SANDRIDGE WEEKLY NEWS

Friday 20th November 2026

The attendance winners for this week are Year 6 with 100%



Number of late in each class this week:

No lates	**Year 2/3**
2 lates	**Year 6**
3 lates	**Year 5**
4 lates	**Reception/Year 1**
5 lates	**Year 4**



‘Head’lines (Mrs Lisa Harrison, Headteacher)

This week, I attended the funeral of our former Chair of Governors, **Andy Boxer**, following his sudden passing last month. Andy served as Chair from 2016 to 2022 and made a tremendous contribution to our school. He was also deeply involved in the local community, volunteering his time and energy to support a wide range of causes. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

Andy and his wife, Sue, were also regular volunteers in school, generously sharing their teaching experience and expertise to support Sandridge’s pupils. We were incredibly fortunate to benefit from their commitment and dedication over many years, and the children gained so much from their involvement.

Our thoughts and condolences are with Sue and the wider Boxer family at this difficult time.

Also, this week...

Bikeability Success for Year 6

Year 6 have successfully completed their Bikeability (cycling proficiency) course. Despite a couple of wet starts, the weather was kind for most of the week, allowing both groups to enjoy the programme. The instructors were full of praise for the children’s attitude, conduct and enthusiasm, commenting that they had been a credit to the school throughout. Well done, Year 6.

Anti-Bullying Week

This week, all classes have been focusing on anti-bullying through a range of age-appropriate activities and discussions. Pupils have explored what bullying is, what to do if they experience or witness it, and how they can support others. A particular focus has been empathy, with children considering different scenarios and learning how to understand situations from another person’s perspective.

St Albans Christmas Cracker Festival

Finally, this Sunday sees the return of the St Albans Christmas Cracker Festival in the city centre. There will be a fantastic festive atmosphere, with performances from schools across the area, entertainment throughout the day and plenty of opportunities for Christmas shopping. Our school choir will be performing in front of the museum at **4:40pm**, and we would love to see as many supporters there as possible. It was a wonderful event last year, and we are very much looking forward to being part of it again. Do come along and help cheer on our talented young singers.

Have a great weekend ☺



PTA



It's just 2 weeks until the Christmas Fair!

Mrs Harrison has kindly drawn the stall allocations out of a hat in assembly today. The allocations are as follows:

Reception/Year 1 – Toys and Books
Year 2/3 – Lucky Dip
Year 4 – Bottle Tombola
Year 5 – Cakes and Sweets
Year 6 – Knock the Elf (off the shelf)

In order to run the stalls we really need your help! Please look out for a poll from your class rep and indicate which time slot you can help with, thanks in advance!

As is tradition at our Christmas Fair, each class will be taking to the stage to perform some festive songs and help spread Christmas cheer throughout the afternoon. Please bring your children to the stage at the following times:



Year R/1 – 4.00p.m
Year 2/3 - 4.15p.m
Year 4 - 4.30p.m
Year 5 - 4.45p.m
Year 6 – 5.00p.m
Choir - 5.15p.m



New for this year! We would love to give budding singers the chance to shine. If your child would like to perform a favourite Christmas song or carol as a soloist or duet, we'd be delighted to hear from you. Please email sandridgePTA@sandridge.herts.sch.uk to register your interest and we'll do our best to allocate a performance slot before or between the class performances.

Just a reminder we are still looking for donations of the following:

- wrapped sweets and lollies
- new unwanted gifts
- small toys for lucky dip
- gift hamper goodies e.g. chocolates, wine or soft drinks, candles, biscuits, Christmas pudding, biscuits for cheese, chutney etc.

Thank you!

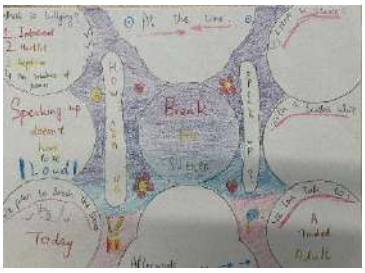


Year 6

On Monday, Year 6 watched the BBC Live lesson linked to Anti-Bullying Week. In the lesson, we had to recognise bullying and the impact it has on others. As this year's theme is 'Break the Silence', we had to think about how to respond to bullying: in the moment, after it has happened and how we can speak to trusted adults. Inspired by the artist on the live lesson, we created our own 'Break the Silence' posters. Some of us used it as an opportunity to help people understand how to respond, whereas others of us used it as a speaking frame to support people in thinking what they need to do.

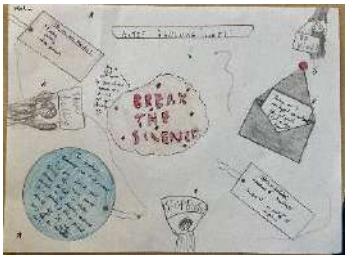




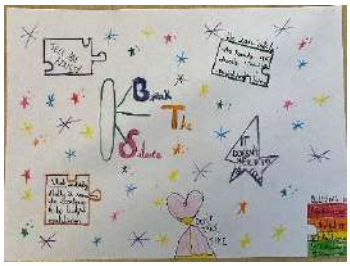






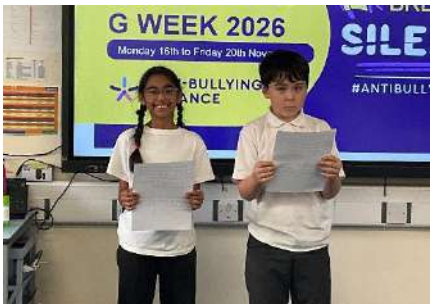






Year 5

For Anti-Bullying Week we looked into the research behind why people stay silent when they experience bullying or witness bullying. We then worked in pairs to write speeches to tell people about what we found, and to encourage people to speak up and not stay silent. When we were finished, we presented our speeches to the class.







