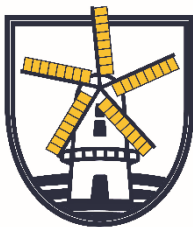


With **kindness** in our hearts,
we find **enjoyment** in our learning and
seek **challenge** in all that we do.



Rye Road, Sandhurst, Kent TN18 5JE

Tel: 01580 850288

Email: office@sandhurst.kent.sch.uk

Website: www.sandhurst.kent.sch.uk

NEWSLETTER

September 2024

Whole School Update

What a brilliant start we've had to the new academic year here at Sandhurst Primary School! After a rather soggy first few days, the sun decided to join us again, blessing us with a dry and cheerful start to the term. Long may it last!



Our youngest pupils in Potter Class have settled in beautifully. It's hard to believe that these bright and bubbly children have only been with us a few short weeks – they've already become an integral part of our school family. We've also welcomed new faces in other classes, and it's been wonderful to see how quickly everyone is finding their feet and making new friends.

At the other end of the school, our eldest pupils have stepped confidently into their new leadership roles. We're very proud of our new School Council members, and delighted to introduce our School Captains, Euan and Ella who are both already doing a marvellous job. This year also sees the exciting launch of our Eco-Committee, who will be championing greener habits and helping us all to look after our lovely school grounds.

One of the highlights of this term so far has been our Harvest Festival. The children sang and shared with such joy, and our generous food donations were taken to St Nicholas Church – a wonderful example of our community spirit in action.



We recently held an Open Day for new entrants, and it was lovely to see so many families come through our doors. If you missed it, don't worry – more Open Days are planned for 30th October, 24th November, 3rd December and 8th January. Please do come along; we'd be delighted to welcome you and show you all that makes Sandhurst such a special place to learn and grow.

Today, we said a fond farewell to Mrs Wilding. We will miss her and wish her the very best in her new job.

And finally – a date for your diary! Our ever-popular Fireworks Display will be lighting up the sky on Saturday 1st November. It promises to be a sparkling evening for all the family, so make sure you get your tickets and come along for a spook-tastic night!

Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Potter Class



Congratulations to all of our Potter Class super stars.

You have just finished your first term at Sandhurst Primary School and we are super proud of each and every one of you for settling in so well into your new class.

We started the term getting to know each other, through our home visits and our settling in days. Over the weeks we learnt all of Potter Class's routines and the routines of the school. We have now met our year 6 buddies and we have really enjoyed them coming into our class on a regular basis to read stories and play

with us. We joined in our first whole school assembly, which was the harvest festival, and we were all brave enough to stand up and sing our harvest song.



From week one, we started our phonics journey, and we have now learnt all our set 1 sounds, been practising how to "Fred talk" and how to segment and blend CVC words.

In maths, we have been learning about numbers up to 5 in maths, with a particular focus on 2 and 3.



Our theme this term was 'Let's Explore' and we started the term talking about our families and homes. We explored what was inside the harvest festival pumpkins and made pumpkin soup in the mud kitchen. We explored the idea of fantasy places and role-played different ideas and painted places we would like to visit. We used the story 'We're going on a Bear Hunt' to explore the idea of journeys and maps and we made a bear cave in the garden. We have also explored our feelings and talked about all the different emotions we might feel.

Overall we have all made an amazing start to our school life and we look forward to building on our learning next term.

Well done Potter Class, we hope you have a restful half term!



Nightingale Class



What a fantastic term we have had in Nightingale class!

We have jumped straight into so many interesting areas of learning! The children are enthusiastic and eager to learn!

In maths we have mastered 'place value' and we are becoming really confident in identifying the value of each digit. We have been working within 10, and providing the children with plenty of opportunity for working to a greater depth of understanding. We have just started our unit on 'addition and subtraction' which has introduced the 'part, part, whole model'. The children have loved identifying the parts and whole in picture, and writing the number sentences to match!



In English, we have been diving into our wonderful story about Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge and loved acting out the sequence of the story! We have been working hard at our spellings and handwriting and we are making great progress with the standard of our writing. I am thrilled with the amount of Read and Discover awards I get to give out on a Friday! Thank you for your continued commitment to reading; we have had lots of children moving up our RWI phonics scheme this term!

In history we learnt what a 'decade' meant, and then went back in time to the 1950s. We learnt what life was like: what shops there were; the jobs people had; the types of transport; and what people did for fun! In geography we have learnt all things maps! It has been lovely to use maps of Sandhurst to locate familiar places. The children drew their own maps and started to learn about the compass directions.

We hope you have a wonderful half term. Please make sure you keep reading and use the RWI Virtual classroom videos.

