



Sandwich Junior School NEWSLETTER



Term 1 – Newsletter 1 – 7th September

Dear Parents & Carers

It is with great happiness that I am able to welcome all our children back to school for the start of another exciting school year. We also look forward to working with our new Year 3 children and also with their parents and carers.

We have an incredibly rich and exciting curriculum lined up for the year ahead and cannot wait to get back into the routines of school life after what has seemed like an incredibly long summer break (although possibly not with the weather to suit it).

As the weather appears to be giving us a late summer this year, can I please remind all parents to send children into school with water bottles for hydration, sun hats for shelter and with sun cream applied if necessary.

After the concerns on the national news relating to RAAC in some school buildings, I am happy to be able to say that we have not been affected by this product and thus we are able to look forward to a full year of productive learning.

Meet the Teacher

On **Monday 11th September**, the school will be holding the annual 'Meet the Teacher' event. This is an opportunity for all parents to meet their children's Year Group teachers and to learn a little about the expectations, routines and curriculum for this academic year. It also gives us the chance to communicate a whole range of information, which may be helpful in aiding your child through this stage of their learning journey.

The year group presentations are deliberately staggered in terms of times to enable parents and carers with multiple children in the school to access all information.

Timetables should be with you already for this in a separate communication and we look forward to seeing as many parents as possible.

Free School Meals

I would like to remind all parents that, with the current cost of living crisis cutting deeper and deeper into family finances, it may be worth looking at the possibility of accessing free school meals for children in your care.

As circumstances change, families may find that they qualify for this bit of extra help. I believe that the School Office sent out guidance and links to the application forms, but if anyone needs to discuss this then please feel free to speak to the school in confidence. Accessing free school meals also provides extra money for the school to help children too – this then enables us to give extra enrichment activities to all children.

Harvest Festival

Our annual Harvest Festival celebration will be held in the School Hall at **9.30am on Wednesday 18th October**. This is a whole school event which spotlights particularly our new Year 3 children and gives them an opportunity to shine. With this in mind, Year 3 parents and carers are invited to attend the event should they wish to do so.

The school will welcome donations of food during the week of the event as we seek to support local foodbanks. The children across the school will also undertake some learning relating to community spirit and the role of foodbanks in the current climate.

Parents' Evenings

Will take place on the **18th and 19th October** (time options will be sent to you). This is an opportunity to discuss initial settling into the year groups and also to give early indicators of strengths and areas which may need some development in terms of both behaviour and learning.

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Website: www.sandwich-junior.kent.sch.uk



Healthy School



PTFA Events

The PTFA continues to present the children with an incredible diet of activities – during the first terms of this academic year, there will be a series of fabulous events. There is a Wolf Pack Movie event scheduled for **Tuesday 26th September** and also a Halloween Disco, initially planned for Wednesday 1st November – although this may be liable to change depending upon the availability of a DJ – full details will be sent to parents closer to the event. As always, we are looking at a rich programme of events in the lead up to Christmas – more details on this in Newsletter 2 next term.

School Dinners

School dinners must be paid for in advance by the Monday of the week in which the meals are being taken.

Again, if your circumstances have changed and you believe you may qualify for Free School Meals, then please access the link via our school website or ask in confidence at the School Office.

School Uniform

Could we please reiterate that the school uniform expectations are available on the school website or can be clarified with the office.

It is important that children wear the correct uniform as this is the school's identity and creates a positive environment for learning. This also avoids children feeling different to (or isolated from) their peers.

We understand how hard times are for families with the rising cost of living. With this in mind, 'Pre-Loved' uniform can be obtained from the school office for a small donation.

If any parents of older children have pre-owned uniform that they would like to donate to help other families then we would be most grateful – you can simply drop it into the School Office and we will sort it into appropriate ages.

Family Fun Run

On **Friday 29th September**, the school will be holding one of our major annual events – the Family Fun Run.

This is an event where the children will complete a sponsored run around the school fields dressed in their choice of outfits – in the past, this has included such diverse dress up as Harry Potter, sports, Star Wars, superheroes, animals etc. It is also an opportunity for parents to come and cheer on their children, developing the sense of community for which SJS always strives.

This is also a crucial fundraising event for the school, which allows us to invest in a huge range of enrichment experiences for the children.

Sponsor forms will follow shortly.

Dates For Your Diary

Mon 11 th Sep	Meet the Teacher
Tue 26 th Sep	Wolfpack Movie Event
Fri 29 th Sep	Family Fun Run
4 th to 10 th Oct	Book Fair
Wed 11 th Oct	Harvest Festival
Wed 18 th Oct	Parents' Evening
Thu 19 th Oct	Parents' Evening
Fri 20 th Oct	Last day of term
Mon 30 th Oct	Staff Inset Day
Tue 31 st Oct	Term 2 starts
Wed 1 st Nov	Halloween Disco
Wed 1 st Nov	Year 2 Open Morning
Fri 10 th Nov	Armistice Assembly

Recruitment

Our wonderful PTFA are actively seeking new recruits to allow them to continue in providing the children with all the wonderful experiences they lay on during the school year.

If you are able to help in either of these ways then please contact the school office with details.

Midday Supervisors

We also have a vacancy for someone to join our amazing team of mid-day supervisors, providing care and support for our children during their lunch breaks. If you would be interested in this position, then please contact (or call in at) the School Office where Mae or Tracy will give you details.

Medical Requirements

Could we remind parents that, if your child suffers from asthma and requires an inhaler, then it is very important they have their inhaler in school and that it is in date. On the website there is a school asthma card which must be completed and returned to the school office. If you are unable to access this, then the Class Teacher will be able to arrange for a hard copy of this to be completed.