

JULY 2026

NEWSLETTER



Dear Parents and carers,

As we are getting ready to say a fond farewell to our Year 2's who are leaving us to start the next stage of their education journey, plans are well underway to welcome our incoming children to Reception and settle our current Reception and Year 1 children into their new classes, ready for September.

We wish you all a wonderful summer break and look forward to seeing you in September.

Miss Bennett

CREEPY CLAWS



Reception had a wonderful morning at the beginning of June with Michael from Creepy Claws. We met Mr Nippy the scorpion, Iris the African Pygmy Hedgehog, Marilyn the blonde tarantula and a whole host of other animal friends. The children learnt about the animal's habitats, defence mechanisms and the impact of climate change on native species, as well as having the opportunity to handle some of our visitors.



A big thank you to our Year R parents for contributing towards the cost of this visit, we would not have been able to host it without your support.

HOT WEATHER



During this spell of hot weather, please send your child into school with a named sun hat, water bottle and sun cream already applied. Please do not send sun cream into school with your child as we need to ensure that all children remain safe in terms of allergies and self-application. Children should be dressed for the hot weather in shorts or a summer dress. PE kit can be worn on non-PE days if this is cooler for your child.

SCOOTABILITY WORKSHOPS

KS1 had a great time participating in the Team Rubicon Scootability workshops on 18th June, which focused on introductory scooter skills including safe stopping, balance, steering and understanding essential safety gear.



NEW APPOINTMENT

We are delighted to announce that Miss Pinfold will be joining us as a Key Stage 1 Class Teacher from September as we move up to 5 classes. Miss Pinfold is warmly welcomed by the team.



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: READ TO THE BEAT

Kent Libraries Summer Reading Challenge runs from 4th July to 5th September, with this year's theme celebrating music, rhythm and creativity through reading. Sandwich Library are hosting a FREE Shake, Rattle and Read event suitable for children aged 4 to 11 years on Saturday 11 July from 10:30 am to 11:30 am.

We would also encourage parents to please practise any phonics sounds that are sent home with your child over the summer holidays and for all parents to listen to your child read daily throughout the holiday. This will help reinforce their learning and ensure that they are in a strong position to return to school with confidence in September.



YEAR 2 LEAVING EVENTS

Our Year 2s will be having a Leavers Party on Monday 20th July from 2:30 pm - 4:00 pm. Please ensure that your Year 2 child brings in a change of party clothes that day for the afternoon. We will be sending home a request for some party nibbles a bit nearer the time.

Our Leavers Assembly will take place on Tuesday 21st July at 1:30 pm. We expect it to last no longer than 30 minutes. Parents and Guardians are warmly welcomed on site but because of capacity issues, no more than 2 adults per child please.



SPORTS WEEK

Despite the heat, we still managed to host some fantastic activities for Sports Week.

Tom from Kent County Cricket delivered some great sessions to all year groups including foundational bowling and batting skills – it was lovely to see the enthusiasm of all involved.



Our annual Big Breakfast was once again a resounding success where we delivered upwards of 80 breakfasts! Special thanks to all the teaching and support staff that volunteered their time to come in early to make this happen.

The West African dance workshop was a huge success with both pupils and staff. Gaspard and Ne-ne from the Zamble Dance Company delivered an amazing whole school assembly with lots of humour and audience participation followed by class sessions to teach some traditional dance moves accompanied by live drumming. The coordination and enthusiasm of the pupils was just brilliant.

Sports day will now take place on Thursday 16th July 1:15pm. Parents will be able to take their children home after the event has finished.

SAFEGUARDING

By special arrangement, we have a few parents that have an agreement to collect their children early and the gate is open to admit them at the agreed time. If you do not have this arrangement, please do not follow through the gates, even if it is close to 3:00pm as this is a safeguarding issue. The office staff will be out to open the gates for majority of parents to enter at 3pm or shortly after.

PHONICS SCREENING

We are so proud of the achievement of our pupils that completed the Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks. A total of 83.78% achieved the pass mark. This is testament to the success of our small group teaching sessions across Key Stage 1 that supports the child's individual rate of learning. Little Wandle is such a useful phonic scheme that we use throughout the school, allowing children to develop the skills and confidence to decode words for reading.

We have had such success with the scheme that it has since been adopted at Sandwich Junior School to support continuing development of pupils' literacy skills.

