# SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

## Friday 1st May 2026

**The attendance winners for this week are Year 1/2 with 98.9%**



**Number of late in each class this week:**

| | |
|---|---|
| **2 lates** | **Year 1/2** |
| **3 lates** | **Reception, Year 5** |
| **6 lates** | **Year 3, Year 6** |
| **11 lates** | **Year 4** |



**The attendance winners for April are Year 1/2 with 98.2%. As we have a non-school uniform day next Friday (see below), their reward will be a special outdoor activity!**

### ‘Head’lines (Miss Lisa Roberts, Headteacher)

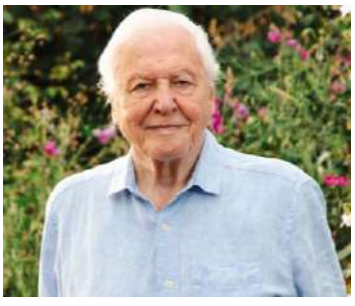
Yesterday morning, children and staff were treated to an amazing interactive performance by ‘Electric Umbrella’. Their mission is ‘to create a truly inclusive society – one where everyone, regardless of ability, is seen, heard, and celebrated. More than just performance, their work is about shifting mindsets, empowering individuals, and making inclusion a lived reality’.

See below for Mrs Barrasso’s write-up and thank you to her for organising such a unique and special performance assembly!






Next Friday – 8th May – is David Attenborough’s 100th birthday! To celebrate his special day and all of his amazing achievements, we are having a non-uniform day. Children (and staff) can come dressed in animal print, as an animal or just in Earth colours (blue and green). Children can also bring in their favourite animal cuddly (or non-cuddly) toy and/or their favourite book about animals or the planet.



We will have a special assembly that day focusing on David Attenborough’s life and a few of his very many achievements as a broadcaster, natural historian and writer.
We look forward to seeing your amazing outfits!

Have a great (extra-long weekend) 😊

Children return to school, next week, on Tuesday 5th May at 8:40a.m.

**Electric Umbrella**

Since Autumn Term, we have been learning different Electric Umbrella songs in class and in assembly time. The songs are written by members of Electric Umbrella who recognise themselves as Learning Disabled. They share their experiences through music and the songs help others understand that 'There is no such thing as normal' and that they want to be accepted for the talented people they are. The children have enjoyed learning the songs and Makaton signs that accompany them so much, that we booked a live performance. There was a lot of singing, dancing and smiling throughout the event and I think we have all got some of the songs repeating in our heads!

The response from our children has been overwhelmingly positive and the Electric Umbrella team were full of praise for how inclusive and wonderful our young people are!

I learnt that it is ok to be different. - Michael Y6

It was beneficial because I learnt that even though everyone is different, we can all enjoy the same things. - Eve Y6

It was very good because I learnt that they can adapt things to their needs. They could use things they were comfortable using and join in things they liked. - Lizzy Y6

Someone at my swimming is deaf and I have done some British Sign Language (BSL) which is similar to Makaton to be able to talk to them. I really enjoyed it because they had so much confidence and everyone should be like that- Matilda Y5

If you are not really confident singing out in front of people that is ok. You can find ways to do it, like with sign language. You shouldn't worry about what other people think. Electric Umbrella boosts your confidence because nothing is right or wrong. - Freddie Y5

Electric Umbrella is good because you know they are going to be nice to you. It is all about letting people with disabilities join in and they make a space to let them join in and they give everyone a part that they like. Everyone gets treated the way they want to. Its nice how they accept everyone even if they don't really know how to do some things, they find something they can do. - James Y5

I thought it was really fun and I was amazed at how well they could sing! - Sophie Y4

I didn't want it to end! I would like them to come back and felt happy to be in their company. - Jack Y4

I liked it because they called us 'sandwich' school and I enjoyed it because at the end, the man with the guitar put on big pants. It was to say that you can be anything and follow your dreams and don't let anyone stop you. - Ellie Y3

You don't always have to be the same as people. Just do what you think is best. - Samuel Y3

I smiled for the whole time and it was so fun and they danced about. My favourite part was when the teachers had to do an Irish jig. - Quinn Y3

It was fun and I liked the laughing bit. - Pip Y1

I got to dance (in front of the whole school). - Beatrix YR




St Albans City & District Council

# Spring Festival

## Sunday 17 May 2026

**12noon - 6pm**

**A free, family-friendly festival celebrating creativity, wellbeing, community and sustainability**

- **Arts & crafts**
- **Coding & video game design**
- **Circus skills**
- **Toddler soft play**
- **Sports & games**
- **Live music**
- **Street entertainment**