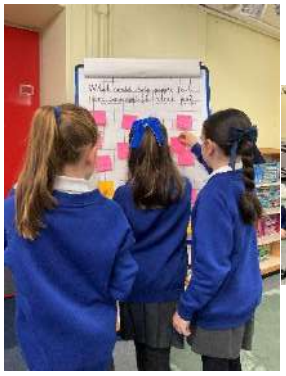






Year 4

As part of Anti-Bullying Week, we explored this year's theme, "Break the Silence." During our PSHE lesson, we discussed some of the reasons why people might choose to stay silent instead of speaking up when they witness bullying. Working in groups, we examined different case studies, identified how victims of bullying might feel, and considered what could happen if no one intervenes. We also explored how situations can change when just one person chooses to speak up and seek help, and shared practical tips to help people feel more confident about speaking up for themselves or others. To finish the lesson, we created freeze frames to compare the impact of staying silent with the positive difference that can be made when we break the silence and support others. This helped us reflect on the important role we all play in creating a safe, caring and respectful school community.





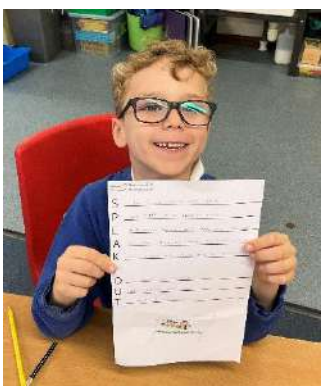
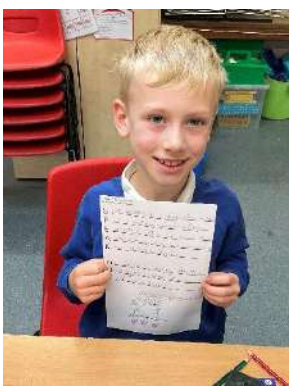


Year 2/3

This year's anti-bullying week theme was all about breaking the silence. We thought about how it is important that we speak up about bullying whether it is happening to us, we're seeing it happen to others or even if we know someone who is being a bully. We wrote acrostic poems using the phrase 'speak out' as the first letter of each line to help us to remember this important message.





Reception/Year 1

Everyone in Reception and Year 1 created a leaf bag owl from collecting some of the lovely Autumn leaves on the field last week.








Last week Reception were motivated to do many rocket countdowns and created their own rockets writing some count down numbers on the side too.









Arthur brought in his large rocket that he created at home to show us and talk about.

This week they have continued their dark and light topic by exploring some dark places around school with torches and also by using torches to find out what is in the dark boxes in the classroom.




Year 1 had an exciting time exploring and comparing themselves to a fish and a prawn during science this week.

We found out that we were similar to the fish because we both had bones, skin, a body, eyes, teeth and blood but we were different because we do not have a tail or scales have warm blood, have lungs and not gills and cannot live underwater.

The chldren were especially excited to touch and observe the tail, eyes and open it's mouth to see it's razor like teeth!

We also found out that a prawn has an eye ball on the outside called a compound eye and it is a crustacean which means that it has a hard shell on the outside and joined legs. We also found out that they have antennae and we do not!

Great observing and thinking everyone!










The following children celebrated their birthdays this week:



Charlie LH



This week's Class Cup of Kindness is awarded to: Year 4



Reception Phenomenal Phonics awards

Dylan



Star Writer awards

Year R/1: Ronnie
Year 2/3: Harrison
Year 4: Lenny D
Year 5 Seth and Sophie
Year 6: Harry



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

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

Showing such determination and perseverance: Tilly

Demonstrating the spirit of anti-bullying week through your kindness, inclusivity and willingness to work with different classmates: Charly B-R

Really pushing yourself in lessons and realising that you can work through challenges successfully: Su

Having self-belief and perseverance in maths: Sara

Certificates of Merit

Working hard with all her learning: Isla

Being so focussed in maths and challenging yourself with complicated fraction tasks: Reuben

Contributing actively in lessons and sharing your knowledge and ideas with the class: Ellie

Showing a real awareness of personal targets and trying hard to meet them each lesson: Charlie

Making such brilliant progress in phonics and reading: Freddie

Sport Certificates

Being a role model for invasion games and a lovely team player: Mya

Astounding me with your amazing dance moves this week!: Hugo

Showing good attacking and defending skills in hockey: Mohamad

Working through our flexibility poses in Mindful Movement: Ezmaye

Making a huge improvement in her cycling ability this week: Emma S