



Sandhurst Primary School

Newsletter
Spring Term
4th March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was so lovely yesterday to see the whole school outside in the most amazing array of costumes, pyjamas and accessories for World Book Day. We had a whole school parade followed by a whole school read. Thank you so much for the book donations and for the amazing amount of books you have purchased on our behalf at Moon Lane Books.

Year 1 parents and carers enjoyed an evening being introduced to our Maths Passports scheme. Again to see people in school was just brilliant.

Our thoughts, this week, have very much been on the terrible situation in the Ukraine. We have decided that this is such a sensitive and ever changing situation that this is not something for a big assembly, but a situation that needs to be handled very sensitively and on a much smaller, more intimate level. So we have really taken the approach of dealing with it within the classroom and just as, and when, discussion naturally arises. We have used a good resource from Picture News and from BBC News Round. If your child is really struggling and needs support, please do let us know.

We are, however, hosting a cake sale run by our catering contractor, Radish, to raise money for the British Red Cross. They are baking cakes for us to sell in the playground at the end of the day on Friday 11th March. I have attached the flyer.

We said good bye to the chicks this morning. It has been lovely watching them hatch and grow.

Learning This Week

The Nursery children have continued to get to know the chicks. They held them gently and did observational drawings of them using pastels. Children used yellow playdoh and added feathers and pipe cleaners to make their own chicks. The children have also been talking about emotions when reading The Colour Monster book. They have been selecting coloured spoons that represent different emotions; happy, sad, calm, scared, angry and love. They drew their own feelings monsters too. Finally, the children really enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and sharing their favourite stories with their friends.

In Reception the children enjoyed making and eating homemade pancakes and then writing pancake recipes. They have observed the chicks and held them and they've been learning all about the lifecycle of butterflies. Reception loved dressing up and sharing all their favourite books on World Book Day. In maths this week they were exploring number ten and thinking of ways to make ten.

In Year one the children enjoyed an amazing fruit tasting session on Monday. They tasted some unusual fruits such as avocado, passionfruit and physalis. They have enjoyed reading the story of Handa's surprise and were delighted when Mrs Dove appeared with her fruit basket on World Book Day. They have written fruit poems and descriptive sentences about the story. In maths the children have been exploring length and height, measuring different things around the classroom and comparing them. They have also enjoyed learning a new song in their music lessons, exploring Latin music and finding the pulse within the music.

This week year 2 have begun to explore the book Journey by Aaron Becker. They have enjoyed finding out about how the main character begins her journey and making predictions about what they think might happen next. Year 2 have also considered different types of transport they would like to use if they went on a journey. They designed and sketched their very own versions.

Year 3 have written their own Roman adventure stories this week. In maths, they have been using rulers, measuring tapes, metre sticks and trundle wheels to measure in mm, cm and m. For our Romans topic, they have been finding out about the Roman calendar. We really enjoyed seeing all of their costumes and hearing about the children's favourite books on World book Day. We had a lot of Harry Potters!

This week in maths year 4 have been finding fractions of an amount using equipment, jottings, unit and non-unit fractions. We used our multiplication and division knowledge to help find fractions of an amount. In English we have created our own legend monster and described their features. For our topic, we used maps to identify and locate where the Anglo Saxons came from and where they settled, using a key and marking the different geographical features.

In maths, Year 5 have moved on to working with decimals. They began the week by understanding place value of decimal numbers (up to 3DP) and then practised reading and writing decimals as fractions. Next the children used this knowledge to compare and order decimal numbers. Year 5 have also started their new history topic – ‘Ancient Maya’. The children found out when and where the Maya lived and made notes about other aspects of Maya life. In English, each class watched and recalled the main events of a short animated film about Toki, a young boy who lived in the Amazon Rainforest. In Art, the children have looked at two paintings of the rainforest by the artists Henri Rousseau and John Dyer. They compared the paintings and discussed what was the same and what was different.

