



Sandhurst Primary School

Newsletter
Spring Term
21st January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well there we are, the government seems to have decided we are going back to normal. Sadly, Sandhurst cannot do that quite yet. We are still under the Outbreak Management Plan and we still have a large outbreak of cases in Reception, thankfully Year 2 is gradually improving. We currently have 21 live Covid cases amongst the children. It is my intention to keep all current measures in place until half term. Then, hopefully, when we return after the holiday, we may be able to relax a little and return to some kind of normal. We have managed to purchase 11 HEPA filters so far as the website is only allowing me to order three at a time, but we are getting there. A huge thank you to the two families that bought us one each, that was very kind.

Learning This Week

The Nursery children have really loved the story of The Three Little Pigs this week. They have made straw, stick and brick houses, ready for the Big Bad Wolf to try and huff and puff down! They have also been developing the skill of hammering by banging golf-tees into large potatoes. At the end of the week, the children spent a moment of reflection in their first visit to our memorial garden.

This week reception have been continuing learning about Little Red Riding Hood, listening to alternative versions of the story and comparing them. They have thought about the setting drawn maps and labelled them using our phonics to sound out words. In maths they have been measuring weight and capacity, finding out whether the smallest container holds the most and is the biggest object always the heaviest? In ICT they have been using the BEEBOTS to see if they can programme them to follow a simple route.

In Year One this week there were some very naughty buses on the loose. The children came in to find a mysterious parcel left in their classrooms, inside there were big red buses. The children have loved reading the story of *The Naughty Bus*, they made their own buses and took them on an adventure all over the school. They have driven them through beans, dinosaur forests and even snuck the naughty buses into Mrs Dove's office; very naughty indeed! The children have also been focusing on their music appreciation, they have been learning about the pitch and pulse they can hear in a piece of music. In Maths the children have been using a number line to help them subtract.

This week Year 2 have been thinking lots about Roald Dahl's famous chocolate factory! They have created their own characters and produced some wonderful descriptive pieces of writing based on chewing gum meals and their own chocolate inventions. In Maths, they have been working hard on addition and starting to use new strategies for working out their answers.

Year 3 put themselves into a character's shoes this week and wrote diaries in role. In maths they have been dividing 2-digit numbers by 1-digit numbers. They have designed and painted Roman shields this week and are looking forward to using them to follow some Roman soldier commands. In music they have been continuing to learn the song 'Three Little Birds' by Bob Marley and clapping along with the pulse.

This week year 4 have enjoyed learning 'All About Me' with a visit from the Life Bus. They looked inside our bodies and discussed the functions of internal organs. They also talked about what makes us unique and how group decisions can be made to include everyone. In Maths they have been learning different methods to multiply and exploring factor pairs. In English they have written a newspaper article to report on the window breaking that is happening in Lizard Street. In Science they visited the secret garden to look for living things and classify them in a branching database.

This week Year 5 have started reading a new class text, 'The Explorer' by Katherine Rundell. They have made predictions based on the front cover and summarised the first chapter in twenty words! In maths, the children have found the area of squares and rectangles by multiplying the length by the width. They have also started finding the area of rectilinear shapes. Each class has enjoyed singing a song about the rainforest using our new music programme Charanga.

This week in year 6, they have been drawing on our inference skills when looking at the text 'The Mysteries of Harris Burdick'. They have then been creating their own stories using these unusual illustrations to help spark their imagination. In science, they have been investigating how different species adapt to suit their environment, demonstrating this using a variety of tools to pick up different objects. In maths, they have been continuing their work exploring the relationship with decimals and fractions, looking at this in different contexts including problem solving and reasoning tasks. Finally, they have enjoyed their session with the life bus finding more about how to keep themselves safe and making sensible decisions.

Teacher / Parent Consultation Day

Our parent / teacher consultation day is fast approaching. Your teachers will be holding parent consultations during the day of Friday 11th February. This is an INSET day, so the children will not be at school that day. We are going to keep this a virtual session but then as soon as we are able we will open up the whole school for you to come in and let your children show you all their work. The office will set up the usual booking form on Parent Mail. We will let you know when this goes live.

A Competition

Mrs Taylor has found a lovely competition that your children might be interested in, it is to create an illustration for a book. I have put the link below if you are interested.

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/books-and-reading/have-some-fun/competitions/win-an-amazing-illustration-by-dapo-adeola--and-the-chance-to-appear-in-his-new-book/>

Children's Mental Health Week

We will be celebrating Children's Mental Health week starting on Monday 7th February. We have lots of lovely activities planned and we will end the week with a Dress to Express day on **Thursday 10th February**. On that day children can wear anything at all to school that they wish but it should express them and their personality. So get as creative as you like!

Finally please please can I ask that you get dressed into your day clothes to bring your children to school and not arrive still in your nightwear. Thank you.

I hope you all have a lovely weekend and I really hope those pupils, staff and parents that are unwell make a speedy recovery.

Yours truly

Mrs R A Dove