



SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

Wednesday 20th July 2022



Children return to school on Monday 5th September 2022

The attendance champions for July are Year 3 with 96.1%



The attendance champions for the Summer Term are Year 3 with 96.4%



The attendance champions for this academic year are Year 1 with 96.1%

'Head'lines (Miss Lisa Roberts, Headteacher)

It's lovely to write my piece for the newsletter at the end of what has been a normal(ish) year...it feels like forever since we've had an entire academic year in school!

We have enjoyed a year in which we have been able to reinstate concerts, assemblies, clubs and other extra-curricular activities and events that enhance our children's educational outcomes and provide the full experience of school.

Prior to the pandemic, we probably took these 'extras', as well as school itself, for granted – never will we again, I'm sure.

Children have worked incredibly hard this year to ensure gaps have been plugged and lost learning caught up on – their positive attitudes and resilience never ceases to amaze me. We are proud of each and every one of them.

We are especially proud of our KS2 SATs results; the best we have ever had – no mean feat when the last proper year of school our Year 6s had (prior to this one) was when they were in Year 3! A massive 'well done' to the children and to Mrs Kennedy and the Year 6 team.

Thank you to each and every member of staff – for your hard work, commitment and dedication to the children and families of Sandridge – you always go above and beyond what is expected and this does not go unnoticed by myself or, indeed, by parents.

We are an ever-decreasing team (in number) so it is more challenging than it has ever been – still, you push on and do so much more than your best.

Thank you - in the words of Tina Turner – 'You're simply the best'!

Thank you to governors; for their unwavering commitment to our children and their hard work and commitment to ensuring Sandridge is the best school it can be.

In particular, thank you to Andy Boxer, our Chair of Governors, who steps down from the Governing Body this summer. I have no words to sum up how fantastic you have been to work with, how committed you have been to the role and how lucky we have been as a school to have you leading our board of governors for the last six years.

It's been an honour to lead alongside you – myself and the rest of the governors will miss you enormously. We wish you the very best for the future – and a good rest!

Today, we say goodbye to three members of staff – Mrs Jenny McCallum, Mrs Linda Wright and Mr John MacRae. All three have worked at Sandridge for a really long time and have contributed significantly to children and families in the village in so many different ways. You will be hugely missed – we are sorry to see you go. We wish you every happiness for the future.

Finally, we say goodbye to our Year 6s today. We enjoyed a lovely Farewell Festival and BBQ last Thursday and they have performed their leaving song in assembly today – not a dry eye in the house afterwards! We wish you every success as you start your new schools – remember to make good choices and shine! We know you will continue to be your amazing selves.

That leaves me to say, I hope you have a fantastic summer break.
I look forward to seeing you on Monday 5th September at the new start time of 8:40a.m.

Have a great holiday ☺

Message from the Governors at Sandridge

Dear Parents, Carers and Friends,

And so, we reach the end of another school year – one which has been largely - and thankfully - free of the Covid limitations within which the staff had to work for so long, whilst never failing to put pupils' well-being and progress first.

For the school governors, the past year has been primarily a time for us to focus on monitoring and supporting the school's efforts to ensure that every child has been given the maximum opportunity to recover as much as possible of the ground 'lost' during the periods of lockdown and home-schooling. One indicator of the school's effectiveness in doing just this has been the wonderful SATs results enjoyed by our Year 6 children, who flew in the face of a national downturn to achieve their best-ever figures. Very well done to the children and a heartfelt 'thank you' to all the staff whose efforts, in the face of significant difficulty, have made this possible!

Another, vital aspect of our job has been to monitor the continuing development of a broad and balanced curriculum: one which builds both upon the vital foundation of Maths, English and Science and gives due weight to the part played by the Humanities, Arts, Technology, Personal & Social Education, Outdoor and Physical Education in developing the 'whole' child and making the most of every pupil's strengths, interests and aspirations.

In the course of governors' regular visits to talk with Miss Roberts, the teaching and support staff, and to see at first-hand the learning taking place, we have been acutely aware of the very significant pressures that they face on a daily basis – magnified not only by the fall-out from Covid, but also by the increasing restraints imposed by a shrinking budget. The well-being of each member of staff continues, therefore, to remain a priority, and I would ask you too, as parents, to recognise the depth of their professional expertise and total commitment to the children, and to give them your full support.

On a personal note, I became a Sandridge governor just over six years ago; one of the Governing Body's first tasks around that time was to appoint a new head teacher. Now, six years on, I can look back at what has been achieved and say with no hesitation whatever that we made a great choice! In every aspect of the extremely complex and difficult role of Head, Miss Roberts has made clear that only the best is ever acceptable when it comes to providing the optimum start in education for every child. Whilst – as in all schools – members of staff depart from time to time and new staff arrive to take their places, she has always seen change as a positive to be managed and used as a tool for the school's continuing development. Miss Roberts heads a superb team of whom we should all be extremely proud.

And, on the subject of departure, I shall be stepping down from my governor role at the end of August owing to increasing family time-commitments. I wish to express my very great thanks to the governor colleagues with whom I have worked, to pay tribute to their wholehearted commitment to Sandridge School and to say how much I have valued their advice and comradeship. They give freely of the limited 'spare' time available to them whilst holding down full-time jobs, and they do so on a completely voluntary (i.e. unpaid) basis. It has been a real privilege to count them as colleagues and friends.

Thankfully, Miss Roberts remains willing to put up with my continuing to come into school to help with groups of children from September. Though, I'm not sure how the children will view that prospect...!

Andy Boxer
Chair of Governors

Goodbye and good luck, Year 6!



The following children celebrate their birthdays this week and over the summer holidays:



Archie, Lacie, Donny-Lee, Lucia, Imogen, Nathan, Adam A
Seth, Leila, James C, Lenny, Joel, Aaron, Emily, Evie, Leia,
Ottie, Olivia S, Elsbeth, Theo C, William H



End of Year Awards

EYFS Sports Award: **Minnie**

KS1 Sports Award: **Olivia S**

Lower KS2 Sports Award: **Courtney**

Upper KS2 Sports Award: **Tommy**

EYFS Resilience Award: **Parker**

KS1 Resilience Award: **Oliver P**

Lower KS2 Resilience Award: **Joel**

Upper KS2 Resilience Award: **Ella**

EYFS Good Friend Award: **William**

KS1 Good Friend Award: **Matilda**

Lower KS2 Good Friend Award: **Reagan**

Upper KS2 Good Friend Award: **Noah PK**

Whole School Contribution Award: **Lucia**

End of Year Certificates of Excellence have been awarded to:

Nursery: **Charley, Nancy N**

Reception: **Ann Teresa, Oscar T**

Year 1: **Donald, Stephanie**

Year 2: **Franklin, Roxy**

Year 3: **Mollie-Mae, Sayfoddine**

Year 4: **Elizabeth, Ben**

Year 5: **Muhammad, Molly**

The Headteacher's Achievement Award

for demonstrating incredible commitment, hard work and exemplary manners was presented to: **Amy**

Certificates for 100% Attendance for the Summer Term have been awarded to:

Amelia, Evie, Parker, Sofia, Matty, Artie, Donald, Evie, Isla, Aaron C, Eve G, Malak, Roxy, Sam, Olivia S, Spencer, Andrew, Olivia L, Sayfoddine, David, Joel, Fred, Amr, Alex, Abigail, Ava, Hayley, Timothy, Jasmine, Christie, Molly, Elsie, Dave, Aaron W, Athena, Freddie, Phoenix, Isla, Lucia, William, Isam, Chloe, Ella, Scarlet, Elizabeth R