SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 17th July 2026

The attendance winners for this week are Year 1/2 with 100%



Number of late in each class this week:

2 lates	**Year 1/2, Year 6**
4 late	**Year 5**
5 lates	**Reception**
6 lates	**Year 4**
9 lates	**Year 3**



‘Head’lines (Miss Lisa Roberts, Headteacher)

The end of another academic year is almost here…

My ‘head’lines, next Tuesday will be shorter and focus on Year 6 and Miss Everall and Mrs Jones who leave us then.

Thank you to all the staff who go above and beyond every single day for the children of Sandridge. We are a small school and being a member of staff in a school of this size means that there are less people to share responsibilities amongst (most teachers lead at least two subjects on top of their classroom responsibilities as well as break duties, events and other things). We also have our second mixed-age class from September and, even though we do this extremely successfully, it is more work for teachers. You pull together and work so effectively as a team. You are always smiling and this, in turn, means children are happy here and enjoy their learning. Thank you.

Thank you to the Governing Body – a volunteer role with a lot of work and responsibility for the school and its staff and pupils. Thank you for being a great group of people to work with, thank you for your commitment and hard work and thank you for the professional challenge. I do not take this for granted.
Special thanks to Michelle Poole and Toni Neil who have been governors for many years and contributed significantly to our lovely school. They are stepping down from these roles next week but I am hugely grateful for all they have done and achieved during their time on the Governing Body.

Thank you to all of our volunteers, whether it is coming in to hear children read, helping the whole class with sewing and cooking or working with groups to support maths and English. You make a real difference and we appreciate your weekly commitment to our children.
Whilst on the subject of volunteers; thank you to FOSS – for your energy, enthusiasm and great ideas for events and other fundraising opportunities. Tom and Rhia are stepping down as Co-Chairs so we are looking for anyone or a couple of people to take over and lead our fantastic group of parent and grandparent volunteers. Without a PTA, we cannot run events and, therefore, we cannot raise additional and much-needed funds. Please have a think, over the summer, as to whether you could take this on.

Lastly, thank you to our children – for always keeping us on our toes and making us smile. Whether it’s learning something new, performing your socks off on sports day or just making a funny comment or telling us a story…you are why we get out of bed every morning and enjoy coming to work! 😊

Have a great weekend!

Message from the Vice Chair of Governors

Seven Wonderful Years: A Fond Farewell to Sandridge School and the Privilege of Being a Governor

Seven years ago, I walked through the doors of Sandridge School for what I thought would simply be an evening meeting to meet my children's teachers and Miss Roberts before they started school that September. I can still remember that evening so clearly – during the meeting, it was mentioned that Sandridge School was looking to recruit a governor. My ears immediately pricked up and I knew it was something I wanted to find out more about.
Looking back now, I'm so grateful that I took that opportunity.

Being a governor has been an incredibly rewarding experience. It has given me the chance to support a school that has become such a huge part of our family's life, while also giving me a fascinating insight into how schools operate and how the wider education system works. I've felt genuinely privileged to have that perspective while my own children have been pupils at Sandridge.

The role has allowed me to work alongside dedicated staff, governors and school leadership team, all with the same aim: providing the very best education and opportunities for every child. It has been inspiring to see the passion, care and commitment that exists behind the scenes, and just how much work goes into making Sandridge such a special place.

During my time as a governor, I've also been fortunate enough (!) to be involved in two Ofsted inspections, both of which resulted in fantastic outcomes for the school. To have played even a small part in those successes is something I'll always be incredibly proud of.

Now, seven years later, the time has come for our family's Sandridge journey to reach its natural conclusion. Next week, my son will leave the school, and as a family we'll be saying goodbye to a place that has given us so many wonderful memories, friendships and experiences. We've had an absolute blast at Sandridge School, and I know walking away from the school gates for the very last time will be an emotional moment. Sandridge has been so much more than just a school to us – it has been a community that has helped shape our children and supported our family throughout their primary years.

With our children moving on, it also feels like the right time for me to step down from my role as a governor. While I'll miss being part of the governing body, I leave knowing that Sandridge will continue to thrive under the exceptional leadership of Miss Roberts and the incredible staff team and governing body.

If you've ever thought about becoming more involved in the school, I can't recommend becoming a governor highly enough. The commitment is far more manageable than many people imagine, with just six governing body evening meetings each year, along with a Governor Day. These visits are a brilliant opportunity to spend time in school, see lessons in action, experience day-to-day school life, and witness first-hand just how happy, engaged and valued the children are. It's one of the most rewarding parts of the role.

If becoming a governor is something that interests you, I'd encourage you to speak to Miss Roberts, who will be more than happy to explain the role and answer any questions you may have. It really is a wonderful opportunity to make a meaningful contribution to the school while gaining a unique insight into education and helping to shape the future of this fantastic community.

Thank you, Sandridge School, for seven unforgettable years. It has truly been an honour to serve as one of your governors, and although our family is moving on, Sandridge will always hold a very special place in our hearts.

Michelle Poole

Talent Show

On Wednesday evening, Sandridge School hosted our annual KS2 Talent Show.

There were a variety of acts ranging from magic, singing and karate to instrument playing, dancing and telling jokes. It was a lovely evening completely child-led and child-centred. Hosting, this year, were four Year 6s: Orla, Eve, Lizzy and Lilly, who did a fantastic job and even wrote their own 'thank you' speech at the end.

