

### ESCC Transport Plan

East Sussex County Council is consulting on their fourth Local Transport Plan. This Plan will look at improving transport and travel to better connect people to places between 2023 and 2050. They want to know your views on county wide transport issues, opportunities and priorities which will affect you and your child(ren) now and in the future. You can help to shape the Plan by responding to the consultation which can be found online at [East Sussex Local Transport Plan 4 - East Sussex - Citizen Space](#)

### Headteacher

The end of another fabulous year at Sandown and the beginning of a new working partnership with Westfield – these are certainly exciting times. Your children have worked really well since the start of this year and we are exploring our new Cornerstones Curriculum which gives the children some really exciting learning. The best part of our day is when children bring their work to share with us and they tell us all about the skills they have been demonstrating. Once again our school has hosted and attended lots of sports events and we had our best success ever with 11 children attending the cross country semi-finals and 9 going through to the County Finals.



Have a safe and Happy Christmas Holiday. I hope the weather is nice enough for us all to get out and enjoy some walks, away from our screens. See you in 2023.

### Diary

16<sup>th</sup> - Last day of Term 2

17<sup>th</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> Jan - School Holidays

#### January 2023

3<sup>rd</sup> - Inset Day 3 - school closed

4<sup>th</sup> - Start of Term 3

#### February 2023

10<sup>th</sup> - End of Term 3

13<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> School Holidays

20<sup>th</sup> - Start of Term 4

#### March 2023

24<sup>th</sup> - Inset Day 4 - School Closed

31<sup>st</sup> - Last day of Term 4

#### April 2023

1<sup>st</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> School Holidays

17<sup>th</sup> - Start of Term 5

### Wellbeing and Mental Health

We have loved working with Natalie this term from Me and My Mind and we look forward to welcoming Clare into Sandown next year who will support parents with their mental health needs linked to their children. We all need support with our wellbeing sometimes and we are so lucky to be able to work with the mental health support team at Sandown.



### Essential Skills

The first person has been awarded their Sandown Skills for Life Badge, having achieved all 8 skills in the Log Bok. Which skill is your child focusing on?



## Nursery

The nursery children have been exploring the world fairy tale stories and poems as part of our theme 'Once upon a time'.

We are very proud of our pre-school children (Saplings) who took part in the nursery Christmas concert and thank you to all of our families who came along to support them.

EYEE funding begins Monday 09<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

We wish all of our families a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in the New Year.

## Caretaker Corner

It's that time of year again! Caretaking staff will be busy during the Christmas break undertaking those maintenance works that can't be done while children are on site, and supervising various contractor works. Our dedicated cleaning team will also be undertaking the last deep clean of the calendar year.

With winter now upon us, caretaking staff always have an eye on the weather bulletins. Frost and snow present us with some of the biggest problems in trying to ensure everyone is safe on the site, but we have salt, gritters, and shovels to try and make this possible. The school **will always attempt to open**, even in what might seem to be severe weather conditions - but this is only if we can maintain safety throughout the day and if a) keyholders are able to get to the school and b) a sufficient number of staff are able to get to the school. Personal safety is our key priority

If you wake up to snow, always check on Dojo to see if the school is open. It may, on very rare instances, be necessary to delay the start time to enable the site team to clear pathways.

Have a happy and safe Christmas

## PE & Sports News

Mr Davies is now the SSCO (School Sports Co-ordinator) for our Hastings area of schools. We have 10 schools in our sports partnership, which is the more than ever and has allowed a wider participation of sport for our area and school. We have already hosted some amazing events including 3 football tournaments and the Sandown Cross Country, which has seen over 150 pupils represent the school. We have Indoor Athletics this month amongst the schools and have created a football league across all the 10 schools to be played throughout the year to see who will be crowned champions.

Please remember that children cannot wear jewellery in PE lessons. If a child does not know how to remove their own earring(s), then please do not send your child in with them on their PE days.

Lastly, with the arrival of the winter weather, can children please wear extra layers (vests, thermal tops) and have hats / gloves for their PE lessons outside.

## Attendance

95.2% Overall Attendance - year to date. Excellent! This is above national averages, and that's a massive **WELL DONE to you all!!!**

30 Attendvent winners, 1 100% attendance winner, 1 most improved as well as weekly class recognition for consistently excellent levels of attendance.

Sandown continues to Aim High, ensuring all children have the success they deserve. We would welcome a big push on prompt arrivals (**08:30-08:45**) following the Christmas Break and would kindly ask parents and carers and all children to make a special effort to arrive on time daily - see you at **08:30 on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**

## Governors

We look forward to an exciting venture in the New Year, as we pursue a temporary closer working relationship with Westfield school. We hope you will have all had time to read Mr Lindsay's letter on Class Dojo, giving a brief outline of how our schools will be supporting each other. We understand you may have lots of questions, so we strongly encourage you to speak to any of the governors, and Mr Lindsay, if you would like further information. Governor contact information is on the school's website.

We unfortunately say goodbye to Jess Hohenkerk, who has served as early years and safeguarding governor, while a member of the board. We wish Jess all the best in her future endeavours.

As ever, the success of Sandown relies on the commitment and determination of our pupils, parents and staff. We'd like to thank everybody for their continued hard work, and hope you all have a relaxing break over the Christmas and New Year break.