SANDWICH INFANT SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to everyone for Term 2. We hope that all of our children and families enjoyed a relaxing half-term break and are ready for an exciting new term ahead.

It has been wonderful to see how settled our Reception children have become since joining us. They have made an excellent start to their school journey and are growing in confidence every day. This term, we are looking forward to seeing them take part in more whole-school events, including assemblies, as they continue to become fully involved members of our school community.

Miss Bennett

Art Week

A special thanks to Miss Jackson for organising a fantastic Art Week at the end of the last term. The children spent a very enjoyable week creating and producing some amazing individual pieces in class and whole school artworks with the illustrator Christiane Engel. These were proudly displayed at our Open Afternoon on the last day of term.



New Menu!

There is a change of lunch menu from Tuesday 3rd November. This was sent out to parents via MCAS before half-term but it can also be viewed on the Sandwich Infant School and Whole School Meal websites. The new menu reflects the latest government dietary recommendations and we would encourage you to review it together with your child. Please be aware that there will be a special Christmas menu for the week commencing 14th December, which we will share with you once we receive it from Whole School Meals

Parents Evening

Parents evenings will take place on Monday 16th November (3.30pm to 7.00pm) and on Thursday 19th November (3.20pm to 5.00pm). You will be able to book a slot from Tuesday 3rd November via the MCAS app. This is an opportunity for parents/guardians to book a 10-minute slot with their child's class teacher to discuss their child's progress.

PE days

PE will take place on the following days:

Starfish - Fridays
Jellyfish - Fridays

Penguins - Monday and Wednesday
Seals - Monday and Tuesday
Whales - Wednesday and Friday



Children will need to come to school already dressed in their PE kits.

Poppy Appeal

Just a reminder that we are selling poppies, wristbands, pencils and snapbands on behalf of the Royal British Legion in the school office until Wednesday 11th November. Donations can be made via scanning the QR code in the office but cash is also welcome. All years will be taking part in age appropriate remembrance events during the week of 9th November.

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 in Year 3 in September 2027. Sandwich Junior School have an open morning for prospective families on Saturday 14th November 10am-2pm. To book your place, please call: 01304 612227.

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 show arounds 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.

School Photos

Imago Photography will be in school on Thursday 5th November to take individual and sibling school photos. After having had their photo taken, your child will be given a slip of paper that will come home in their book bag with a unique QR code/Gallery code.

To register for access to view your child's images please:

1. Go to https://www.imagophotography.co.uk/gallery/addgallery
2. Add your Gallery Name and code OR scan your QR code
3. Enter your email address and press ADD

If *you have not previously created an account with Imago, you will be asked to do so. Please visit their website and:*

1. *Fill in your account details and press CREATE.*
2. *You will then be sent a confirmation email - please confirm your email address*

4. Your Gallery will then be added to your account but will not yet be viewable
5. Imago will then email you when your images are ready to view/purchase. (This will usually be 2-3 weeks after the shoot takes place)

Book Share

We will be having Book Share sessions at 2.55pm on the following days, where you are welcome into school to read a book with your child before the end of the school day:

Penguins: Monday 9th November

Whales: Tuesday 10th November

Seals: Tuesday 10th November

Jellyfish and Starfish: Friday 13th November

Forest School - Whales

Whales will be starting Forest School on the afternoon of **Friday 6th November** with Mrs Prestleton. This weekly slot will run up until **Friday 11th December** (6 sessions).

As pupils will be outside in ALL weathers, they should come into school on Fridays wearing clothes suitable for outdoor play, bringing additional items of clothing and boots labelled with their name, in a bag to put on their peg. Boots and waterproofs can stay in school for the whole term.

Please note that Whales class will **not** need their PE kit on Fridays whilst they have Forest School.



Christmas Production

Our Christmas Production is on **Tuesday 15th December** at St Mary's Arts Centre.

Please arrive to be seated at **1:50pm** as the children will be starting promptly at **2:00pm**.

Due to capacity restrictions, we ask that a maximum of 2 family members attend please. Once the production has finished, we will walk the children back to school. You will then be able to collect your child at a slightly earlier time than our usual finishing time. Please be aware that there will be a donations bucket to help cover the cost of venue hire.



