



SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 1st December 2023



The attendance winners
for this week are
Reception with 100%



Number of lates in each class this week:

| | |
|----------|------------------------|
| No lates | Reception |
| 1 late | Year 6, Year 5, Year 3 |
| 2 lates | Year 2, Year 4 |
| 5 lates | Year 1 |



The attendance champions for this month are Year 4 with 97.6%

Year 4's reward will be a non-school uniform day on Friday 8th December!

'Head'lines (Miss Lisa Roberts, Headteacher)

How is it December?! It's official; Christmas has started (well, it has in school, anyway)!

Today, Mrs Teakle has been in school and worked with children to put up two Christmas trees, set up a Nativity scene and put it on display along with many other moving and light-up Christmas decorations. Sandridge is looking very festive indeed!

The Christmas post box is also up and from next week, children can post their cards to staff and friends. These will be sorted and distributed each day by Y5/6 monitors.

Now, a special announcement: given that today is the 1st of December, we would like to roll out a special 'Advent Challenge' in honour of Mrs Beard. Mrs Beard's sister has put together the challenge for her family and friends – this being their/our first Christmas without her. I asked if she was happy for me to share it with our children and families and she thought it was a wonderful idea.

Mrs Beard's sister writes, *"Advent was a time - like many others during the year, which Lyn would always get excited about. She would hype up her class with the preparations of Christmas, and immerse them with baking and crafting, creating wonderful displays in her classroom to reflect the season. She loved organising treats, buying thoughtful gifts and visiting the shops (and coffee shops) with her friends to get gifts ready for family and friends far and wide. She would always get advent calendars/advent gifts for family members too.*

I thought by creating this, that it may produce a bit of FUN and help us to all focus on remembering and joining in with some of the things Lyn loved, boy did she love FUN. So if you choose to accept this mission, stick this document on your fridge or notice board and see if you can tick off one activity a day in the lead up to Christmas - choose the order as best suits you/your household (you don't have to stick to the date it's written on!) Some activities are linked to national days during the month, but all I feel, have an element of 'Lyn would approve', or have done similar herself linked to them. I hope you can enjoy carrying out some of these tasks and please feel free to put your own spin on them".

So, the 'Advent Challenge' is attached to today's newsletter. Staff will be joining in too.

We would love it if you felt able to join in with the challenge; even if it's just for a few of the days. If you want to email a photograph in as evidence (admin@sandridge.herts.sch.uk – titled Advent Challenge) then what we plan to do is put a montage of photos together either each week or at the end of term (depending on the amount we receive) so that we can celebrate the lead up to Christmas and, most importantly, Mrs Beard!

Enjoy the weekend and have lots of family fun ☺

FOSS

Christmas Fair

The Christmas Fair is fast approaching – Monday 18th December from 5pm to 7pm.

Thank you so much to everyone who has donated toys, games and books.

We are no longer taking collections!

We are however, still asking for donations of WRAPPED chocolates/chocolate bars for the Chocolate Tombola, and wrapped sweets. Please continue to bring these to the school office should you wish to donate.

Thinking ahead, there will be a cake stall at the Christmas Fair. Any cake donations or home baked goodies to sell on the stall should be taken to the school office on Monday 18th December, at drop off or pick up time. We kindly remind you that Sandridge School has a NO NUTS policy.

Reminder: There will be a **non-uniform day on Friday 15th December**, in return for a bottle donation for the bottle tombola being held at the Christmas Fair. Bottles should be donated in the morning at the school entrance where a member of the FOSS committee will be waiting with a wheelbarrow to collect them all! (Bottles to be unopened and in date please!)

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help on the class stalls. We are gathering all the information and shall send out the confirmed list of times for each stall very soon. Without you, these stalls cannot go ahead, so a very big thank you!

School Disco

Friday 15th December
Early Years/KS1 - 3.15pm - 4.45pm
KS2 - 5.00pm - 6.30pm

A reminder to book your school disco tickets online if you have not already. Tickets can be booked via the link below:

www.pta-events.co.uk

Many thanks,

FOSS Committee



Netball

On Thursday, we played a netball match against Wheatfields and we won 2-0!

This is our first win of the season. The match was thrilling and intense, so we played very well!

We were good at marking and finding a space. Our goals were scored by Deni and Rufus.

Both teams played well. Olivia C was player of the match.

