



## Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers, It has been an incredibly exciting few weeks here at Sandown filled with creativity and curiosity. We were delighted to celebrate World Book Day in true Sandown style. The children embraced the joy of reading through a range of wonderful activities. It was fantastic to welcome visiting authors, who inspired our pupils with their stories and gave them a glimpse into the magic of storytelling. Across the school, children shared books with their families and partnered with another class to enjoy reading together, helping to build confidence and a shared love of reading and books.

Of course, one of the highlights was seeing the children (and staff!) dressed as their favourite book characters—what a colourful and imaginative day it was! Adding to the excitement, some lucky pupils discovered a Golden Ticket hidden inside a Wonka Bar, bringing an extra sprinkle of fun and surprise to our celebrations.

Hot on the heels of World Book Day, we launched our Super STEM Science Week, which was packed with hands-on experiences and opportunities to explore the world around us. The immersive planetarium experience was a particular highlight, allowing children to journey through space and deepen their understanding of our universe.

We were also proud to host a careers event, where pupils met a range of professionals who use STEM in their everyday jobs. This gave our children valuable insight into the many possibilities that STEM subjects can offer for their future. To round off the week, we welcomed GlowInspire, whose interactive science storytelling session truly brought science to life. The children were captivated as stories and experiments combined to spark curiosity and wonder.

It has been a joy to see everyone so engaged, enthusiastic, and eager to learn. Thank you, as always, for your continued support this term. Let's hope we see some Easter sunshine so that everyone can get outside and enjoy the Spring. Mrs. Tugwell

## Attendance



Dear Parents and Carers, A massive "well done" to all our families for such a fantastic term! It's been great seeing so many smiling faces in school every day. We're so excited to share that five classes hit the weekly 100% attendance mark this term—what an incredible achievement!

We're still working hard on getting everyone in and settled on time. To give our punctuality a little boost, we'll be introducing some special celebrations during "Funky Friday" very soon, so keep an eye out for that! To help us keep our records straight, please use the Arbor App for any "on the day" absences. Class Dojo is still the perfect spot for letting us know about future absences and for sending over any supporting notes.

Thanks for all your support in helping our school community thrive!

## Diary

### March 2026

27<sup>th</sup> – Last day of Term 4

30<sup>th</sup> March - 10<sup>th</sup> April - Easter

Holidays

### April 2026

13<sup>th</sup> - Inset day

14<sup>th</sup> – Start of Term 5

### May 2026

22<sup>nd</sup> – Last day of Term 5

25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>- May Half Term

### June 2026

1<sup>st</sup>- Start of Term 6

## Inset Days

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2026

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2026

## Date for your diary

### Parents Evening – 9<sup>th</sup>& 10<sup>th</sup> June.

Appointments will be available to book online via Arbor from 3:45pm until 7:00pm.

To book, Open Arbor App

- Select School
- Click on date you'd like to attend under Guardian Consultations
- Click on Meetings
- Select time slot
- Click on 'Book Time Slot'

## Caretaker

Our dedicated cleaning team will be undertaking a deep clean during the Easter break, one of 3 deep cleans that occur during the year, the caretaking team will take care of minor maintenance items and we also have contractors on site to do some fencing and internal flooring works. Have a pleasant break.

## Nursery

The nursery children have had an exciting term learning about dangerous dinosaurs and how they are related to animals that live on Earth today.

With the weather turning warmer please can we ask that all children bring in named sun cream and a sunhat in their nursery bag ready for those hotter days.

If your child is due to start nursery in September and you have not applied for a place, please contact the nursery office for an application form. There are limited spaces available so spaces will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

Happy Easter from all of the nursery team 😊

## Friends of Sandown

Thank you to everyone that took part in "Will you find a golden ticket" earlier this month. We hope the winners have enjoyed their One4All gift cards, free books, logbook mentions and dojos. Because of your event support we have been able to support lots of school events this term.

We have donated £600 towards the Science week planetarium for KS2, we have supported the year 4 trip to the Railway land wildlife trust with a donation of £640 and the Year 2 Beach Trip enjoyed ice creams which were paid for by FOS £105.

We have also provided ice lollies to Sunset which were kindly donated to us by Tesco and provided refreshments at the Careers Fair.

**Promfest 26 – Monday**

**13<sup>th</sup> July 2026** 🎨

## PE & Sports News

This term in PE has been packed with excitement, creativity and fantastic achievements. A key focus has been developing the *creative cog* through our Real PE approach. Children have learnt to observe others, think tactically and adapt games to challenge themselves further. It has been great to see pupils growing in confidence, making decisions and supporting each other to improve.

We have also enjoyed a successful competition calendar. Our Indoor Athletics team performed superbly at the Area Finals, finishing 2nd overall and narrowly missing out on Sussex qualification. The Netball team also had a fantastic run, reaching the final and securing 2nd place. We were delighted to take part in a Boccia tournament involving local cluster schools, giving children who had not yet represented the school an opportunity to compete. They did brilliantly, bringing home gold medals.

A real highlight was hosting the Sandown Cross Country event, welcoming 21 schools and over 600 children from the local community. Despite tough, muddy conditions, our team finished 2nd overall, just missing out on retaining the cup we have held for four years.

In gymnastics, 13 children represented the school, earning a range of medals from gold to bronze with some excellent routines.

We finished the term with a fun Tag Rugby event at Ark, involving all our after-school club participants.

## Governors

**We are looking for a New Parent Governor.** We are looking for a supportive and enthusiastic parent to join our Governing Board as a **Parent Governor**. This is a great opportunity to help shape the direction of our school and support the best outcomes for all children.

### **What does the role involve?**

- Helping set the school's vision and strategic priorities
- Supporting and challenging school leaders
- Overseeing financial decisions to ensure value for money
- Representing the views and experiences of parents

You do not need prior governance experience—just a willingness to learn, listen, and be part of a team. Full training and support will be provided.

**Safeguarding** We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. All governors must share this commitment. The successful candidate will complete safeguarding training and be required to undergo an enhanced DBS check.

**Could this be you?** If you care about our school community and can attend 6-8 meetings each year, we'd love to hear from you.

To find out more or to nominate yourself, please contact our **Clerk to Governors email:** [finance@sandown.school](mailto:finance@sandown.school) **Apply by: 17 April 2026**