Christmas Dinner

Our Christmas Dinner is on **Wednesday 16th December.** Even if your child usually has a school lunch, you will still need to pre-order by **Wednesday 25th November**. We also need to know how many packed lunches we need to plan for that day. **Please keep an eye out on MCAS for the link to pre-order or call into the school office.**



Christmas Jumpers

Tying in with our Christmas Dinner, Wednesday 16th December will also be our Christmas Jumper Day. Children are welcome to wear a Christmas Jumper to school instead of their school jumper in exchange for a £1 donation to help raise much needed funds for the school. All monies raised go towards classroom resources for the direct benefit of pupils.



FOSIS events

We are excited to share a number of key dates and events for the children over the Christmas period.

There will be two non-school uniform days over the coming weeks:

- **Friday 13th November** - non-school uniform in return for chocolate
- **Friday 20th Novembe**r - non school uniform in return for a £1 donation,

FOSIS will be holding a Christmas Fair in the hall for the children on Tuesday 14th December (Reception) and on Thursday 17th December (KS1). Please keep an eye out on MCAS for further details on this.

Further festive FOSIS fun to be confirmed shortly...

Orchestra

We are delighted to welcome Sandwich Orchestra to school on the 11th December. The orchestra will perform for the children, providing a wonderful opportunity to experience live music and see a range of instruments being played.

This visit will enrich the children's musical understanding, inspire an appreciation of different styles of music, and help bring their music learning to life. Experiences such as these broaden children's cultural experiences and create memorable opportunities that can spark a lifelong interest in music and the arts. We are very much looking forward to this special event.

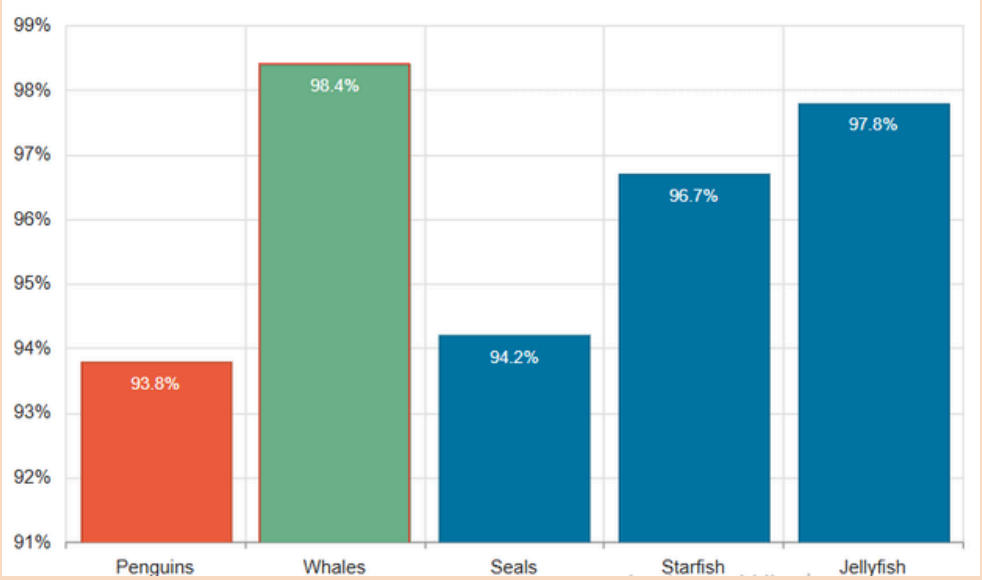


Severe Weather

With the weather getting colder, we start to forward plan for potential severe weather with wind and snow. Please make sure that your child has a warm coat, hat, and gloves each day, as well as suitable footwear for wet or icy ground. In the event of extreme weather affecting the school day, we will communicate any updates promptly via MCAS so please ensure that notifications on the app are enabled.



Attendance





Regular attendance is the key to enabling children to gain the greatest benefit from their education and reach their full potential. Children are expected to attend every day that the school is open unless they are unwell or there is an exceptional circumstance that has been approved by the Headteacher in advance.

Morning register is taken at 8:40am. If your child is unwell, it is important that you contact us on the first day of illness, before 9:30am. This is a safeguarding requirement so that all parties know that your child is safe and that their whereabouts are known.

