SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 17th January 2025

The attendance winners for this week are Year 2 & Reception with 100%



Number of lates in each class this week:

No lates	**Reception, Year 1**
1 late	**Year 4**
2 lates	**Year 2**
3 lates	**Year 5, Year 6**
7 lates	**Year 3**



‘Head’lines (Miss Lisa Roberts, Headteacher)

It’s been another exciting week with our new library bus being featured in the Herts Advertiser. St Albans News Magazine also made contact this week and, after speaking to me yesterday, they are going to be putting a feature about the bus in their next edition.
The children have had a great time on the bus this week and we can already see the impact on the desire to read that it is having. Brilliant!

You will also receive all the key events on our termly dates sheet with today’s newsletter. Do have a good look through; making a note of anything that applies to you/your child. It’s a short term but a busy one too.
You will have received your child’s curriculum information leaflet this week; please note they are also on our website along with detailed curriculum information for each subject.

Lunch update

Having met with our accountant yesterday for our monthly monitoring, it is becoming increasingly evident that many families are not staying on top of lunch payments.
Please note; it is not enough to have a ‘nil balance’ when your child orders a lunch. You need to put money on Arbor ahead of them ordering and enough to cover the lunches they will have for at least that week (or for a longer period if easier).
As of next Monday, if your child does not have enough credit on their account for the lunch they order that day, we will not be able to process their order.
This means you would get a phone call first thing in the morning asking you to put money on their account straight away or bring in a packed lunch for them.

I am sure you understand that we are not in a financial situation to be allowing any build-up of debt; even if it is 50p.

Thank you for your understanding.

Have a lovely weekend ☺

Thank you to our Year 6 parents for coming to the reading session on Wednesday. We had a great turnout and they were our first class to get on board!





Year 6

On Thursday, the Year 6 class 'published' the news report that they had previously written. We have been have been studying the mythical creature, the Leprechaun, and its distinctive features such as its exceptionally great hearing and its extraordinary shoe making skills. We collected a bank of effective vocabulary too which we then used in our writing. We ended the topic by recording our news reports and really enjoyed doing this unit.

By Mollie-Mae and Kai









Year 5

We have made pleasing progress with our art work based on 'Retro-futurism' this week. We sketched ideas that will help us to realise our final composition – we are trying to create a piece of art that represents our own visions of the future.

We then used our collagraph blocks to print onto paper to create the backgrounds to our final piece of work. Each printing block, that had been created using a stiff piece of card and a variety of materials to produce interesting textures, was brushed with acrylic paint and then pressed onto the paper in a repeated pattern to get the desired effect.
In our next lesson, we will put in the foregrounds of our pictures and watch our imaginative worlds take shape.











Year 4

Over the last 2 weeks in gymnastics, we have been focusing on partner balances. This week, we had to develop our partner balances using equipment. We had to use both individual, matching balances and contrasting balances, considering the height and width of our bodies.








Year 3

This week we have been focusing on fossils and how they are formed. This has been a focus in English where we are writing non-chronological reports about fossils, and our Science where we are learning about the fossilization process. To help us understand the difference between mold and cast fossils we used putty to make casts (around the organism) and molds (filling the inside of the organism). Some of us also decided to explore trace fossils where the imprint is left behind. We also observed different fossils and discussed what type it was.



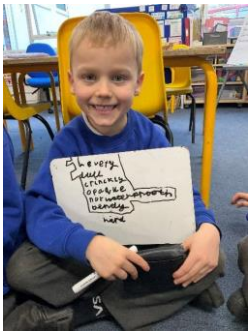




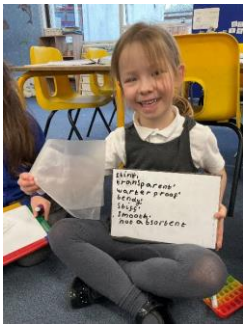
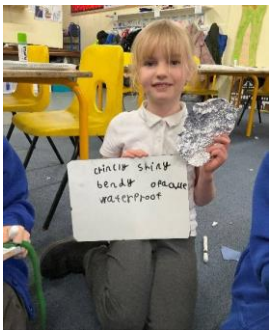

Year 2

To begin our learning about materials we were given a range of materials e.g. clay, wool, plastic, metal, glass, fabric, tin foil and wood. We felt them and talked about the properties we thought each material had for example; soft, hard, rough, smooth, transparent, flexible and rigid.