Mrs Player and Mrs Manser



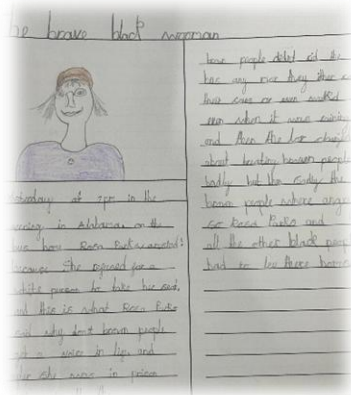
Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Darwin Class

What a brilliant half term it's been in Darwin Class! The children have worked incredibly hard and shown such enthusiasm for our topic, 'Significant People'. We've had so many thoughtful discussions and moments of real curiosity as we explored the lives of some amazing individuals who changed the world in different ways.



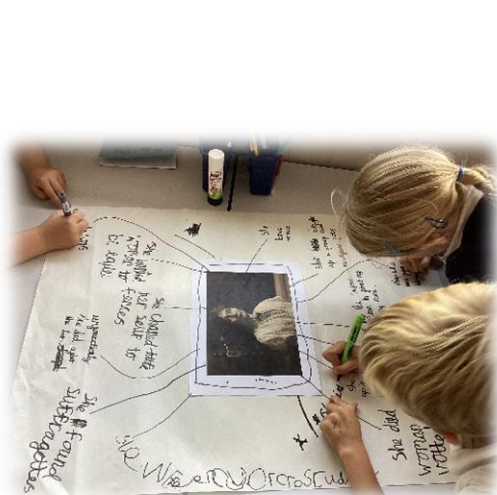
We learnt about activists like Rosa Parks, who bravely stood up for equality; explorers like Neil Armstrong, who took those famous first steps on the moon; and life-changing doctors like Joseph Lister, who transformed medicine and made hospitals safer for everyone. The children loved comparing how each of these people made a difference and talking about what makes someone truly "significant".



In science, we've been learning all about nutrition and health-related fitness - understanding what our bodies need to stay healthy and how exercise helps us feel our best. We've enjoyed practical activities, fun investigations and lots of movement too!

It's been a joy to see how curious, kind and hard-working Darwin Class have been this term. They should all feel very proud of their efforts and enthusiasm.

Have a lovely half term, and thank you for your continued support!



Pankhurst Class



What an amazing Autumn term Pankhurst have had so far! The children have settled beautifully into Key Stage 2 routines, showing great enthusiasm and curiosity in their learning.

Our history topic this term has been 'Through the Ages', where we explored life in the Stone Age — from food and clothing to homes and daily routines. A real highlight has been our Forest School sessions, where the children had the chance to imitate Stone Age hunting and gathering skills, creating crafts using natural resources. We even had lots of fun recreating Stonehenge using biscuits!

In art, we studied Bell Beaker pottery and learnt how ancient people used shells, sticks and even their fingernails to decorate their pots. The children loved using these techniques to design and create their own clay pots.



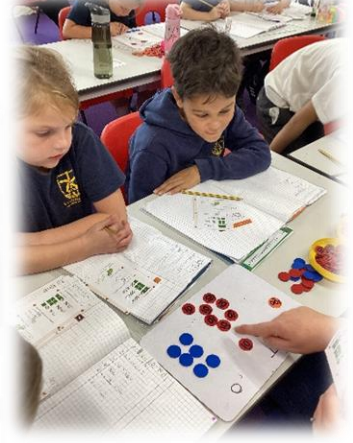
In science, we've been investigating the human skeleton. We explored how our joints help us move by making a cardboard arm model — and discovering what it would be like if our elbows couldn't bend!

Our geography work took us out into the village, where we carried out fieldwork surveys to see how the weather affects human and physical features in Sandhurst.



In maths, we've been using dimes and place value counters to support adding and subtracting three-digit numbers.

It's been a busy and exciting term full of creativity, curiosity and hands-on learning. Have a restful and well-deserved half-term break, everyone!



Shakespeare Class



What a fabulous start to the school year for Shakespeare Class. We are all settling in well and really enjoying all areas of the curriculum.

Our topic is 'Invaders', and we have been learning all about why the Romans left Britain and the subsequent consequences of this with the arrival of the Anglo-Saxons, Vikings and Normans.

