun	Term 5 Begins



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Term Dates 2023 - 2024

Sandhurst Primary School Term Dates 2023/2024

Term 1

INSET	Friday 1st September 2023
Starts	Monday 4 th September 2023
Ends	Friday 20 th October 2023
Holiday	Monday 23 rd October 2023 – Friday 27 th October 2023

Term 2

INSET	Monday 30th October 2023
Starts	Tuesday 31 st October 2023
Ends	Friday 15 th December 2023
Holiday	Monday 18 th December 2023 – Tuesday 2 nd January 2024

Term 3

INSET	Tuesday 2nd January 2024
Starts	Wednesday 3 rd January 2024
Ends	Friday 9 th February 2024
Holiday	Monday 12 th February 2024 – Friday 16 th February 2024

Term 4

Starts	Monday 19 th February 2024
Ends	Thursday 28 th March 2024
Holiday	Friday 29 th March 2024 – Friday 12 th April 2024

Term 5

Starts	Monday 15 th April 2024
Bank Holiday	Monday 6th May 2024
Ends	Friday 24 th May 2024
Holiday	Monday 27 th May 2024 – Friday 31 st May 2024

Term 6

Starts	Monday 3 th June 2024
INSET	Monday 22nd and 23rd July 2024
Ends	Friday 19 th July 2024

INSET DAYS

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