

SANDWICH INFANT SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2026



Dear Parents and Carers,

It is hard to believe that we have already completed our first full month back at school! The children have settled exceptionally well into their new classes and routines, and it has been wonderful to see their confidence and independence continue to grow.

Our Year 1 and Year 2 children have adapted brilliantly to a timetable with more discrete lessons throughout the day and are working increasingly well together. Meanwhile, our Starfish and Jellyfish children have made a fantastic start to school life, exploring their new environment, making new friends, and learning the routines and behaviour expectations that help everyone learn successfully.

We are very proud of how well all of the children have begun the start of the new academic year and look forward to seeing them continue to flourish over the coming months.

Miss Bennett

Asthma

We are still awaiting a number of asthma care plans from parents and carers.

Please ensure that these are returned to the school as soon as possible so that we have the most up-to-date information needed to support children safely and effectively with their medical needs.



Lockdown procedures

As part of our emergency planning, we will be practising lockdown procedures in school in line with the requirements of Martyn's Law. Whilst we hope such procedures are never needed, it is important that staff and pupils know how to respond in an emergency.

Much like a fire drill, these practice drills will be carried out sensitively, calmly and in an age-appropriate manner, ensuring that pupils feel safe and reassured throughout.



Preparing for Severe Weather

As we move into the autumn and winter months, we would like to remind families that, while we always aim to keep the school open wherever possible, there may be occasions when severe weather or other unforeseen circumstances mean that the school site has to close or operate with reduced capacity. The Department for Education expects schools to provide remote learning when pupils are unable to attend school but are able to continue learning from home.

To ensure your child can access learning quickly if this is ever necessary, please make sure you have signed up to your child's Google Classroom using the links and information provided by school. We encourage all families to check that they can access Google Classroom now, rather than waiting until it is needed. This will help us minimise disruption to learning and ensure children can continue their education remotely if the need arises. Thank you for your support in helping us to be prepared for any future disruption.

	Class link	Class code
Seals	https://classroom.google.com/c/ODg3MDM5Nzg1Mzg4?cjc=p5skzj72	p5skzj72
Penguins	https://classroom.google.com/c/ODg3MDQwMTg1MTIz?cjc=m624wukv	m624wukv
Whales	https://classroom.google.com/c/ODg3MDQwMTYxNjc?cjc=2xea6rfj	2xea6rfj
Jellyfish	https://classroom.google.com/c/ODg3MDQwMTgyNTEx?cjc=a4lb3vdl	a4lb3vdl
Starfish	https://classroom.google.com/c/ODg3MDM5Nzk4NzIx?cjc=ac4k5a7p	ac4k5a7p

Parking



Please be reminded that the school carpark is strictly for staff only, except in exceptional circumstances and with prior agreement from the Headteacher. This includes drop off and pick up from Breakfast Club and Fun Club.

We have staff arriving and leaving from site from 7:30am and throughout the day, so in addition to capacity issues, we need to maintain one way traffic only at this time as it gets very congested.

Free on street parking is available on Stand Street. You can also park at Gazen Salts car park without charge between 8.45 and 9.15 a.m. and between 2.45 and 3.15 p.m. It is also free to park at Co-op car park in the same time frames (if using the Co-op car park, please get a one-hour free parking ticket to be displayed and visible through your car windscreen)

Art Week

We are excited to announce that we will be celebrating our art week earlier this year during the week beginning 12th October. Throughout the week the children will have the opportunity to explore a wide range of art techniques, create art pieces and even take part in a workshop led by an illustrative artist! We will also be running a 'magical' art competition to create artwork for the shop window at Spellbound Bookshop so please keep an eye out in your child's book bag for further information on this!

Open Afternoon

We have our first Open Afternoon of the year on **Friday 23rd October from 2:00pm**. This is an opportunity for you to come into school and look at your child's work from the last term.

Parents Evening - Change of Date

Bookings for parents evening open on Tuesday 3rd November via MCAS for **Monday 16th November 3:30pm to 7:00pm and Thursday 19th November 3:20pm to 5:00pm**. (Please note that Monday 16th replaces the previously advertised date of 18th November) This is an opportunity for parents/guardians can book a 10-minute slot to discuss their child's progress with their class teacher.

