



SANDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Issue 19

Sept 2014

School Dinners

Please note that the cost of a school lunch has increased to £2.02 as from September.

All children in KS1 are now entitled to a **Free** school lunch.

If you are entitled to claim free school meals please do. We can help you with this just ask at the office as the school receives a lot of funding which will help your child.

Scooters

We are delighted so many pupils are keeping fit and active by riding their scooters to school. But as the paths and playgrounds are very congested we must insist that no scooters are ridden on the school site. Thank you for your co-operation.

Diary

1st–3rd October 2014 Yr6 PGL

3rd October 2014 –Mufti Day (50p)
Xtrax Mayors Challenge

24th October 2014 –End of Term 1

3rd November 2014 –Inset day

4th November 2014 –Start of Term 2

19th December 2014 –End of Term 2

All calendar dates can be found via our [website](#)

School Uniform

One of our school vision statements is 'Pride in All We Do'. We have a clear uniform policy that you can see on the school website.

Many parents have been upset that their children have misplaced or lost their uniform and rightly so. Please check uniform regularly if does not have your child's name please return it to correct owner. Cutting out tags and replacing names is stealing!

Mrs Dowler has kindly volunteered to sort out lost property at the end of each day which is now in my room. She may need some more volunteers to help her please.

'The Best That We Can Be.'



Welcome to a new year at Sandown. The children have settled in well and are already focused on improving their handwriting.

We had an HMI Ofsted monitoring visit on the first Wednesday back! This was an extremely positive visit and I will be sending everyone the outcome letter in the next week. We have made effective progress and are now well on our way to becoming an officially GOOD school. There was even mention that behaviour was moving towards becoming outstanding. I am so proud of the whole school community. The year 2 and 4 classrooms have been renovated and look fantastic.



Mr Fraser's Elite Athletes

Mufti Day

We will be having a **Mufti** day on **Friday 3rd October** in aid of the annual Mayor's Challenge. The Mayor and his friend Mufti the Monkey will be visiting all the primary schools in the area to raise money for the Xtrax young peoples charity. We are asking for a 50p donation per child.

Attendance

Our attendance target is 97%. This year we finished at 95.9%. Please help us to meet this target by not taking holidays during term time and where possible booking routine dental/optician appointments after school. I am sorry we will not be authorising holidays next year.

We will also be monitoring punctuality this year. Please ensure your child arrives to school between 8.30 –8.45 am.

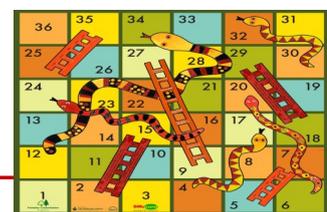
You can now be fined for both attendance and punctuality.

Contact details

Please ensure that we have your up to date contact details. If you have moved or changed your telephone number over the summer holidays please call into the office and let us know.

Playtimes

Mrs Harley is looking to improve playtimes for the children this term by creating different zones. Our first zone will be a quiet/games zone. We have already ordered new picnic tables and are asking if you can donate any board games which can be used in this zone.



Learning Spotlight

The Government have introduced a new curriculum beginning this academic year. As a staff we have taken the new curriculum and used it as an opportunity to reinvigorate topics and lessons around the school. The new curriculum also places a much greater emphasis on spelling and presentation which we have taken on as our learning focus for this term.

To continue improve presentation, children are being asked to use a new handwriting scheme and really work on forming their letters correctly. Please talk to your child about their handwriting and support them to present home learning tasks to a high standard.

To continue to improve spelling new sessions will be put in place to support children's progress. These will be daily and linked to phonics for Reception and Key Stage 1 classes, 4 times a week for years 3 and 4 and 3 times a week for years 5 and 6. Spelling lists will be sent home on Fridays linked to the work they have done in these sessions. Children who get all their spellings correct for a whole term will have their name on the 'Spelling Bee Champion' Display board, receive a certificate as well as be entered into a raffle to be awarded a trophy.