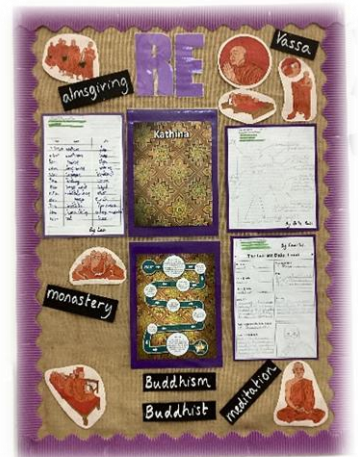
Our English is linked to our topic, and we have enjoyed writing our own chapter to add to the "Saga of Erik the Viking", where our intrepid Viking Erik fights a monster to retrieve the Hutgar stone and save his village!

We've also enjoyed maths and embedding our knowledge of number before progressing on to adding and subtracting thousands.

In science, we have enjoyed learning all about sound and took part in an experiment to examine which material would muffle sound the best. The class enjoyed showing their creativity when exploring colour, we learnt how artists use colour to create moods in their work and created our own prints inspired by other artists colour palettes. In PE, we have been learning how to play tag Rugby, focusing on teamwork, and the principles of attacking and defending. We also learnt how we can help to improve our fitness and increase our stamina through regular exercise.

A highlight for us was learning how to bake bread. The kneading was lots of fun, and we hoped you enjoyed sharing the bread together to celebrate the

Harvest festival. Happy half term everyone!



Holmes Class



Holmes Class have had a fantastic start to the school year!

Our overarching topic for the Autumn Term is 'Dynamic Dynasties' so we have been busy finding out about Ancient China and, in particular, the Shang Dynasty. In history, we have been investigating the evidence of the dynasty, including oracle bones, which were used to communicate

with ancestors; and the amazing bronze, jade and silk objects which help to tell us what life was like.

In our English lessons, we have been studying the weird, wonderful and surprisingly gruesome Chinese folk tales. This has involved lots of role play, creative story maps and very entertaining performances. The children turned one of these folk tales into fabulous narrative poems packed full of figurative language.



Our science lessons have been filled with experiments to investigate forces. We have tested friction of surfaces using toy cars and a ramp; made parachutes to test air resistance; and dropped different shaped plasticine objects into water to explore water resistance!

We are so impressed with the fantastic start to Year 5 and we are looking forward to the rest of the year!



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

Churchill Class



What a fantastic start to Year 6 life the Churchill Class of 2025/2026 has had! We have been blown away by their eagerness to learn, helpfulness and incredible hard work. Churchill Class has most certainly been demonstrating our school values: kindness, enjoyment and challenge! This has been especially evident when visiting our Potter Class buddies every Friday!

Churchill Class has been exceptionally engaged in our class text, “Freedom” which links to our topic this term, Maafa, where the children are learning all about the atrocities of the slave trade. The class loved their computing lessons, coding their own version of a splatty bug game! What’s more, we certainly have a class of artists, and their talents have been on display for all to see throughout this term’s “Tints, Tones and Shades” topic with Miss Brinsley.

As a class, we have also visited the mobile library twice. The children are always keen to become absorbed in reading their latest loans, and they have been complimented by the librarian and members of the community for being such wonderful reading role models.

However, the absolute highlight of our term has to be preparing for and performing our class assembly last week. Churchill Class set to work rehearsing for our very own special edition of “This Morning Sandhurst”. As well as fabulous interviews where the “guests” shared their passions and expertise, we were treated to three incredible performances: Erin and Aryanna, as “Pigkr/x”, performing “Golden” by K-Pop Demon Hunters, which saw the whole school singing along as the duet wowed the audience. Our resident rappers, Will, Fin, Dino and Ernie, educated us about “Types of Nouns” in a fabulously entertaining and charismatic manner. Finally, there was a wonderful whole-class performance of “Hey, Mr Miller”, which Churchill Class has been learning as part of their music lessons with Mrs Lawrence!

We are exceptionally proud of the class so far and we are looking forward to the year ahead.



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

School and House Captains



Congratulations to all our
Year 6 leaders for
2025/2026.



Our School Council Representatives



Kindness Enjoyment Challenge

VIP Bouncers



Sophie passed her merit 4 grading at skating.

Hayden received a medal following his third year at Tenterden Cricket Club. This year he played in the Under 9s and completed in a tournament.



Congratulations to Erin for being awarded this certificate.



Nico learned to ride his bike this summer.

Well done to Darcey and Henri on their amazing swimming certificates.



Eva completed her swimming stage 1 last week.

Evie had her own stall at Makers on the Moor in September. She made an impressive £110 in profit. She also entered a competition during the summer holidays to create a giant character. She crocheted a giant, and won third prize.



VIP Bouncers



Robert played his first tournament for Cranbrook Rugby Club.