By Lizzie and Olivia C

Year 6

On Monday 27th November, Year 6 started their first Bikeability lesson. We were split into groups. The groups went out separately, either in the morning at 9.15am to 10.30am or 10.50am to 12.05pm or in the afternoon at 1.10pm to 2.25pm. Our first session was on the playground as we were fairly new to the routine. The lessons got harder each day as we went onto busier roads. It has been a fun experience this week. By Abi and Fred



Year 5

Our PE lessons this term have been focused on gymnastics. We have developed a range of different travels, rolls and balances (both individually and in groups) and put these together to make short routines.

During our last two sessions, we planned and performed group routines that used synchronisation and cannon and focused on emphasising the smooth transition from one action to another.



Year 4

This week, in music, Year 4 were learning about pentatonic scales. We learnt that these have five notes in them. We looked at the pentatonic scale of C. The notes we needed were C, D, E, G, A, C1. We used glockenspiels to practise playing the scale before we moved onto playing different melodies using the pentatonic scale.



Year 3

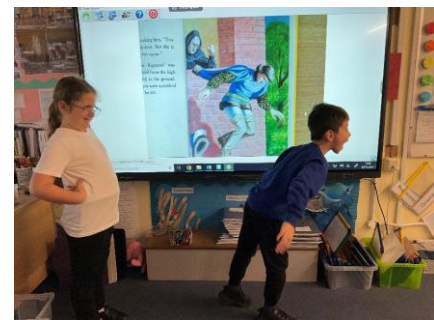
Diwali has been the RE topic this half term in Year 3. It is a festival of lights celebrated by Hindus. Other religions such as Buddhists, Jains and Sikhs have similar celebrations. The festival celebrates the triumph of light over darkness and good over evil. It marks the start of the Hindu New Year.

Lakshmi is the Goddess of Wealth and many Hindus decorate their houses with rangoli patterns, to encourage the Goddess to visit their house. These can be made out of coloured sand or rice. Hindus often decorate just outside their front door. The children drew a pattern on sugar paper which had been folded, making the pattern symmetrical. Then sections were cut out and the paper was opened out. The cut out sections were filled with coloured sand. The paper was then lifted off so the pattern can be clearly seen.



Year 2

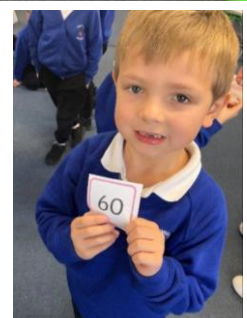
In English we have moved on to our next writing unit all about Rapunzel. We started thinking about the differences between characters. We used role-play to help us understand the differences between good and evil characters. We thought about how their voices, faces and body language change and then we acted out a scene from the story.



Year 1

This week in Maths, we have been learning our 10 times table. We put our knowledge to the test on Thursday and played some Maths games in teams. First, we had to take it in turns to run to the hoop, pick up a card and tell Miss White the multiple above and below the number on the card. To challenge us even more, Miss White asked us to say two multiples above and two multiples below, but we still smashed it!

Afterwards, we split into two groups and got into a circle. One person was the leader and held the beanbag and said 10 as they passed the beanbag to someone in the circle. This person then said the next multiple of 10 as they threw it back to the leader and so on. We counted to some very high numbers!



Early Years

Early Years have been busy with their Maths learning...