Penalty Notices

Penalty Notice fines will be considered when there have been 10 sessions (5 days) of unauthorised leave in a 10 week period. **This includes arriving at school after registration has closed at 9:00am.**

Penalty Notices (first offence) - Fines can be issued for term time leave of 5 or more consecutive days or irregular attendance. The amount is set at £160 per parent, per child paid within 28 days. The amount is reduced to £80 per parent if the amount is paid within 21 days. Inset training days are school days and can be included in the 5 or more consecutive days where there was intent to be absent for term time leave.

In the event that a second Penalty Notice is issued within 3 years for term time leave or irregular attendance, the fine will be £160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days.

Please be aware that the school does not receive any financial benefit from issuing Penalty Notices.



Peter Pan Pantomime

We are delighted to welcome back the fabulous M&S Productions who will be performing Peter Pan to the whole school on Wednesday 20th January. To fund the performance, we are asking for a contribution of £7.55 per child with a subsidy for those in receipt of Pupil Premium. This will be payable via MCAS from Wednesday 16th November. A big thank you in advance as your financial support really does make all the difference in terms of the enriching experiences we are able to offer our pupils.

Lunchtime Clubs

From Term 2 we will have the following clubs available at lunchtimes. These are provided by the staff and are free for the children to attend on an ad hoc basis.

Tuesday - Junk Modelling
Wednesday - Gardening and Doodle Club
Thursday - Scooters, Board Games and Music Club
Friday - Building, Lego and Drama Club



Sandwich Junior School Intake Proposal

Please see the below proposal from Sandwich Junior School to reduce their Year 3 intake from 60 to 45 places from 2028/2029. This has obvious implications for our current Year 1 (30 pupils) and Reception (49 pupils) as well as for the future. Sandwich Infant School can currently take up to 56 places per year group.
A consultation on the proposal will be open until Wednesday 25th November. If you wish to comment on the proposal, please email:
kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk before this date.

Kent County Council

Kent County Council

Admissions Arrangements Consultation for Academic Year 2028/29

Community and Voluntary Controlled Primary, Infant, Junior Schools in Kent

Kent County Council is proposing the following changes to the 2028/29 admission arrangements for community and voluntary controlled primary, infant and junior schools in Kent.

The proposed changes are as follows:

- **Sandwich Junior School –** reduce Published Admission Number from 60 to 45

Please find the full proposed admission arrangements attached. The proposal also includes updates to the wording of the policy to ensure clarity of the process in compliance with the admissions code.

The consultation of the proposed changes will run from Wednesday 14 October until Wednesday 25 November 2026.

If you wish to comment on the proposal, please email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk by Wednesday 25 November 2026.

Responses will be collated and presented to Kent County Council's Cabinet for determination. Once determined the final admission arrangements will be placed on Kent's website at www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria.

kent.gov.uk

Kent County Council

Consultation on admission arrangements for Community and Voluntary Controlled primary, infant and junior schools in Kent for 2028

Kent County Council is consulting on its admission arrangements for all community and voluntary controlled primary, infant and junior schools in Kent for September 2028 entry.

Full details are available at www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria.

Why Kent County Council is consulting
Admission Authorities are required to consult on their admission arrangements once every 7 years or where changes are proposed.

We are proposing no changes, other than to reduce the Published Admission Number for Sandwich Junior School from 60 to 45.

How can you respond to the consultation?
The consultation will run from Wednesday 14 October to Wednesday 25 November 2026. If you wish to comment on the proposal, please email kentonlineadmissions@kent.gov.uk.

What happens next?
After the closing date, responses will be collated and presented to Kent County Council's Cabinet who will decide whether to proceed with the proposal. Once determined, the final admission arrangements will be published on Kent's website at www.kent.gov.uk/admissionscriteria.

kent.gov.uk

Diary Dates



Monday 2nd November	SDD
Tuesday 3rd November	Start of Term 2
Thursday 5th November	School Photos
Friday 6th November	Whales start Forest School
Monday 9th November	Penguins Book Share 2.55pm
Tuesday 10th November	Whales and Seals Book Share 2.55pm
Friday 13th November	Jellyfish and Starfish Book Share 2.55pm
Monday 16th November	Parents evening 3.30pm - 7.00pm
Thursday 19th November	Parents evening 3.20pm - 5.00pm
Tuesday 15th December	Christmas Show
Wednesday 16th December	Christmas Dinner Christmas Jumper Day
Friday 18th December	End of Term 2