The judges – Cece, Oliver, Sadie and Meral – gave fantastic feedback which was thoughtful and confidently delivered. They took their role very seriously and tried hard to put each act at ease after their performance.

The winners of this year's Talent Show were Sophie in Year 4 in third place (singing), Albie in Year 6 in second place (singing and dancing) and Hugh in Year 6 who came first (playing the piano blindfolded)!
The three winning acts each received Amazon vouchers.

Well done to everyone who auditioned, took part and supported the event.











Summer Reading Challenge

The Summer Reading Challenge is drawing near, encouraging children to continue their reading over the holidays. This year's theme is Read to the Beat, uniting the magic of stories with the power of music.

At Marshalswick Library, children will be challenged to read six library books (or eBooks / eAudiobooks) between 4th July and 5th September. This year, they have introduced a series of 12 optional challenges.



It is a fun, free family activity which is perfect for the summer holidays.

Pop down to your local library or click the link for more information:
https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/



Year 5 and Year 6

In PE this half term, Year 5 and Year 6 have both been learning new skills in golf. This week, both classes joined together to compete in a golf tournament. On Monday, Year 6 designed and tried out golf holes to make sure they were challenging enough and required a range of skills they had learnt. Then, on Tuesday, Year 5 joined the Year 6 groups to play all 9 holes in a mixed year competition.





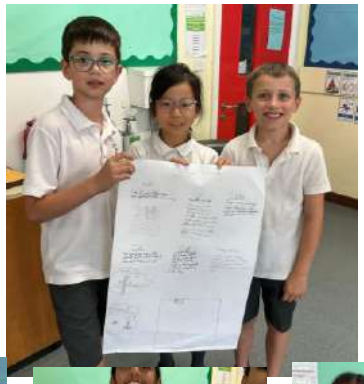




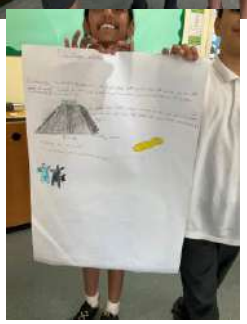


Year 4

This week in history, we were given the challenge as historians to research what daily life was like for people in the Mayan civilization. We were given different areas of daily life to research in groups and work collaboratively using texts and the internet to help us to answer questions and find out key information about daily life. We then looked at each other's posters and identified key facts that we didn't know previously.






Year 3

On Monday we made our sweet and savoury tartlets. Some of us changed our initial recipes after the food tasting lesson a few weeks ago and we were all really happy with the finished results! We had a fun day full of peeling, cutting, spreading and of course eating!








Year 1/2

In art, Year 1/2 have been creating a variety of maps this week. We started off by drawing a map in our art books. It could be of where we lived or an imaginary place. We then used this map to create two different types of maps. The first maps we created were 3D relief maps using a range of materials and then we created a stained-glass effect map using laminating sheets and cellophane.




















Reception

On Monday we had a visit from Community Police Officer Chris to enrich our recent 'people who help us' topic.

We enjoyed talking about the uniform and different purposes for it. For example, what colour it was (so that it could be seen in the dark). We were also surprised how heavy some of it was and we discussed why this was. We talked about his boots and saw how he used a Velcro strip to hold someone's hands together so that they couldn't escape.

He also talked about police dogs and we found out that the breeds are chosen not because they are just the fastest, the bravest, the most intelligent but because they are a combination of all three. We also talked about why dogs are useful with their great sense of smell and hearing.

Then we were able to go outside and see the police car and hear its siren. We also saw the lights flashing! We were inspired to be police officers outside for most of the week!

Thank you, Chris, and colleagues.












The following children celebrate their birthdays this week, next week and during the summer holidays:

Henry, Ann Teresa, Jack, Archie, Lacie, Charlie, Imogen, Elsa, Elliott, Sophie K, Seth, Lenny, Pip, Emily, Georgia, Wilfred, Shona, Demi, Lasya, Bilvani, Emma, Theo

Phenomenal Phonics awards

Year R: Charlie

Star Writer awards

Year R: All of Reception!
Year 4: Alexa
Year 6: Theo

This week's Class Cup of Kindness is awarded to: Year 5

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

Continuing to show more self-belief and perseverance with all her activities: Beatrix

Showing wonderful resilience in computing this week when composing music and making pictograms: Mia

Always demonstrating all our school REPS at all times: Nancy N

Showing such perseverance while making circuits this week: Evie

Courage and confidence you showed in your advertising pitch: Elsa

Always persevering no matter what the task is: Franklin

Certificates of Merit

Being continually knowledgeable... this week about both police and sea creatures! Noel

Fantastic work in computing this week: Liam

Speaking more confidently in group situations and explaining your thinking: Shahnaz

Being such an enthusiastic member of the class and engaging well with every learning task: Teddy

Being amazing in delivering the advertising pitch in your group: Artie

Being sensible, conversing with others and asking and answering questions in RSE: Cece-Blue

Sport Certificates

Lovely seaside and octopus dancing this week! Rocco

Demonstrating wonderful overarm and underarm throwing this week: Avraaj

Being a fantastic team player in cricket: Lucien

Fantastic fielding in rounders: Wilfred

Thinking strategically before every hit in our golf competition this week: Charlie LH

Showing off some fantastic skills in golf this week when we set up our own course: Aaron

Representing the school at the Little Sticks Festival: Su, Emma, Ralph, Milo, Ezmaye, Daniel, Amelia, Wilfred, Sophie, Charlie, Rebecca, Artie, Henry, Harry, Imogen