

# NEWSLETTER

## A message from Mr Metcalfe

As our autumn term draws to a close, I have enjoyed reflecting on some of the wonderful activities and learning that I have seen from our pupils, with some notable highlights...

- Our reception classes loved showing off their fabulous new outdoor area as we were joined by their grown-ups, school governors and Mrs Nixon, our CEO, to officially open the provision.
- Successes in sport with victories in Tag Rugby and Dodgeball competitions. Not only were our children proud winners, but they conducted themselves impeccably, demonstrating great sporting attitudes. Well done, Team Sandringham!
- Following a rigorous selection process, our Junior Leadership Team members have been appointed to various positions in school. They are already leading the way in their decisions and through their contributions to assemblies.
- Our annual service of Remembrance, supported by Mr Shorthouse and observed respectfully by all pupils and visitors.
- Get Bright Day was a huge success to promote road safety, and to celebrate the school's Gold Active Travel Award accreditation.
- Our Year 6 pupils sharing their learning around social justice through artwork and music at Hall Cross Academy alongside other Exceed academies. They were true ambassadors for equality.
- Working with our parents and community through school and events run by the Friends: autumn discos, early years craft sessions, Christmas concerts, services at St Aidan's and St Mary's churches, and support from St Aidan's to make 'Time for Advent'.

We're already looking forward to the spring term which begins on the first day back with our singers attending the Young Voices concert in Sheffield alongside several thousand other pupils. We've included a summary of what the children will be learning in this newsletter, but please do also look at the curriculum pages on our website which has fuller information.

On behalf of everyone at Sandringham, I would like to wish all of our families a peaceful and Merry Christmas and we look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

## A message from the Chair of Governors – Maggie Blount

Sandringham has had a very busy and successful term. Despite the school's asbestos issues over the summer (now fully resolved) the school staff worked tirelessly to ensure a smooth opening for all our children.

The new early years outdoor area is providing the best that outdoor learning can offer for our children.

As Chair of Governors I visit the school often and have been delighted to witness beautiful singing at the Remembrance Service and Christmas concerts. The service at St Mary's church was a great start to the school's festivities.

Our children continue to thrive and learn as both school and you as parents and carers nurture their development.

I would like on behalf of all the governing board to wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to seeing the children rested and ready to take on all that the new term at Sandringham offers in January 2024.

## P.E. Days

Reception Dolphins: Wednesdays

Reception Whales: Tuesdays

**Reception pupils now require a P.E kit.**

Year 1: Tuesday & Thursday

Year 2: Monday & Friday

Year 3: Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 4: Wednesday & Thursday

Year 5: Tuesday & Wednesday

Year 6: Monday & Friday

## School reminders

### School start times:

Nursery: 8:30am to 11:30am or 12:30pm to 3:30pm

Gates open at 8:30-8:40am, 12:30-12:40pm & 3:20-3:30pm

Reception to Year 6: 8:45am to 3:15pm

Gates open at 8:35-8:50am & 3:05pm-3:25pm

Absences must be reported to the main office no later than 9:30am. Unexplained absences may result in a home/welfare visit from the school.

## Uniform Reminder






We allow pupils to wear a range of options linked to our school colours and traditional uniform:

- navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan (school logo optional)
- white polo shirt (school logo optional) or white blouse/shirt with navy tie (optional)
- navy/grey/black skirt or trousers
- grey/black school shorts
- grey pinafore or blue gingham dress
- black sensible school shoes/school trainers (no high heels, slip-ons or sandals, preferably Velcro-fastening for younger pupils)
- navy, white or black hair accessories.
- cold weather: warm coat, hat and gloves
- warmer weather: waterproof jacket and navy, black or white sunhat without logos.

We do not require pupils to wear any items with logos, although these are an option for families who would like this.

We encourage families to adapt uniform to take into account their cultural backgrounds or religion.

The school also specific rules regarding hair styles and the wearing of make-up, nail varnish and nail extensions. This is because we want pupils to focus on their learning. We do not want to encourage an environment where children are competing in terms of their appearance or how “fashionable” they look.

