SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 21st November 2025

The attendance winners for this week are Year 1/2 with 99.5%



Number of late in each class this week:

1 late	**Year 1/2**
3 lates	**Year 3, Year 5**
7 lates	**Year 6**
8 lates	**Year 3**
13 lates	**Year 4**



‘Head’lines (Miss Lisa Roberts, Headteacher)

Last Sunday, our choir performed at the St Albans Christmas Cracker event – see some of the official photos below taken by Toby Shepheard from Shepheard Photography Limited (https://pixies.et/AaYMjoLY). They were absolutely brilliant and did themselves (and the school) proud. Thank you to everyone who came along to support and special thanks to Miss Everall and Mrs Allard for organising this opportunity and teaching the children the songs.

Talking of Christmas (albeit it is still November!)…Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 have started rehearsals for their Christmas play which will be happening in a few weeks’ time (see below for a reminder of dates and times in what is a very busy time of year in schools):

Monday 1st – Friday 5th December	Assessment Week – whole school	
Wednesday 3rd December	Y1/2 parent reading session	8:40-9:00a.m Library bus
Wednesday 10th December	Reception & Y6 buddy parent reading session	8:40-9:00a.m Library bus or hall tbc
Thursday 11th December	Reception & KS1 Nativity Play	9:30a.m / 6:00p.m in hall
Wednesday 17th December	Christmas lunch and dress-up day	
Wednesday 17th December	Panto for all children – funded by FOSS	
Friday 19th December	Break up for Christmas at 1:30p.m	
Monday 22nd December – Friday 2nd January	CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY	
Monday 5th January & Tuesday 6th January	INSET DAYS	Children return to school on Wednesday 7th January

Next Friday (28th November) is a non-uniform day for everyone ahead of the Christmas Fair the following week. Please send your child in with a bottle or two for the bottle tombola. This would be hugely appreciated by FOSS.

Have a great weekend – wrap up warm ☺






FOSS

Winter Fair – Tuesday 2nd December – 3.15pm to 6.30pm

Come and join us at our Winter Fair – buy a raffle ticket, play on the tombola, hear the children sing carols and watch our firework finale!

We are still looking for donations and would appreciate any of the following:



- Toys (suitable for 5-11 year olds)
- Soft toys
- Chocolate (no nuts)
- Sweets (wrapped)
- Cakes (on the day)



Christmas cards

Christmas card proofs were sent home last week. Just a reminder that the last day to order is this **Sunday 23rd November.**

Elves' Workshop – Friday 12th December

Our magical Elves Workshop is coming to school, giving children the chance to do their very own Christmas shopping for the special grown-ups in their lives!



Tickets are now on sale: https://pta.events/38lt4f8v



Non-uniform day – Friday 28th November

A reminder that there is a non-uniform day next Friday in exchange for a bottle for the Winter Fair bottle tombola.

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Skateboarding, BMXing and Scootering.

We have had a very exciting week in school with three different workshops taking place. The week started with Years 3 and 4 completing a skateboarding workshop with Mike Mullen from BMX Academy. They were shown how to get on and off the skateboard safely on some matting before learning how to move around on the skateboard and learning some tricks.

On Tuesday, Years 5 and 6 then took part in a BMX workshop with Mike who is a six times UK BMX Halfpipe Champion and Former World Master Champion. They practised a range of different skills which involved riding with no hands, standing on the frame of the bike and going over a jump. The day ended with some of the children performing their new tricks to the rest of the school on the playground before Mike showed off some of his tricks, including jumping over Mrs Barrasso, Mrs Allard and Mr Riley! Well done to Theo, Oscar, Meral, Otti, Kam, Hannah, Hugh, Karson, Freddie, Olivia, Artie, Orla, Emily, the Sandridge School BMX Team!

On Thursday it was the turn of Years 1 and 2 and Reception. The day started with Terry, who is a World and European champion and recently landed a triple backflip on a scooter, delivering an assembly about chasing your dreams and never giving up. He also performed a range of tricks in the hall including a backflip which was very exciting! In the workshops, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all got practised going over different sized ramps on the scooters before trying some other tricks including sitting on the foot plate of the scooter while moving and holding the upright bar instead of the handlebars.



Netball

On Wednesday 19th November, our school netball team played a match against St John Fisher. It was a good game but unfortunately when we arrived we had to forfeit the match and borrow players from the opposition due to a shortage of players from our team. Altogether, despite the downside of it all, the score was 13-1 to them. Player of the match was once again Lizzy and our one goal was scored by Eve.