In maths year 6 has started the topic of metric measures. They have used standard units to convert measurements from a smaller unit of measure to a larger unit, and vice versa. In English this week, year 6 have continued to explore features of Horrible Science, including tone of writing, and have applied these in their ‘Evolve or Die’ fact file. They have enjoyed incorporating Science and Art this week, where they have looked at the botanic illustrations for scientific purposes, using spring flowers to create a botanical illustration of it (including its whole life cycle).

Secondary School Offers

All Year 6 will have now received their secondary school offers. I just wanted to clarify one thing. For Lewisham schools if you have been offered your first choice school you are automatically on that school’s list. You do need to accept the place; they have done that for you. If you have been offered a second, third or lower choice you do need to accept the school you have been offered and you will then stay on the waiting list for your higher preference schools. If you have applied to Grammar schools you need to contact them with queries, I am not able to answer those questions, sorry.

Half Marathon

Today marks the 4th anniversary since we cheered on - amid piles of snow - 30 or so intrepid parents and staff who ran for the school at the first Big Half in 2018. Since then, our amazing runners have raised over £20,000 for our PTA, and seen some amazing running feats by parents and staff, including lots of people who have run a half marathon for the very first time. Our runners have included Elaine, a local grandmother whose sons attended the school, who ran a half marathon for the first time at 67, Keith, who ran the route in a full weight kilt, and Amber who ran a half marathon at more than 5 months pregnant!

If you feel inspired to put on some running shoes, and run for the school, we will be running our very own "Hither Half" again this year, with Torridon school, in the morning of Sunday 15th May (10 weeks away). We will be sending out more details on how to sign up in the next fortnight, but if you have any questions in the meantime please drop Rob an email: harveybiggins@yahoo.co.uk

We will be offering both a half marathon option (13.1 miles, 21km), or a 10km option, so this is a great opportunity for those who haven't really run before, or haven't run for a long time. It will also be a great chance to help raise some funds for our PTA and plenty of opportunities to get involved, -in addition to runners, we will be looking out for volunteers to help marshal the route, and a big cheer squad in the playground, and around the local route!

Nursery Applications

If our families have children that are born between 1st September 2018 and the 31st August 2019, and they would like to apply for our nursery, please could they complete an application form (if they have already sent one in to the office they don't need to re-do another form). I will be making sending our offers out after Easter. Thank you.

Mid-day Meal Supervisor

We have a vacancy for a mid-day meal supervisor to work with the older children. The candidate would need to be able to work in the dining hall, work with children outside. They would need to wipe tables, support children with meal choices, be a good communicator and be willing to be first aid trained. Above all you need to fun and be able to be flexible, things change at very short notice in a busy school!! It would be 12:20 to 1:20 every day. If you are interested please email admin@sandhurstprimary.sch.uk

Thank you

Mindful Mums

A message from them "We have fantastic news from Mindful Mums at BLG Mind! We are extending our Befriending services to the Lewisham Borough. Mindful Mums Befriender volunteers offer one-to-one support to local mums who are struggling with the demands of being pregnant or caring for a small baby. Volunteers offer listening and practical support to mums out in the community including in the mum's home, cafés, children's centres and parks. Support can also be offered remotely via zoom, FaceTime or phone calls. Due to COVID 19 pregnant and new mums have been extremely isolated and we have had an increase in demand for our service and therefore require more volunteers. Volunteers usually offer weekly support for 1-2 hours so the role isn't too demanding but is very rewarding." I have attached their flyer.

Pizza Event

Following on from my email earlier in the week I just wanted to remind you we are running our "cook a pizza at home" event again. Not only does it raise much needed funds for our school but it means you have a lovely evening with fresh pizzas and cookie dough. The link is:

<https://doughies.co.uk/products/sandhurst>

I have attached to flyer.

Radish Food Tester Event

Please don't forget you can try out a sample of our school dinners after school on Monday 21st March. The samples available are attached.

Lots of information this week. Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. It really does take me ages to type and it is your main source of information. If there is a family that you feel are not accessing our newsletter, please let me know and I will print them a paper copy.

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours truly

Mrs R A Dove