Then we sorted the materials according to their properties using hoops as a template for a Venn diagram. We noticed that some materials had more than one of the properties we were sorting between so we had to put it in the middle section. We also felt that some of our items didn't have either of the properties we were looking for so placed them on the outside of our Venn diagram.





Year 1

In English, Year 1 have been looking at recipes. On Monday we looked at the recipe Terrible Tusks in the recipe book Gruffalo Crumble. We discussed the key features of a recipe being a title, what you need, bossy verbs, and being in the correct order. We were then given the instructions in the wrong order. We had to think carefully about what the best order would be to make the terrible tusks.

Once we had ordered the instructions, it was time to follow them. We got a range of fruit that we had to cut carefully; we then made the tusk from a banana before assembling it onto the fruit skewer.







Reception

It's been Gruffalo week and as well as enjoying role playing, writing about the story and singing the song, Reception have been enjoying their new Gruffalo cave. It has been used for many different stories and play, some related to Gruffalo characters and some not… we have seen instruments/maths equipment picnics and shops in there!





Last week we went on the bus to enjoy stories and choose our very first bus library books…we couldn't believe that we were allowed to take some of them home!







We have extended our Winter/Polar Animal theme with smashing some ice up outside and observing and breaking up some penguin eggs (frozen with penguins inside) inside!

We said:
Oscar, "We need to get it warm!"
Mae, "…really smooth and I can't get it out…I freed it!"
Mia, "Very splashy" Hugo, "I got it out!"
Elliot, "My one works…look!"
Pip, "Look! (when he got it out)…I just used a hammer!"
Harrison, "I broke this bit."

We were also inspired by looking at photos of Pip's ice garden that he made at home!






We have noticed that after all this cold weather some of the bulbs that we planted in October are beginning to come up too…




The following children celebrated their birthdays this week:

Stefan, Cece

This week's Class Cup of Kindness is awarded to: Year 3

Phenomenal Phonics awards

Year R: Mia
Year 1: Ewan
Year 2: Lacie

Star Writer awards

Year R: Hugo
Year 1: Sophie
Year 2: Ellie

Year 3: Yunus
Year 4: Rebecca
Year 5 Henry
Year 6: Lezon

Times Tables Rock Stars Award

Year 3

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

Showing resilience and self-belief when coming to school and going home: Oscar D

Challenging yourself this week in maths and working hard: Austin

Always showing such respect for all adults and having wonderful manners: Isabelle

Consistent demonstration of all our school values and being a pleasure to teach: Seth

Having more self-belief across the curriculum and being positive and confident! Hadley

Showing self-belief and perseverance this week and working well in maths: Alice

Showing such respect for his classroom environment: Thomas

Persevering with her maths learning and having self-belief to try warm then hot challenges: Olivia L

Certificates of Merit

Lovely Gruffalo role play this week! Mae

Having a fantastic week, joining in class discussions, completing your work and wonderful reading: Ted

Showing such excellent focus during our division lesson and completing so much work! Quinn

Being spotted being kind and quietly encouraging to others by lots of adults this week: Ralph

Engaging and showing excellent progress in phonics since the start of term: Karen

Trying his hardest and having such a great attitude to his learning: Theo

Fantastic work and effort this week particularly in maths work on factions: Kuzey

Sporting Certificates

Fantastic listening, stopping and co-ordination skills in PE this week: Harrison

Showing wonderful control of your body in yoga: Liam

Showing good strength when linking yoga poses to create a flow: Nancy N

Teamwork and willingness to show your skills in gymnastics this week: Oscar T

Creating interesting and precise partner balances using equipment in gymnastics: Matilda

Working successfully with their partner to create a 'dance by chance' dance: Isla, Amna

Amazing effort in our fitness challenges in PE this week: Reagan