

Diary

October

22nd- Last day of Term 1

23rd- Inset Day

26th-30th- Half Term

November

2nd – Start of Term 2

December

18th – Last day of Term 2

Inset Days

2026

Friday 23rd October

2027

Monday 4th January

Friday 30th April

Thursday 22nd July

Headteacher

Wow, what a great first term of 2026/27! First of all, I'd like to say a big thank you to all our families for the warm welcome you have given me during my first term at Sandown – it is a privilege serving such a fantastic community.

Our staff have been working hard this year to help all your children settle into their new classrooms and new routines. The progress that has been made since September is very noticeable – especially among our youngest pupils who are now confidently striding into school by themselves with their heads held high!

As the nights draw in, and the weather becomes more autumnal, a reminder to please make sure that all children have a suitable coat for school every day. This will enable them to fully embrace all the opportunities we have both for normal break/lunchtime play but also when we use our wonderful grounds for practical learning opportunities.

If your child has got out of the habit of reading to you every night, half-term is a great chance to kick-start the rest of their reading year! Surely there is nothing better than snuggling up together to enjoy a good book? If you find yourself short of something to read, why not try visiting Ore Library – they are open Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, 10am-4pm.

What a fantastic harvest haul this year! Thank you to everyone for your incredible generosity – it makes a huge difference for so many families in need.



Wishing you all a fantastic half term – we look forward to seeing you all back with us on Monday 2nd November.

Mr Wright

Attendance

Welcome to our latest attendance round-up!

We love seeing our classrooms full of energy. Coming to school regularly isn't just about lessons—it's where our kids catch up with friends, play team games, and build their confidence. When children miss a day, they also miss out on those shared moments and morning routines that set them up for success.

The “On-Time” trophies have gone down exceptionally well across the school! It has been fantastic to see the children so enthusiastic about getting to their classrooms promptly.

A massive congratulations to all the classes who have won the trophy since the beginning of September:

- 🏆 **Cherry Class** – 3 times winner!
- 🏆 **Juniper Class** – 2 times winner!
- 🏆 **Elm Class** – 2 times winner!
- 🏆 **Ash Class** – 2 times winner!
- 🏆 **Hornbeam Class**
- 🏆 **Hazel Class**
- 🏆 **Maple Class**



Keep up the amazing effort, everyone—let's see who can add more wins to the board before next time!

Nursery

A warm welcome to all of our new and existing families to the nursery this year.

The children have settled in well and have been exploring a range of activities within our theme 'Exploring autumn'.

Can we remind all families to name their children's belongings, this includes coats, bags, lunch boxes, clothing, and drink bottles.

We hope all of our families have a lovely half term break. 😊



Lost Property

Please remember to name all your children's uniform. We see a lot of lost property around the school, if it is not named we cannot reunite it with your child.

We store Lost property in the shed out the front, please take a look in there if you are missing any items.

Trim Trail - coming soon!

In the first two weeks of next term, we are having a new 'trim trail' installed next to the KS2 playground. This will further enhance our already fantastic outdoor space – we are all very excited to see the final installation!



PE & Sports News

This term, children have been developing their Personal skills through our Real PE programme. This focuses on perseverance, resilience, self-awareness and challenging ourselves. Children have been learning to set goals, stay motivated, keep trying when things get tricky and reflect on their progress.

Sandown has proudly hosted three football tournaments for Years 3–6, bringing together 31 teams from eight local primary schools across our cluster. It has been fantastic to see such enthusiasm, teamwork and sportsmanship!

Sandown enjoyed huge success, with our girls finishing 3rd and our boys achieving 1st and 3rd place. A special congratulations goes to both our Year 3–4 A and B teams, who were crowned overall winners! We are incredibly proud of all 54 pupils who represented Sandown and look forward to seeing these future stars shine.

Next term promises to be busy, with lots of children expected to take part in cross-country. We will also explore our next Real PE cog: **Social skills**, focusing on teamwork, communication, collaboration and supporting others.

As colder weather approaches, please ensure children come prepared for both indoor and outdoor PE lessons. PE hoodies, extra layers, vests, hats and gloves will help everyone stay warm, comfortable and ready to participate.

Thank you for your continued support!

Friends Of Sandown

What a fantastic first term we've had at Friends of Sandown (FOS)! It's been a wonderful start to the school year, and we're delighted to welcome some new faces to our team!

Meet the FOS Team for 2026/27: Co-chairs - Kelly Corder, Leeann Lee & Natalie Pengilly

Treasurer: Lucy Rohrer, Social Media: Jessica Mapson, Health & Safety: Tash McGregor, Secretary: Jo Bellil

A huge THANK YOU to all the parents and carers who have supported us by purchasing Halloween Disco tickets! We hope all the children had a spooktacular time. 😊

Coming Next Term... Christmas Is on Its Way!



8th, 9th & 10th December – Wrap a Gift! Our popular Wrap a Gift event will be returning, giving the children the opportunity to choose and wrap a special present for someone they love. More details to follow!

15th December – Santa Is Coming to Sandown! **Ho, ho, ho!** We've heard a very special visitor will be making his way to Sandown! 🦌 🎅

Want to Get Involved? We're always happy to welcome new members to Friends of Sandown! Whether you'd like to help at events, share ideas or become part of our team, we'd love to hear from you: kellycorder.fos@gmail.com

Thank you again to all our wonderful Sandown families for your continued support.