The following day, we played Wheatfields Junior School. It was a good game and we didn't have to borrow players this time! The score was 11-0 to them but we all played brilliantly. With 8 seconds left in the game Isla fell over but got back up and carried on going which is why she got player of the match.

by Eve and Isla

Year 6

Last week, along with Anti-Bullying Week, Year 6 had their Bikeability course. On Monday, we rode around the playground whilst learning about road safety, including signalling and looking behind. Our first experience out on the road was on Tuesday, where we practised the 'stop u-turn'. On Wednesday, we rode further, down to St Leonard's Crescent. Here we practised signalling and also had to follow: share position, look, control position and signal (if necessary). Thursday was our longest ride up to Jersey Farm. We had to use all of the skills we learnt that week in order to show we could safely ride for distance on the roads. Finally, on Friday, we had to put all of our skills into practice independently. The instructors were watching and assessing us but trying not to give too many instructions. We didn't ride very far on Friday as it was hammering down with rain all day (this was the worst part about the week)!



Co-written by Orla & Theo





Year 5

Last Wednesday we paid a lovely visit to Tara's Retreat. We brought the stuffed toys we made in our Design and Technology project to share with the residents and also spent time playing games and chatting with them. We loved listening to them sharing their stories and precious memories and can't wait to visit them again!









Year 4

We have been inspired by the poem A Small Dragon by Brian Patten in English. The poem describes finding a small dragon in a woodshed and wondering where it might be from and how it needs looking after. We created our own poems discovering an unexpected animal or creature in our homes and the consequences it may have. We worked hard on our use of adjectives to describe our creatures and used these descriptions to generate images of them to accompany our poems in our book of poetry.

















Year 3

This week in Science we started looking at rocks using our observation skills. We thought about the vocabulary we could use to describe the properties and then had a go at scientific sketching. Some of us got very excited and tried to identify the type of rock by using our current knowledge – we certainly have some class experts!













Year 1/2

In Science over the last two weeks, we have been looking at the impact different exercises have on your breathing rate. We measured our breathing rate at rest and then again after doing different exercises for one minute. We found that our first set of results were not very accurate and we didn't think the test was fair so we re-did our investigation to check our results. Year 2 then used their information to draw a bar graph and Year 1 made a block graph to show their results.







Reception

<u>Owls</u>

Last week we enjoyed role playing the story 'Owl Babies', learning and writing some owl facts and creating owls.







<u>PE</u>

This week in PE we developed our ball control and skills by pretending to be bees and rolling up pollen balls (balls) carefully and stopping them before they went too far. We used our hands and feet to stop them. We also rolled them, went past them and turned around to stop them quickly!

We moved onto to a 'Queen Bee says' game around a cone beehive and finally we passed balls to partners and stopped them before passing them back. We were very good at all of these skills.





The following children celebrated their birthdays this week:



Charlie LH, Mia, Ted



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



Phenomenal Phonics awards

Year R: Beatrix
Year 1/2: Elliot



Star Writer awards

Year R: Azari
Year 1/2: Harrison
Year 3: Shahnaz

Year 4: Sophie
Year 5 Olivia
Year 6: Aaron



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



Demonstrating self-belief, motivation and perseverance in all he does at school, especially in phonics: Jerry

Showing excellent resilience, perseverance and self-belief in the scooting workshops: Tilly

Showing real self-belief in lessons this week and facing all challenges positively: Olivia

Showing such perseverance in English this week and challenging yourself to write more: Amelia

Persevering with her learning and mastering the formal division method in maths: Stephanie

Having more self-belief in maths over the last few weeks: Sadie

Certificates of Merit



Approaching all his learning with a smile on his face and gaining confidence to try the tricks in our scooter workshop! Elijah

Working hard to learn your lines and the songs for the nativity: George

Being a super star, a focused learner and a wonderful listener! Hope

Being such a kind and caring member of the class: William

Pushing himself to try the harder challenges in lessons: Aras

Positive contributions to all lessons and good quality work: Kamron

Sport Certificates



Being a legend for growing in confidence and doing tricks during our scooter workshop! Freya

Excellent work in the scooting workshop. You tried every trick and had great success at them: Oscar D

Determination and resilience during our skateboarding workshop: Uma

Being an absolute star in the skateboard workshop! Oscar T

Making fantastic progress in the BMX sessions: Artie

Showcasing amazing skills during our BMW workshop this week: Emily

Player of the match voted by the opposition team in the netball match against St John Fisher: Lizzy
Player of the match voted by the opposition team in the netball match against Wheatfields: Isla

Being part of the Sandridge School BMX team and performing your skills in front of the whole school in the showcase: Theo, Oscar, Meral, Otti, Kam, Hannah, Hugh, Karson, Freddie, Olivia, Artie, Orla, Emily