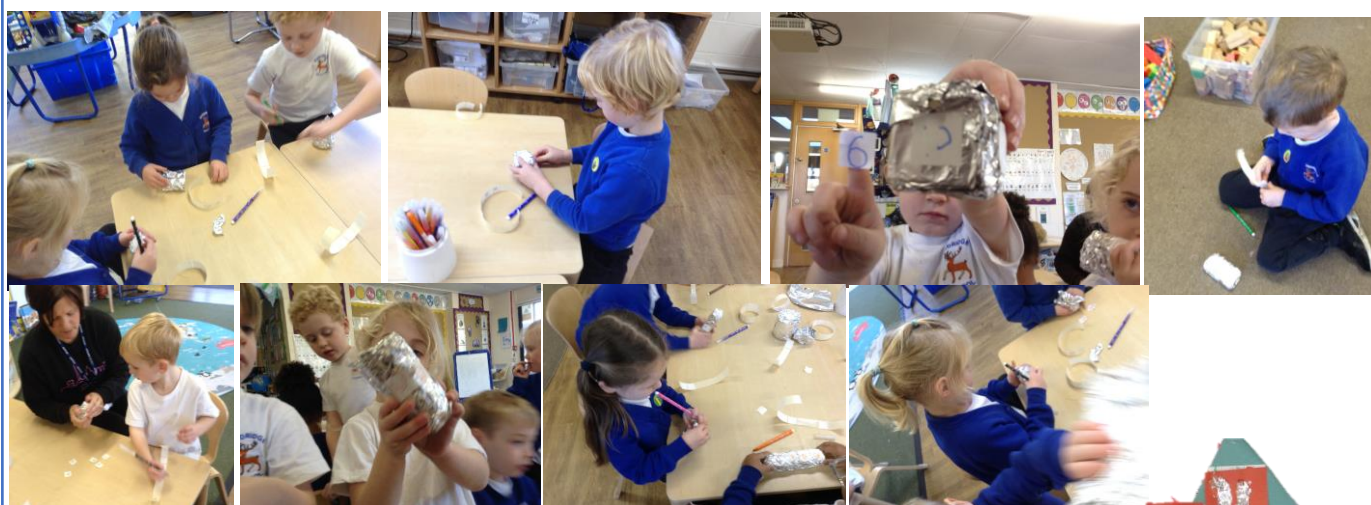
Last week we learnt about 3D shapes culminating with a 3D shape hunt inside and outside. It was amazing how many we found.

We created models with different 3D shapes in our own learning time and in our adult learning. Rockets were popular! We also played a guess the shape feely bag game.

We have been using our cuboid bricks outside as builders too...



Reception really enjoyed the challenge of wrapping up different 3D shapes in foil and putting a face sticker on each side/'face.' This was quite tricky and we found out that we needed 6 faces for a cube and cuboid, only 3 for a cylinder and only 1 for a sphere!



This week we have been thinking about number, counting, ordering and more and less. We have created a class advent calendar to open each day before we break up. We are looking forward to surprising ourselves with our seasonal pictures behind each number!

Last week in our outdoor learning we thought about how hedgehogs come out at night and hibernate in winter so we tried to make a hedgehog using the fallen Autumn leaves.





The following children celebrated their birthdays this week:

Karen, Albert, Alex H



Phenomenal Phonics awards

Reception: Oscar W
Year 1: Archie
Year 2: Oscar P



Star Writer awards

Reception: Austin
Year 1: Olivia
Year 2: Alexa

Year 3: Matty
Year 4: Eve
Year 5: Rory
Year 6: Elsie



REPS Certificates (Respect, Equality, Perseverance, Self-belief)



Showing lovely self-belief, respect, perseverance and equality during all his learning: George M

Persevering in maths and challenging yourself: Samuel

Showing self-belief and pushing yourself to complete more challenging questions in maths: Imogen C

Putting 100% effort into his work, being cheerful and putting his hand up to answer questions: Aras

Showing equality when working in a group: Sam

Consistently demonstrating perseverance and self-belief in all his work: Kai

Persevering with his homework and producing a brilliant historical timeline: Fred

Certificates of Merit



Early Years Superstar Award for answering questions so well this week: Elliot

Learning his narrator lines so quickly for our Nativity play and managing to be an angel as well! Matty L

Trying hard in all of your lessons and making so much progress in maths and being a kind friend: Ettie

Using such a loud and confident voice in guided reading this week: Amelia

Excellent work in geography looking for capital cities and the countries they are in: Sara

Showing wonderful enthusiasm in our French lessons: Otti

Contributing successfully to all our class discussions this week: Harry J

Brilliant focus and application throughout the week which meant he produced fantastic work in all subjects: James

Sporting Certificates



Using good control of her body when having to deliberately trip up to be Whoops a Daisy Angel! Cherry

Working so well with your partner in dance: Lucien

Being so inclusive in PE and supporting all children to be involved in the lesson: Ben G

Showing really good skills in hockey: Artie

Working hard and trying to improve your skills in football: Kamron

Fabulous work in our basketball lesson this week: Albert

A brilliant attitude towards the Daily Mile, running the whole circuit for the full session: Ava

Player of the match as voted for by the opposition in the netball match against Wheatfields: Olivia C