



# Sandhurst Primary School

Newsletter  
Autumn Term  
22<sup>nd</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Teachers,

Well what a week. Sadly, we have seen a real rise in COVID cases this week as I know you are all aware. I do need to inform you that we now have a positive case in every year group except Nursery. It has meant that, unfortunately, we had to postpone our Black History Month workshop and the sibling photographs as we were advised by Public Health to stop all activities that would bring large groups of children together. We will do our very best to get both of these things re-organized as soon as it is safe to do so. I would just like to thank you all for your support with getting children tested, isolating as families and helping us out with after school club these last three days. I am really hoping that the half term holiday will act as a bit of a circuit breaker. I will, however, need to track and trace any cases over the holiday, so that I can work with public health to assess whether any bubble year groups will need to be in place when we return. They have asked that we look carefully at case numbers on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October as to whether we need to reinstate bubbles across the school. So it is vital if any of your school age children test positive at any point in the holiday you do please do let me know. Similarly, if you are at all worried please book a PCR test. We are seeing lots of different symptoms that don't seem to be the three main ones of cough, temperature and loss of taste. Please use the [rebeccaanddove@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccaanddove@gmail.com) address to contact me. I will then be in contact with you all on Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> October if we need to return to all the measures we had in Bubble school. Fingers crossed we don't but I will let you know. Thank you. Finally, can I please encourage as many of you as possible to wear a mask, let your children walk in independently and try to go back to social distancing. You never know, it might help! Thank you.

## **Learning this week**

The Nursery looked amazing this week, all dressed up as different Nursery Rhyme characters. I had a double take as I saw a duck and Little Red Riding Hood going down the corridor!

Reception have been continuing their learning around rhyme and sounding out lists of rhyming words. In maths, they have been investigating numbers up to three and finding different ways to represent them.

In Year One this week the children have been focusing on amazing people who have changed the world as part of their Black History Month learning. They have researched and read lots of stories about incredible people who have made an enormous change to the world. They found out that Ruby Bridges was incredibly brave even when people were mean to her. They found out that Rosa Parks was so special because she changed the lives of lots of people. They also enjoyed listening to some amazing songs by Aretha Franklin, we learnt about the word 'respect' and why it is important to respect everyone.

Year 2 have been writing stories inspired by Tinga Tinga tales. They have really enjoyed using their imagination for writing and thought very carefully about extending their sentences. In Maths, they have been beginning to partition numbers in to tens and ones using dienes. They have also continued thinking about inspiring black people and engaged in discussion about how some key figures helped to make important changes such as Rosa Parks.

To celebrate Black History Month, Year 3 have been learning, discussing and writing about the American civil rights activist, Ruby Bridges. In Science they each took home a fossil, but not before they investigated what they thought it might be. Can you guess what it is? In maths, they designed, made, played and reviewed our own board games to help them practise their maths passport targets.

This week Year 4 have been learning all about Maggie Aderin-Pocock. In maths they have designed and made maths games using questions and themes related to her life. In English they have discussed and written down their aims and goals over a variety of time spans. They have written in their time capsules so they can open them in the future to see what came true. In Science they have listened to music to explore what emotions, feelings and images can be evoked by different genres of music.

It has been a challenging week for Year 5. In maths, the children have collected their own data and decided how to present it in a graph. In groups they generated questions which were answered by the whole class. As part of Black History Month our English focus was the life of Mo Farah. After looking at features of a biography they produced a piece of writing describing the life and achievements of Mo Farah.

In maths year 6 have been learning about order of operation and square and cube numbers. Children have explored their own identity and what makes them who they are. They have started their DT project to create an identity sculpture using designs and patterns which are related to BHM and the theme 'Proud to be me' .

## **Holiday Home Learning**

We have two really exciting things for children to do over the holiday. Firstly, we would like the children to do a piece about "Proud to Be Me" showcasing the diversity of our school. We want the children to really think about what makes them special, unique and diverse. It can be a picture, poem, model, poster, video, song or anything at all that they would like to create. There will be prizes. Secondly, they have the opportunity to design their own Christmas card that you can then order. My daughter has done this for many years at her school and I have all her cards she has designed over the years. Your child will come home with an A3 form. They create their design on the plain side and you fill in your details on the other side. The design can be painted, drawn or use collage. You are then able to order cards, wrapping paper, tags etc on line and school makes a small profit on every order. I have added a link to their website where there are lots of ideas. Please note each order has a unique number on it so please only use the form sent home. Please return your forms by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November so your purchases can be delivered by December. Thank you.

<https://www.cauliflowercards.co.uk/christmas-artwork-guidelines>

## **Radish Bonfire Themed Lunch**

We had terrible problems with the food orders for CENSUS day lunch as it was mid petrol crisis. So Radish have agreed to provide a Bonfire themed lunch on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> November. The children have selected the menu and every child in school will be invited to eat lunch for free on that day. The menu will be hot dogs followed by icecream. The menu that week will change in order slightly so they will be served Chicken Tikka curry on Wednesday, Hotdogs on Thursday and their regular fish and chips on Friday. There is also an Allergen menu too for our themed day. I have attached both menus. So hopefully everyone will try the school dinners on the 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **Tate Britain Event**

One of our parents who is also a member of the PTA works for Tate Britain and she has highlighted a lovely family event taking place at the Tate, this weekend.

## **Story Space: Happy Here**

Saturday 23rd October 10.00 - 16.45

Drop into our character design studio, join a writing and illustration workshop or browse the Story Space library of books by Black authors, Indigenous authors and authors of colour from around the world. Story Space celebrates books that centre children of colour, and aims for everyone to see themselves reflected in the books they read.

In collaboration with Tate Publishing, Knights Of and Roundtable Books, New Beacon Books and other independent publishers. More information here - <https://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-britain/exhibition/life-between-islands/story-space>

### **Reporting Pupil Absence**

We are finding that more and more families are not reporting their children absent. It is really important for us to be able to clear track absence. You do have the option to communicate with us either via phone, email or Parentmail. Ideally an absence should be reported before 9.00 am on the day and a reason provided for the absence e.g. if your child is unwell, we would like to know if they have a cold/temperature etc rather than a message saying they are ill. Thank you.

### **Sandhurst Parent Prayer Group**

A group of parents have asked me to pass on this message:

We get together once every half term to read the Bible and pray together. All welcome. Please get in touch with Jenny (mum of Calvin, Harvey & Rufus) if you would like to find out more: [tomandjennyquinn@gmail.com](mailto:tomandjennyquinn@gmail.com). Thank you very much.

### **Event at St Andrews Church**

World class professional orchestra The Southbank Sinfonia will be returning to St Andrew's Catford to accompany Pergolesi's Stabat Mater with our very own Archibald Corbett Singers. It is on Saturday 13th November at 6.30pm for 45 minutes. All are welcome and there will be a collection on the way out for church funds. If you would like to sing in the concert, please email Nick Bland: [nick.bland@rocketmail.com](mailto:nick.bland@rocketmail.com)

There will be three rehearsals before the day and there are recorded learning parts available.

Please support this community event, it might inspire your child to take up singing or to play an orchestral instrument. See the flyer attached.

I really hope you do all manage to have a lovely holiday. Please don't forget to email me if any of your school age children test positive. Thank you. I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November.

Yours truly,

Mrs R A Dove