**LOCATION: St Albans City Centre**

St Peters Street, High Street & Market Place







**https://www.enjoystalbans.com/event/st-albans-spring-festival-2/**

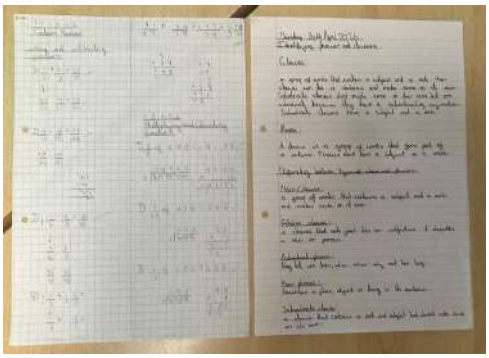
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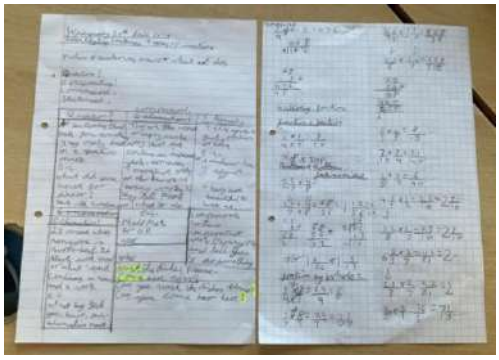
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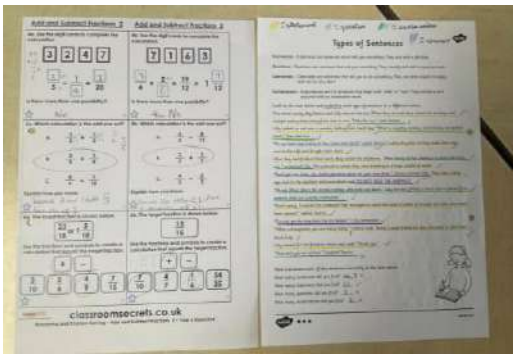
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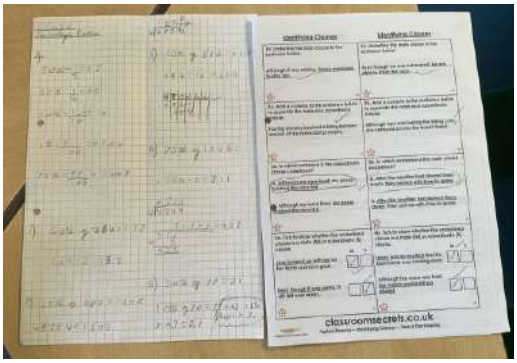
## Year 6

This week, we have been having a huge focus on our core maths & English skills in preparation for SATs. We have been going back over lots of topics we have previously learnt this year; solving questions we need to work on from our past papers; and creating revision sheets to help us in the next few weeks.








## Year 5

In the last few music lessons, Year 5 children have been exploring the association of music with colours. Built from our understanding that music can be represented not only by musical notes, but also in the form of graphic scores, this week, we worked on creating a vocal composition in response to a colour. To enrich the composition, we experimented in groups on different musical instruments and tried putting them together to form a piece of 20-second wordless music. At the end of the lesson, we performed in the class and recorded the composition as a graphic score.















## Year 4

This week, Year 4 enjoyed diving into their cooking unit by following a basic biscuit recipe. Each member of the group had different roles throughout the process of preparing and making the dough. We had so much fun making them and particularly enjoyed tasting them at the end of the lesson. We are looking forward to developing this basic recipe by adding our own ingredients in our next lessons.









## Year 3

In science lessons, we have been learning about the human body. This week we focused on muscles and the role they have on our movement. To investigate muscle strength, we explored different elastic band thicknesses to see how far each one would stretch. We found that the thinner bands could be pulled further which meant they were weaker, whereas the thicker bands had more resistance. Some of us also noticed that the more we used the band, the more flexible it became and made links to our PE where we have to stretch our muscles to prevent injury.










## Year 1/2

This week in maths we have been looking at place value. We have been identifying the amount of tens and ones in different numbers. We then used bead strings, base 10, Numicon, multilink and tens frames to make numbers.



## Reception

This week we have been looking at the story of Jack and the Beanstalk. As part of this focus, we have been thinking about growing plants. We put broad and French beans on a wet paper towel in a transparent plastic bag so that we can we can hopefully see them start to grow roots and shoots. We will transplant them into pots in a couple of weeks. We planted fresh tomato seeds outside in compost.

We have also created our own friendship beanstalks and put some mixed up sentences from the story in the right order using our phonic and literacy skills.



This week's **Class Cup of Kindness** is awarded to: **Reception**

## Phenomenal Phonics awards

Year R: Jerry
Year 1/2: Mia



## Star Writer awards

Year R: Alice
Year 1/2: Reuben
Year 3: Demi
Year 4: Oscar T
Year 5 Harry
Year 6: Aaron

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

Showing self-belief when she has sung her own song to the class this week and also for challenging herself in phonics: Beatrix

Showing amazing perseverance and self-belief this week in all learning and when confident you have chosen a harder challenge: Zen

Being a super star listener and responding to adult instructions straight away: Lenny

Showing such self-belief and perseverance when telling the time: Parker

Showing incredible dedication to your non-chronological report: Lasya

Knuckling down with all work this week. She has had a great attitude, has persevered in all tasks and has great concentration: Cece

## Certificates of Merit

Really working hard at school during adult-led and your own learning time this week: Noel

Always having such neat and wonderful presentation in your books: Harrison

Challenging yourself in maths this week and working with an adult to improve your writing: Lacie

Working so hard in every lesson, challenging yourself with your learning and sharing your ideas: Ezmaye

Your untiring effort in maths and English this week, showing an exceptional attitude to take up challenges in learning and offering support to classmates: Matilda

Contributing well in class and giving clear explanations to help others learn: Sadie

## Sport Certificates

Using super travelling, rolls, shape making and balancing routines in Gymnastics this week: Freya

Working well with your partner and demonstrating a wonderful sprint technique: Liam

Asking for feedback on your sprinting technique to improve your already speedy laps! Charly

Excellent technique when you were jumping for distance in gymnastics: Wilfred

Working hard in practising handstands and cartwheels in gymnastics this week: James

Excellent bowling during rounders this week: Franklin