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NUT FREE SCHOOL

Please be reminded that we are a nut free school, which includes coconut, Nutella and peanut butter. Please be extra mindful of this when packing snacks and lunch boxes as we have several pupils who are severely allergic to nuts.

CHANGES TO BENEFIT RELATED FSM/ PP

From the start of the 2026-2027 academic year, the terms of those eligible for benefits related Free School Meals are being extended to cover all families in receipt of Universal Credit. If you fall into this category and are not already known to us, please contact the School Office as we may be able to support you with financial assistance towards the cost of branded school uniform and some subsidised clubs and trips.*

For our families that are already in receipt of Pupil Premium support, please be aware that continuing eligibility will be reviewed annually by Kent County Council.

*Restrictions apply.



SCHOOL UNIFORM - ORDER DEADLINES

The deadline to place orders for home delivery in order to receive uniform before the start of the next academic year is Saturday 1st August. The delivery charge for home delivery is £4.50 (free £75 or over).

<https://price-buckland.co.uk/sandwich-infant-school>

We understand that uniform can be expensive and wish to remind you that we keep stock of donated pre-loved uniform which can be purchased for £1 per item. Please speak to the school office if you would like to access this.

We would also remind you that nonbranded uniform from any high street retailers or supermarkets e.g. red sweatshirts, cardigans or t-shirts without the Sandwich Infant School logo are also accepted.

FOSIS

FOSIS are always on the look out for anyone who can help fundraise for us - any help/ideas big or small are welcome.

There is also a wish list of items on Amazon if anyone would like to purchase items directly for the school.

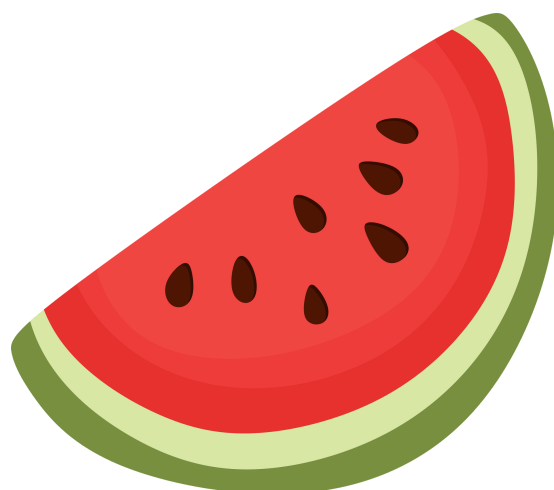
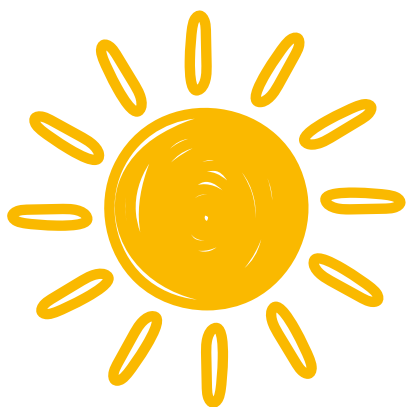
https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/1ZX0R29UJ7TGT?ref_=wl_share

**WISH
LIST**

DAIRY DATES

Thursday 16th July	Sports Day (New Date) 1:15 pm
Monday 20th July	Year 2 Leavers Party. 2:30 - 4:00pm
Tuesday 21st July	Year 2 Leavers Assembly 1:30pm
Tuesday 21st July	Last day of Term - 3:10 pm finish.
Thursday 3rd September	Term 1 begins for Years 1 and 2

Summer
Holidays



SCHOOL YEAR DATES 2026/2027

Term 1	
Start :	Thursday 3rd September - Years 1 and 2
Finish:	Friday 23rd October
Staff Development Day	Tuesday 1st September
Staff Development Day	Wednesday 2nd September
Term 2	
Start:	Tuesday 3rd November
Finish:	Friday 18th December
Staff Development Day	Monday 2nd November (Same as SJS)
Term 3	
Start:	Tuesday 5th January
Finish:	Friday 12th February
	Monday 4th January (Same as SJS)
Term 4	
Start:	Monday 22nd February
Finish:	Thursday 25th March
Term 5	
Start:	Monday 12th April
Finish:	Friday 28th May
Term 6	
Start:	Tuesday 8th June
Finish:	Wednesday 21st July (Same as SJS)
Staff Development Day	Monday 7th June (Same as SJS)