



Sandhurst Primary School

Newsletter
Spring Term
14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is a bit late but Happy New Year to you all. Well it has been very much welcome back with a bang. Unfortunately, our COVID cases are very much on the rise so I have spent much of the week liaising with Public Health. We are back under the Out Break Management Rules and I am having frequent calls with LCRC and Public Health. Venus class have been hit the hardest with 9 current cases. I have requested that Venus Class parents partake in regular testing please. If children from any class are ill please keep them at home and do an LFT test. We are now seeing such a range of symptoms and a number of children who do not immediately test positive but do turn positive a couple of days later. I am today, going to try putting in another LFT test order but I am aware of a delay so fingers crossed. I am going to try and purchase some air filters too.

Fortunately, but also unfortunately our CO2 readings are generally good so we do not qualify for the Government scheme but I have had advise from one of our lovely parents and Public Health as to their benefit. I have managed today to order three air filters and will try to find more. I may well be coming to you all to try and raise some funds to enable us to buy more, so please watch this space!

It is our absolute aim to keep all face to face teaching going, but I really must pre-warn you that it is getting increasingly difficult to cover all the roles in school. If it becomes operationally, unsafe for us to keep going we may need to move affected classers to on-line learning. Hopefully this will not happen but it is only fair to warn you.

Apart from the COVID madness we have had a lovely week in school. The children have just been such a delight and worked so hard. I have seen such an amazing range of creative learning going on. Teachers all had a great PE INSET on Wednesday. There has been a lovely buzz around the building.

Learning this week

This week the Nursery children have been reflecting on their learning journeys so far by looking at the photos, artwork and mark making in their special learning-journal books. They have been busy fixing different vehicles in the mechanics' garage role-play area outside, using a variety of tools. Children have been sharing stories set in castles and then building their own castles using the blocks.

In Reception, the children have been enjoying playing with their friends again. In our outdoor area, they have set up a pretend Bus Station and have loved pretending to get on a bus, drive the bus and find exciting places to visit, [in their imaginations of course!]. In Literacy, children have been starting to identify some capital letters and thinking about the things they would like to do in and out of school this year. In Maths, they have been thinking how to represent the number zero and sharing a number of objects between two, equally.

In Year One this week they have been reading the story 'Outside My Window'. They have been using their imaginations to create their own window drawings, some of them could see the rainforest, the arctic and even under the sea! They have written some amazing descriptions about what they see through their windows. In Maths they have been focusing on number bonds to 20, they have been working systematically and looking at the patterns in our number sentences. They have started a new music unit, they listened to a piece called 'In The Groove' and talked about all the instruments and sounds they could hear. They had a go at finding the pulse and moving to the beat.

This week Year 2 have enjoyed the start of their new topic 'A World of Pure Imagination'. In English, they read the 'The Magic Finger' and imagined what they would do if they had magic powers. The children also took inspiration from this story to write their own version. In maths, the children have been learning about symmetry and the properties of 3D shapes. The children have also explored using Microsoft Word to change the font style, size and colour.

Year 3 have been learning the Roman legend of Romulus and Remus. In English, they have been exploring dilemmas faced by the character's in the story through role play and debate. In maths, they have been learning about division using their 2, 4 and 8 times tables knowledge. In music, they have begun learning the song 'Three Little Birds' by Bob Marley. They especially enjoyed trying to find the pulse by copying different animals dancing along to the song. In history, we have been exploring the atlases to

identify which counties were part of the Roman empire. They have even designed their own shields and made a human timeline to find out when in history the Romans ruled.

In Year Four this week they have been enhancing their multiplying and dividing skills using three digit numbers. In literacy they have been reading the book Krindlekrax and writing diary entries as the central character. In science they have been thinking about what it is that makes something alive and making posters to help explain the 7 life processes to children in Year 3.

This week Year 5 have started their topic on the rainforest. In ICT, they worked in groups to research facts about the 4 layers of the rainforest and created a Wordle using rainforest vocabulary. In English, the children have written sensory poems about the rainforest and focused on similes and metaphors when describing the different layers. In maths, they have spent the whole week looking at perimeter. They now understand how to find the perimeter of rectangles and composite rectilinear shapes.

Year 6 have been dividing and multiplying decimals and exploring its relationship with fractions. In English, year 6 have been completing their stories, written in the 3rd person narrative, where the main character returns to a familiar place. Year 6 have also started their new topic - Evolution and Inheritance and have enjoyed creating their observational sketches based on anatomical drawings.

Reception 2022 Applications

Tomorrow is the final deadline for applications for Reception 2022 places please.

Drumming

A few of you will have seen our lovely local drumming group playing at one of our outside concerts before Christmas. Please see their message below.

Valeu Brazilian Arts were delighted to support the year 3 Christmas performance at the end of last term, thank you for having us Sandhurst! **Our samba drumming workshops** based at **Goldsmiths Community Centre SE6 1QD**, start up again this **Thurs 13th Jan**, 4.30-6.30. We're welcoming newcomers to the project, accessible to ALL in years 3-13! With our exciting DiverseCity summer project planned, we are working towards sunny outdoor performances!

Cost: £60 for the term (10 sessions), hardship spaces available on enquiry.
All equipment provided.

Socially distanced workshops.

Email: valeubrazilianarts@gmail.com to reserve places.

www.valeubrazilianarts.org/zoom-workshops

SEND EP Connect

Please see the message below from EP Connect:

This term we are continuing to run **EP Connect**, our easy access phone-line service for school and early years staff, parents and carers to contact the Lewisham Educational Psychology Team. We are here to discuss any concerns about education, learning at home, and emotional wellbeing. This might include issues related to the impact of the pandemic.

- The phone line is open only during term time on Monday afternoon 2pm until 4.30pm
 - This will be advertised on the Lewisham Local Offer, the Services for School site and to schools individually, Children Centres and Early Years settings.
 - Access will be through the following Helpline telephone numbers 07377 913538 and 07377 976518.
 - STEPS will complete a Phone Consultation Request form with the caller's details and this will then be e-mailed to the EP on call.
 - This is a ring back service and the EP will aim to call back in the afternoon.
- I have also attached their flyer.

That is about all from me this week. I hope you all have a lovely weekend.

Yours truly

Mrs R A Dove