Essential Uniform Items	
	Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan (school logo optional) No hoods on jumpers.
	Plain white polo shirt in cotton material. We do not allow polo shirts in any other colours, including blue. <i>Embroidered logo polo shirts are available to buy through Cliffs Doncaster (optional item with the logo).</i> White traditional school shirt with a plain collar. Shirts can have either long or short sleeves. Navy clip-on tie (optional)
	Grey or black knee length skirt or pinafore dress in traditional school uniform tailored material. Mid-Grey or black smart school skirt or dress, knee length only. No denim or jersey material skirts or dresses.
	Grey or black trousers or shorts. Mid-Grey or black smart school trousers only. Shorts must be mid-grey or black and to the knee, all in traditional tailored school uniform material. We do not allow cargo style shorts or trousers with large pockets on the sides. No denim or jersey trousers or shorts. Leggings or tight trousers are not allowed.
	Summer Uniform Blue and white, knee length gingham design dress or romper with shorts.

### PE Kit

Pupils should wear their usual school jumper on PE days.




Pupils in Years 1 to 6 should arrive at school dressed in their PE bottoms and will wear these all day.

Our school PE kit includes:

- usual navy-blue sweatshirt (for outdoor PE, school logo optional)
- usual white polo shirt (school logo optional)
- navy blue/black sports shorts (no logos)
- navy blue/black leggings or tracksuit bottoms (for outdoor PE, no logos)
- plain trainers

Hair Accessories	
	Small hair accessories including bows must be in school uniform colours.  Blue, Grey and Black accessories are allowed. We do not allow multi-coloured or non-uniform colours.

Essential Footwear	
	<b>Shoes (to be worn on all days apart from PE days)</b> Smart Black traditional school shoes. Low heeled and full shoes are allowed. No slip on shoes.
	<b>PE Uniform trainers (to be worn on PE days)</b> Sensible trainers that enable both indoor and outdoor activity are permitted. We urge parents to provide either black or white trainers with discrete logos, preferably plain.

Essential PE Uniform items	
	Usual navy-blue cardigan or jumper
	Usual white polo shirt or plain white round neck t-shirt
	Plain black shorts, plain black jogging bottoms or plain black leggings.  No branded/ logo items to be worn. Shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh length

Please refer to our uniform policy on our website for full guidance for September - <https://www.sandringham.school/school-uniform/>

## Nursery

Nursery have been learning about celebrations, including Diwali & the festival of light. They have also enjoyed talking about Christmas and how we celebrate it. They put a lot of practise into their nativity performance too and I am sure all of their grown-ups enjoyed watching.

## Reception

Reception have been learning all about special times. The children enjoyed learning about celebrations from different cultures! They have also been loving their Forest Fridays, and have been busy making bird feeders and nature wands, and hunting for creepy crawlies!

## Year 1

Year 1 have had a busy half-term from mapping & fieldwork skills, which led them to Mr Metcalfes office, to becoming super scientists, learning all about plants and trees. Test their knowledge by asking the different between evergreen & deciduous! We really hope their grown-ups enjoyed their nativity as much as what they did!

## Year 2

Year 2 visited the museum for a look around and an interesting workshop on Doncaster's rich rail history. They enjoyed writing stories inspired by their class novel, The Owl who was Afraid of the Dark and learning about animals including humans in their science lessons. They loved taking part in Get Bright day and the grown-ups got competitive for their festive door competition!

## Year 3

Year 3 have been looking at the Stone Age. Their book of the term has been Stig of the Dump and they have written their very own non-chronological report with all of the information they have learnt, a character description and a retell of one of the chapters. They have also used this as inspiration for their art work. They had Art John come into Year 3 and do some printmaking with some stone age cave paintings which they loved!

## Year 4

Year 4 have been learning about Anglo Saxon Britain and what life was like during that time. They linked this in English where they researched and wrote a non-chronological report about York, completing a historical diary entry based on their class text, 'Anglo-Saxon Boy'

## Year 5

Year 5 have had another exciting half term. They have continued to learn all about the ancient Greeks, and spent a day with Art John producing some prints of ancient Greek artefacts. Danum Museum also came into school and they were archaeologists for the morning, learning all about the ancient Greeks. They even explored poo to analyse an ancient Greek's diet!!

## Year 6

Year 6 have had another busy and productive half term. They've found it fascinating learning all about xenotransplantation in our class novel 'Pig Heart Boy', and have had some passionate debates on whether or not we think it's the right course of action for people to take. Another success we have to mention is the performance that some of the Y6's took part in as part of the Trust's Social Justice Project. We were all so proud of the children and the effort and enthusiasm they showed.