In the summer holiday, Saul was awarded “Most Improved Newcomer” for the All-Stars team at Westfield Cricket Club.



Evie C was awarded a swimming badge for learning to dive in from the side without anyone catching her! She has also been busy learning how to use her new sewing machine to make pillows!



Hudson has been riding lawnmowers and racing his dad!

Look at these amazing Halloween themed “trick or treat” bags designed by sewing club.



Frankie has been awarded another swimming certificate!



Tommy is working towards his Grade 1 piano exam.

VIP Bouncers



Well done to Dottie, Oillie, Isabella, Bella, Bea and Grace for participating in a rugby club tournament.



Olivia attended a national skating Competition in Great Yarmouth last weekend.



Connie wanted to share that she completed a week swim intensive course over the summer and moved up a stage in swimming!

Gracie achieved her Stage 4 swimming badge this term.



Lola earned certificates in swimming. One was for participating in the summer crash course and on her last session, she even moved up to Level 2.



Violet and her beautiful pony Sharky qualified for the Sunshine Tour at Hickstead.

Attendance

Attendance for this term stands at 97.1%. This is much better than last year at the end of Term 1, although ten children currently have attendance of 90% or below already. These are mostly due to unauthorised holidays. Could we please ask that you to refrain from booking holidays in term time whenever possible.

To encourage improvement, we will be holding another Attendance Bounce session after the half term holiday for all children who have missed no more than one day of school during Term 1.

We are introducing an additional attendance initiative for Term 3 and Term 5. Instead of the bounce for these terms, each child who has only missed one day of school during the term will get a raffle ticket. This will be entered into a draw and the winning ticket will win an Amazon voucher for their family.



Children can also earn a Bounce session by receiving a Gold Star for showing kindness in school or achieving something special outside of school. This could include passing an exam, earning a certificate or even demonstrating kindness at home.

Parents are encouraged to share photos and details of their child's accomplishments so we can celebrate their success at school.

Community News

SANDHURST PRIMARY SCHOOL FAMILY FRIENDLY FIREWORKS DISPLAY SATURDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2025

GATES OPEN 4:30PM

Tickets can be bought at the school office or on the gate.



Please be aware that the event may be cancelled or rescheduled due to weather conditions. Refunds will not be available.

THE BIG BANG

Tickets Prices

Family (2 adult & 2 children) £20 advance and £25 on the gate

Adult £7.50 in advance and £10 on the gate

Children (3-16) £4 in advance and £5 on the gate

Children aged 2 and under free

Sale of glow products

Refreshments available

No sparklers allowed at the event

No dogs on the site please

No alcohol/ smoking/vaping on school site

Tunbridge Wells Half Term Programme

20th October - 24th October 2025



Our Activities

Spooky Crafts with Kent Adult Education

Youth Engagement Event

International Stay & Play

Baby Group

Football Match with Kent Police

Contact us

TWFamilyHub@kent.gov.uk
03000 418059

Family Hub Sites are run by Kent County Council

Find us on Facebook or
Instagram at Tunbridge
Wells Family Hubs



Community News

Tuesday 21st October - 10.00-11.30am



Kent Adult Education - 'Spooky Crafts'

[Sherwood Family Hub, Friars Way, TN2 3UA](#)

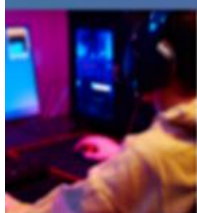
Join us for a creative mix of spooky and seasonal craft activities designed to spark imagination and fun for children and their grown-ups.

[Session suitable for children from 4-10 years](#)

BOOKING REQUIRED email: TWFamilyHub@kent.gov.uk



Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd October - 1.00-5.00pm



Youth Engagement

[Calverley Road Precinct, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1QR](#)

Gaming Bus – Weapon Awareness - Creative Crafts & Activities
Mental Health Support - Street First Aid and lots more.

[Suitable for young people aged 11+](#)



Wednesday 22nd October - 1.15-2.45pm



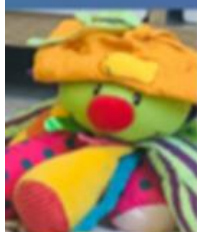
International Stay and Play - 'MEXICO'

[Cranbrook Outreach Centre, Carriers Road, TN17 3JZ](#)

Mexican themed craft activities for you to enjoy along with
Baby Area, Role Play and ending with some Singing.

[Suitable for children from 0-8 years](#)

Thursday 23rd October - 10.30-11.30am



Baby Group

[Sherwood Family Hub, Friars Way, TN2 3UA](#)

This session includes sensory play, heuristic play and singing,
plus a chance for parents and carers to meet and receive advice
and support, and for babies to socialise with other babies.

