



SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 12th January 2024



**The attendance winners
for this week are
Reception & Year 3 with
100%**



Number of lates in each class this week:

No lates	Year 2, Year 3
1 lates	Reception, Year 4
2 lates	Year 1, Year 5
3 lates	Year 6



'Head'lines (Miss Lisa Roberts, Headteacher)

Happy New Year to you all! I hope you enjoyed a much needed break and had a good rest.

It's been great that the first week back is a full week, this year; the children have really got stuck into their learning and, after a two and a half week holiday, seem to enjoy being in a routine again. Staff have also enjoyed the routine of work (and finishing off all the leftover Christmas chocolates and other goodies)! There has been a lot of talk about New Year's resolutions between the children and we can see, already, improved attitudes to work and 100% effort from everyone.

There is a new Hertfordshire Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education that schools are preparing to put into place by September this year. As part of this preparation (and because it is important), we have tweaked our assembly themes and foci to incorporate more religious celebrations, faith stories and faith leaders from the community.

The weekly themes are as follows (religious festivals that will also be talked about are in *italics*):

Week beginning	Theme
8 th January	New Year's Resolutions / Turning over a new leaf
15 th January	Working hard and self-belief
22 nd January	Different world views – opinions and beliefs <i>World Religion Day (21st)</i> <i>Visit from Rabbi Adam – Judaism</i>
29 th January	Honesty
5 th February	Doing the right thing
12 th February	Temptation <i>Ash Wednesday / Lent</i>
26 th February	Reconciliation and forgiveness <i>Chinese Lantern Festival</i>
4 th March	Friendship
11 th March	Perseverance <i>Ramadan</i>
18 th March	Charity <i>Purim (Rabbi Adam)</i>
25 th March	Holi / Palm Sunday / Easter

Tuesday's faith stories will be from different religions and, wherever possible, link to the weekly theme.

We have yet to book in Rev Wendy for the term, however, I am delighted that we have made contact with Rabbi Adam Zagoria-Moffet of St Albans Masorti Synagogue who will be coming in twice this term. We also now have the contact details for a local Imam and hope to invite him into school this term too. If you know of any other faith leaders willing to visit please let us know.

We will send out reminders of any faith visitors leading assemblies the week before – then, should you wish to withdraw your child/ren from that particular assembly, you can let us know.

Have a lovely weekend – wrap up warm ☺

Year 6

On Monday in PE we did gymnastics. We each had a mat and, in groups of three, we took it in turns to learn different ways to move. We learned how to tuck, pike, straddle, dish and more. After this, we had to do a sequence of three different positions that also had to include a teddy roll and the finish position.

By Max E



Year 5

In Maths this week, we have been working with negative numbers. We have been learning how to interpret negative numbers in context and to count forwards and backwards using positive and negative whole numbers – including through zero. As usual, problem solving and reasoning have played a key part in our learning (temperature is a particularly good way of learning how to use negative numbers).

We have found that number lines are a great way of supporting our learning and of helping us to calculate. As you can see from the pictures even stepping on a number line on the floor helps.



Year 4

This week Year 4 started a new PE unit of handball. We started off in the classroom and watched a video from the Olympics and tried to work out some of the rules. We learnt that you can take 3 steps with the ball and that you can hold the ball for 3 seconds. We also found similarities between handball, netball, basketball and football. We then went outside and had a go at using the different passes of overarm and bounce pass, but also focused on catching the ball while on the move. We then added in a defender to help us focus on moving and finding a space. To end the lesson, we played a small sided game where to score a goal we had to pass it to a player who was over the goal line.



Year 3

We have started our new English unit: The Finger Eater, which is part of our learning about traditional tales. In our first lesson, we experienced what it was like not to have an index finger by taping our fingers together – this was lots of fun but also helped us understand that it does make life a bit tricky. We then moved onto reading the chapter using echo reading (where one person reads a section and we then echo it back in the same way). This helped us to see how the punctuation helped us know how to read it. In the next lesson we took it in turns to read while our partners acted out the scene.



Year 2

We started our new unit of PE this week which is all about yoga. This week's theme was 'under the water' and we learnt some yoga poses linked to ocean animals and objects. We practised a turtle, seal, boat, jellyfish, starfish and dolphin pose. We learnt that we had to keep our muscles tense and strong to help us to balance. We found that the boat pose was very difficult because we had to use our stomach muscles to lift our feet off the floor while we balanced on our bottoms.