## Our learning next half-term

### Nursery

Nursery will be learning all about people who help us. They are having a visit from the police which will be really exciting. They would also like to welcome in any parents from nursery who would like to share about their job and what they do.

### Reception

Reception are looking forward to their visit to The Deep! This will be a really exciting way of bringing their topic, 'The Big Blue', to life! Don't forget, pupils still need to bring their wellies or outdoor shoes to school for Forest Friday!

**Reception will now need a PE kit which should be brought into school in a named bag on a Monday and will stay in school each week.**

### Year 1

Year 1 will be learning about British values and the modern-day monarchy in history and having a go at print making in their art lessons.

### Year 2

Year 2 are looking forward to starting their new class novel, Anna Hibiscus. They are moving on from their local history to a geography unit comparing Doncaster and London. They will also be learning lots of new maths, including multiplication and division so please keep practicing on times tables rock stars!

### Year 3

Year 3 will be moving onto their new book, The Wild Robot and will be learning all about the robot's appearance and how he ends up in a forest full of different animals. Will he survive? In P.E. they will have their selection day with the staff from the Royal Opera House coming into school to choose some of our children to perform a special performance during Easter. In History, they will also be moving on to the Romans and will learn all about Italy too. They will also be going to Danum Museum to participate in a Roman Workshop and learn all about how the Romans lived in this time.

### Year 4

Year 4 will be moving on to the Viking era in Britain and how they triumphed over the Anglo Saxons. As part of their English, they will be looking at stories set in imaginary worlds, with their text this term being 'The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane' by author Kate DiCamillo. Maths will see them reinforcing their learning of times tables and finding ways to help them solve multiplication and division problems – this will go a long way in supporting them ready for their Multiplication Times table Checks in June.

### Year 5

Year 5 will be learning all about forces in science and in geography will be learning about biomes. Look out for some exciting information about a trip to the National Space Centre later in the term!

### Year 6

Year 6 will learn all about World War 2 as part of their History lessons, before they do some writing on what it might have been like to be an evacuee escaping the Blitz.



**Sporting Events**

We have had a busy term for P.E competitions. Year 6 attended Toll Bar Rugby Club and competed in a Tag Rugby competition where they came in at 1<sup>st</sup> Place!!

Year 4 competed at New Collage in a Dodgeball competition and then again at Hall Cross Academy in a Basketball competition where Sandringham took home another 1<sup>st</sup> Place victory!

Year 4 have also completed their swimming lessons this half-term.

**It's a Boy!**

We would like to say a huge congratulations to Mrs Jenkinson on the safe arrival of her baby boy – Giraffe class have already met him, when baby and Mrs Jenkinson came to watch the KS1 Nativity.

**Teaching Arrangements**

It is with sadness that at the end of term we say goodbye to Mrs Mancey as she moves up to be the Head of another local school. We wish Mrs Mancey all the very best in her new role.

Mr McCurdy will move across from KS1 and will become the Senior Leader in KS2 and the new Swan class teacher.

We raise a warm welcome to Miss Dickson who will join us as the new Chameleon class teacher for the remainder of the school year.

We also welcome Miss Tingle, now Mrs Feirn back from maternity leave. Mrs Feirn will work alongside Mrs Perry in Flying Fish class every Monday & Friday.

**Reading at home**

Thank you to those who replied to the online reading questionnaire. We had many responses and each response has been read and we will use these to refine how home reading is recorded and monitored moving forward.



**Dates for your diary!**

Date	Event
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	Last day of term for all pupils
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> Dec to Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2024	School CLOSED for Half-Term
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> Jan	School CLOSED to pupils – staff training day
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> Jan	School REOPENS to all pupils Young Voices at Sheffield Arena
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Toucans Class – Pizza express visit
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Dentists visit to KS2
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Year 1 – Safe Touch lessons delivered by School Nurses
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Reception & Year 6 – Height and Weight with School Nurses
Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> Jan	Police visit for Reception children – topic work
Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Last day in school for pupils
Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School CLOSED for half-term
Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School CLOSED for pupils – staff training day
Tuesday 20 <sup>th</sup> Feb	School REOPENS to all pupils





**Wishing  
You  
A  
Very  
Merry  
Christmas**



**From all the staff at  
Sandringham Primary School**