

Diary

Dec 2021

17th - End of Term 2

20th - 3rd Jan - School Closed for
 Christmas Holidays

Jan 2022

4th - Inset Day 3 - School Closed

5th - Inset Day 4 - School Closed

6th - Start of Term 3

Feb 2022

11th - End of Term 3

14- 18th - School Closed

21st - Start of Term 4

March 2022

17th - Inter School Cross
 Country @Sandown School

April 2022

1st - End of Term 4

4th - 18th - School Closed for
 Easter Holidays

19th - Start of Term 5

May 2022

2nd - Bank Holiday School
 Closed

27th - Inset Day 5 - School
 Closed

30th - 3rd June - School Closed

June 2022

6th - Start of Term 6

July 2022

21st - End of Term 6

22nd - 31st August - School
 Closed

September 2022

1st - Inset Day 1 – School Closed

2nd - Inset Day 2 - School
 Closed

5th - Start of Term 1

Headteacher



day and fall in love with reading.

Ho! Ho! Ho! Another year has come to an end and can I just say how proud I am of all of our school community since returning in September. The children and staff have worked harder than ever as we try to build back up to where we were pre-COVID. This has been tough but we are definitely getting there so thank you to everyone who has worked with us. This journey will continue for some time yet but together we can aim high and stay positive and we will get there. Have a lovely Christmas and remember, the best present you can give me is to work hard, come to school every

Wellbeing and Mental Health



Christmas can be a time when children can find it difficult to stay self-regulated. Here are some ideas to help everyone stay sane.

Governors

Firstly, we would like to pay a special tribute to Naomi Grint, who has served on the Sandown governing board for many years. Naomi held the chair position throughout this very challenging Covid period. Naomi has been a mentor to many governors during her tenure, and she will be sorely missed as she moves on to other projects.

We would also like to introduce the latest member of the board, Alison Tripp. Alison has taught in many different educational settings, including while abroad, and we are very lucky to have such valuable experience joining our team.

Finally, we wish everybody a very merry Christmas, and a happy new year. Please enjoy your well deserved break.

Nursery

A big thank you to all of our nursery families for your continued support over the year.

Just a reminder that we reopen on Thursday 6th January 2022, if you have not booked your child/ren in for those sessions we will see you all on Monday 10th January 2022 when the early years funding begins.

We wish you all a very merry Christmas and look forward to a new year of more exciting learning.

Caretaker Corner

In the last Newsletter I said that there would be more on how you will be alerted to any potential problems opening the school in the event of adverse winter weather. As advised, the school will always attempt to open, - if

a) keyholders are able to get to the school,

b) Sufficient staff are able to get to the school. Site safety is our priority at all times.

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 and I will see you all next year.

PE & Sports News

This term the children have been learning about Social Skills in PE. From being able to take turns sensibly to being able to give and receive critical feedback around performance. They have been learning these skills within our brand new dance curriculum, which teaching staff received training on to be able to deliver effectively.



Cross Country was a huge success this term. 135 children from KS2 competed in the Hastings & Ore Cluster competition. We had 18 children qualify for the Area finals at Ark Alexandra, 3 of which have now qualified for the Regional Finals!



Attendance



94.7% Overall Attendance - year to date! Excellent, considering the impact of Covid, this is above national averages, and that's congrats to **all of you!!!**

24 Attendvent winners and 1 whole class recognised for their 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 ask parents and carers and all children to make a special effort to arrive on time daily – Aiming High and Team working towards a positive start to each and every day. Arriving on time is a life skill which will pay dividends for every child's future.

See you @08:30 on Thursday 6th January 2022 New Year New You – #aiminghighforsuccess

Essential Skills

Take 5 minutes for this calming activity today:

Step 1: Find a quiet space where you can look out of the window.

Step 2: Look at everything there is to see - try to notice the colours, the patterns, the textures.

Step 3: Pay attention to any movements such as traffic passing by, people walking or running by, raindrops falling or leaves blowing around in the breeze.

Step 4: Notice the many different shapes you can see from where you sit quietly.

Step 5: If you become distracted, gently bring your thoughts back to what you can see through the window.

Ask a family member or friend to try this calming activity too. Afterwards, talk about how it made you feel.

Reflection Questions

Getting Started: How does this activity make you feel?

Intermediate: How could you use this activity to feel more positive when something goes wrong?

Advanced: How could this help you to look on the bright side of something?

Mastery: How can you manage your emotional response to best support others?

Staying Positive