Year 1

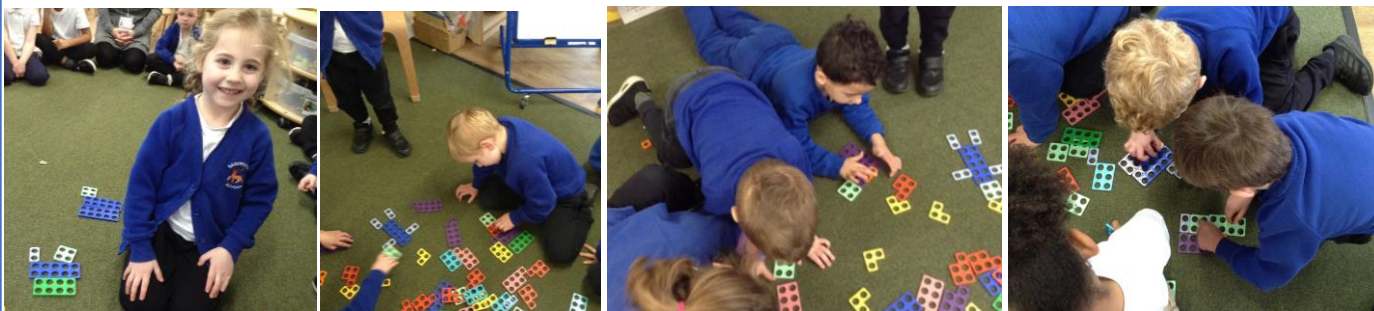
In D&T we have started our puppets topic. We read the story of Little Red Riding Hood and discussed what features each character has that makes them unique. Then we found out we were going to learn how to create our very own Little Red Riding Hood puppet! We needed to learn how we could join two pieces of fabric together, in order to make a puppet. We came up with glue, pins, string and sewing and discussed which method would work and which wouldn't. We then had a go ourselves with glue, staples and paper clips. We finished by evaluating which method was the easiest, hardest and most practical. We decided that staples would be the best because they are strong, however they might scratch our hands because they can be sharp.



Early Years

Early Years have embraced the New Year 2024 with:

- 1 A problem solving Maths activity where we were challenged to make '24' in different ways using Numicon number shapes.



- 2 Thinking of some New Year Resolutions:

"I want to play football." Harrison

"I want to learn to swim." Giovanna

"I want to learn how to tie my shoe laces and read grown up books!" Tilly

"I would like to stay at home with my dog." Nancy

"To watch less television." Anna

"To make patterns." George

"Spend more time playing with my brother, Arthur." Sophie

"Not to watch television before school." Ted

"To buy new shoes." Cherry

"I want to have a lovely day." Matty

- 3 Having circle times to share holiday news and think about how we can all continue to be good friends.
- 4 Looking at January and winter weather... we have explored cornflour and water and 'insta-snow' using polar animals to play in it too.



- 5 Setting up characters outside overnight as an experiment to see if they would be ice-skating in the morning!





The following children celebrated their birthdays this week:

Alexa, Rufus, Reagan, William, Aaron



Phenomenal Phonics awards

Reception: George
Year 1: Isabelle
Year 2: Imogen



Star Writer awards

Reception: Nancy
Year 1: Mohamad
Year 3: Imogen

Year 4: Otti
Year 5: Arisha
Year 6: Olivia H



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



Starting this term with energy, perseverance, resilience & positivity towards adult-led activities! Ewan

Being so kind, respectful and caring to your classmates: Ellie D

Having such a fantastic start back at school, being focussed and persevering in every lesson: Faris

Showing such enthusiasm for our new learning this week: Artie

Amazing everyone with your fantastic self-belief and perseverance this week: Franklin

Showing perseverance with all her learning this week and showing self-belief in discussions: Adriana

Returning to school and persevering with her maths and having self-belief! Ava

Certificates of Merit



Early Years Superstar Award for good communication with his friends: Gio

Being a lovely friend to everyone this week and for amazing us with her writing and adding too! Anna

Doing everything to the best of your ability and having a positive attitude towards maths: Olivia W

Getting your speedy socks on and impressing us all with how much work you are completing each Lesson! Sofia

Persevering when faced with a challenge in maths this week: Georgia

Coming back to school this week with such a brilliant attitude to your learning! Albie

Having a really positive attitude to his learning this week: David

Returning to school with a positive attitude & working hard in lessons to achieve the tasks set: Max M

Sporting Certificates



Moving really well and following instructions during our circle/movement songs: Austin

Trying really hard to develop your target skills in PE: Taliyah

Showing such focus in yoga and making sure your muscles were tight to help you stay balanced: Alexa

Showing a good understanding of how our dance is broken into counts of 8 and completing movements in unison with your partner: Aras

Showing wonderful understanding of tactics and movement in our handball lesson: Soulayman

Enthusiastic and successful work when challenging himself during our PE fitness lesson: Isaiah

Displaying excellent skills in gymnastics: Alexa