[Suitable for children from newborn-walking](#)

Friday 24th October - 9.30-11.00am



International Stay and Play - 'MEXICO'

[Sherwood Family Hub, Friars Way, TN2 3UA](#)

Mexican themed craft activities for you to enjoy along with
Baby Area, Role Play and ending with some Singing.

[Suitable for children from 0-8 years](#)

Friday 24th October - 10.00-1.00pm



Football - Families vs Kent Police and other Agencies

[Paddock Wood Community Centre, TN12 6EB](#)

Bring the whole family for an exciting, friendly football match.

[Suitable for the whole family](#)





October Half-Term



Kent Police

Youth Engagement Activities Tunbridge Wells



Tuesday 21st October

and

Wednesday 22nd October

1.00-5.00pm

*Calverley Road Precinct
TN1 1QR*

- Gaming Bus
- Weapons awareness workshop
- West Kent Catapult Club
- Mental Health Support
- Street First Aid
- Creative Crafts and Activities

Suitable for young people aged 11+



LUSH
FROM SUSTAINABLE COSMETICS



catch
22



Kenward Trust
transforming lives, creating new futures



M&S



Friday 24th October

10.00-1.00pm

*Paddock Wood Community Centre
TN12 6EB*

- Bring the whole family along for an exciting, friendly football match with Kent Police
- Creative Crafts and Activities
- Lots of support from our partner agencies for you and your family

Suitable for the whole family.



Jane Coleman School of Dancing



Join Us For a
DANCE CLASS

Classes in Burwash, Catsfield & Hawkhurst

Ballet, Tap, Contemporary Modern Jazz & Adult Classes

Ages 2.5 years to adults

Teachers are fully qualified with the IDTA

To book a place please email- jcsdancing@gmail.com

www.janecolemanschoolofdancing.co.uk

Diary Dates

13th Oct	Assessment Week
20th Oct	October Holiday
27th Oct	Term 2 starts - Children back to school
30th Oct	Open Morning for new intake
3rd Nov	Parents Evening
4th Nov	Parents Evening
17th Nov	Flu Nasal Spray Vaccinations Years R-6
24th Nov	Open Morning for new intake
3rd Dec	Open Morning for new intake
4th Dec	Year 5 Rewind Trip Years R and 6—Height / Weight check p.m.
8th Dec	Rock Steady Concert 2.00 p.m.
9th Dec	KS1 Nativity Rehearsal
10th Dec	KS1 Nativity 2.00 p.m.
11th Dec	KS1 Nativity 2.00 p.m.
12th Dec	PTFA Christmas Fayre
15th Dec	KS2 Carol Service
16th Dec	Whole school trip to White Rock Theatre—Jack and the Beanstalk
17th Dec	Christmas Lunch Senior Citizens Christmas Tea Party
18th Dec	Christmas Parties
19th Dec	INSET Day—Children not in school
5th Jan	Term 3 Starts

Term Dates

Term Dates 2025/2026

TERM 1 (AUTUMN)	
Monday 1st September	Staff training day - School Closed
Tuesday 2 nd September	Staff training day – School Closed
Wednesday 3 rd September	Term 1 Starts
Friday 17 th October	Term 1 Finishes
Monday 20 th – Friday 24 th October	Half Term Holiday
TERM 2 (AUTUMN)	
Monday 27 th October	Term 2 Starts
Thursday 18 th December	Term 2 Finishes
Friday 19 th December	Staff training day – School Closed
Monday 22 nd December – Friday 2 nd January	Christmas Holiday
TERM 3 (SPRING)	
Monday 5 th January 2026	Term 3 Starts
Friday 13 th February	Term 3 Finishes
Monday 16 th - Friday 20 th February	Half Term Holiday
TERM 4 (SPRING)	
Monday 23 rd February	Term 4 Starts
Thursday 2 nd April	Term 4 Finishes
Friday 3 rd April - Friday 17 th April	Easter holidays
TERM 5 (SUMMER)	
Monday 20 th April	Term 5 Starts
Monday 4 th May	May Day - School Closed
Friday 22 nd May	Term 5 Finishes
Monday 25 th May - Friday 29 th May	Half term holiday
TERM 6 (SUMMER)	
Monday 1 st June	Term 6 Starts
Friday 17 th July	Term 6 Finishes
Monday 20 th July	Staff training day - School Closed
Tuesday 21 st July	Staff training day – School Closed

School term dates and holidays are set mostly in line with Kent County Council, however, please bear in mind that the school sets staff training days independently and these may be subject to change.