Gazen Salts Trip - Years 1 and 2



Our Year 1 and 2 pupils will be going to Gazen Salts Nature Reserve on Tuesday 20th October as part of our science investigations and study of the seasons. Please ensure that they have named wellington boots in school prior to this and that they have an appropriate coat for the weather.

Clubs



From Term 2, there will be two after school clubs available to book:

Dance will take place on Monday afternoons from 3:10-4:10pm with Jaz it Up Studios.

Football will take place on Tuesday's from 3:10-4:10pm with HR Sport Psychology (previously Football Fun Factory).

Please keep an eye out on MCAS for start dates, links to sign-up and pay.

The clubs are open to pupils in all year groups that can independently follow the school rules.

Menu Change

Please be aware that there will be a change of menu from Whole School Meals from Tuesday 3rd of November, when we return from half-term. We will send out the new menu to you as soon as we have received it from Whole School Meals.

The new menu will reflect the latest government dietary recommendations and we would encourage you to review it together with your child.

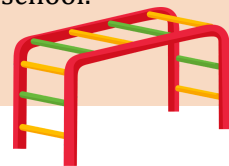


Year 3 September 2027 Admissions

Admissions for a junior school place open from Friday 6th November via the Kent County Council website. Although we are a linked school with Sandwich Junior School, your child will **not** automatically be enrolled there and you **MUST** apply for a place there or for any other school choice for your child to start Year 3 in September 2027.

Play Equipment in the Playground

Just a reminder that pupils and their siblings should **not** be using the Trim Trail before and after school.



Reception 2027 Admissions

Admissions for a Reception place for September 2027 open via the Kent County Council Website from Friday 6th November 2026 to Friday 15th January 2027. If you have a child that will be starting school next year or have friends or family that do, please share this information with them. We are running a number of small group showarounds for prospective families from now until the application deadline.

These can be booked via the school office: 01304 612228 or office@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk

Diary Date

Christmas Production:
Tuesday 15th Dec 2pm



School Photos

Imago photography will be in school on **Thursday 5th November** to take individual and sibling school photos. As in previous years, we have a limited number of slots available for children with siblings that do not attend Sandwich Infant School. The first slot will be at 8am. If you wish to request a booking for your child and sibling(s) that do not attend this school, please contact the school office: 01304 612228 or office@sandwich-infant.kent.sch.uk to request a booking slot.

Harvest Festival

We will be supporting Deal Area Foodbank and Pantry at our Harvest Festival celebration on **Friday 9th October**. This will start promptly at 1:30pm at St Mary's Arts Centre, Sandwich (maximum of 2 adults per child please).

Any and all in-date and un-opened donations are extremely welcome and can be brought into school from Wednesday 7th October, although due to storage limitations, the preferred date for food donations would be the morning of Friday 9th.

Please see the list of items below which Deal Foodbank and Pantry are currently most in need of:

- Tinned meat, fish, fruit, soup, custard, rice pudding, beans
- Shampoo, deodorant, personal care items, toilet rolls
- Tea, coffee, biscuits, long life milk, jams & spreads
- Rice, noodles, cereals, pasta, pasta sauces



Forest School

Whales will be the first class to start Forest School this year and their weekly sessions will begin on Friday 6th November with Mrs Prestleton.

A notification will be sent out on MCAS before half-term with further details of appropriate clothing required etc.



Diary Dates



Friday 9th October	Harvest Festival 1:30pm at St Marys Art Centre
(Week commencing) Monday 12th October	Art Week
Tuesday 20th October	Years 1 & 2 to Gazen Salts
Friday 23rd October	Open Afternoon & Last day of term
Monday 2nd November	Staff Development Day
Tuesday 3rd November	Start of Term 2 for children
Thursday 5th November	School photos
Friday 6th November	Whales Forest School starts
Monday 9th November	Penguin Book Share 2:55 pm
Tuesday 10th November	Whales Book Share 2:55 pm
Wednesday 11th November	Seals Book Share 2:55 pm
Friday 13th November	Starfish and Jellyfish Book Share 2:55pm
Monday 16th November	Parents Evening 3:30 - 7:00 pm
Thursday 19th November	Parents Evening 3:00 - 5:00 pm
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas Production - 2:00 pm
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas School Dinner
Friday 18th December	Last day of Term 2