



# Sandford Hill Primary School

## Weekly Newsletter



Issue 17—Friday 16th January 2026

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### With Sympathy

It is with great sadness, we write

to share the news that our Office Finance Manager, Mrs Gaynor Mullin, passed away suddenly on Monday following a very short illness.

Gaynor has been a deeply valued and much-loved member of our Sandford Hill family for the past thirty-six years. For generations of pupils, parents, and staff, she was one of the first friendly faces you would meet and a constant presence you could always rely on. Her kindness, quiet compassion, and genuine care for everyone she encountered left a lasting impression on all who knew her.

Over more than three decades of devoted service, Gaynor became far more than our Office Finance Manager. She was a source of care, wisdom and reassurance in the busy daily life of the school, always willing to listen, to help, and to go above and beyond for others. Her dedication and unfailing commitment helped hold our school together, and she truly was a pillar of the Sandford Hill community. The warmth she brought to her role and the relationships she built so naturally mean that her absence is felt deeply across our entire school family.

During this incredibly difficult time, our thoughts, prayers, and heartfelt sympathies are with Gaynor's family and friends. She will be remembered with great affection, gratitude, and respect by us all.

We are going to create a book of condolence for Gaynor's family. If you would like to share a message, a memory, or a few words, you are very welcome to do so by completing the form below, emailing [parent@sandfordhill.org.uk](mailto:parent@sandfordhill.org.uk) or by dropping a written message into the school office. [Book of Condolence – Fill out form](#)



### Young Voices



Today, our Choir have travelled to Birmingham to take part in the Young Voices concert this evening. We're sure they will all have an incredible time! Keep an eye out for photos on our social media channels. A huge thank you to the wonderful staff who have volunteered to take them.

### Arbor

Over the next few months, we will be moving to a new system called Arbor, which will eventually replace ParentMail. During this period, we will be carefully transitioning to the new system, and we would like to reassure you that ParentMail will continue to be in use throughout the transition. We will provide clear updates and guidance to ensure everything runs smoothly until the changeover is fully complete.

### The 5 Ways to Wellbeing

We hope you enjoyed connecting with friends and family last week as part as our focus on the 5 ways to wellbeing. Next week the focus will be 'Be Active'.

On the following link, Joe Wicks explains why physical exercise is good for our mental health <https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/articles/z4vhrmn#zj8gqyc>

Here's a few ideas how we can be more active: **Going for a bike ride, Playing on a scooter, Skipping games, A family walk, Running around the garden, Doing some exercise at home—squats, lunges, press ups or running on the spot, Going to the park.** We would love to hear how you have been active, so please encourage your children to share with their class teacher and feel free to send in any photographs.

### Weekly Phonics—Visit the phonics page on our website

Nursery	Reception
Learning the rhyme "I'm a little teapot" and have been tuning in to environmental sounds.	Learning the 'j', 'v' and 'w' phonemes such as jet, van and win.
Year 1	Year 2
Learning to read and write words with the 'ch' sound like chef, Christmas and school	Learning the hard and soft 'g' and 'c' sounds e.g. giant, city and notice.

### Notices

- Clubs**— Our extra-curricular clubs will be starting next week. Pupils who have signed up for a club should have brought home a club record with the details. Please check this carefully and ensure your child attends their chosen club each week.



**"Great things happen to those who attend."**

This week, our school attendance is 95.7%

Our school attendance target is 96.0%.

All applications for leave of absence must be completed at least 4 weeks in advance.

Weekly Attendance Winner



Well done to **Teddy** for his hard work at his gymnastics club! Amazing Teddy!



Lily was proud to share her level 4 swimming certificate with the class this week. Excellent work!



We're all very proud of **Willow**, who has recently been awarded this certificate for her achievements with gymnastics. Great job Willow.



Congratulations to **Harrison** who has achieved his 400m award at swimming. Well done Harrison!



Congratulations to **Chavindu** in Year 6 who has become a word millionaire. Well done Chavindu!



Congratulations to **Hugo** who has achieved his 400m award at swimming. Incredible Hugo!



Class	Attendance	Points	Total
F1/1	97.7%	5	5
F1/2	95.4%	1	1
<b>F1/3</b>	<b>100%</b>	9	9
F2/1	97.6%	4	4
F2/2	97.1%	3	3
Y1/G3	98.3%	7	7
Y1/G4	96.7%	2	2
<b>Y2/G1</b>	<b>100%</b>	9	9
Y2/G2	98.2%	6	6
Y3/F3	96.3%	2	2
Y3/F4	99.7%	8	8
Y4/RBL	97.3%	4	4
Y4/RBR	97.1%	3	3
Y5/FBL	99.3%	7	7
Y5/FBR	97.9%	5	5
Y6/F1	98.7%	6	6
Y6/F2	96.3%	2	2

Class	Thoughtfulness Award	Star Award (Postcard)	Reading Champion	Maths Champion	Curriculum Champion
N	Lukas H	Ashton W	Theodore R	Amber S	Gracie L-F
F2/1	Savannah S-J	Isabelle H	Rennie J	Abraham V	Amiyah-Mae M
F2/2	Georgia-Neve H	Finley B	Kai-Hudson C	Braela P	Tyler L
Y1/G3	Stanley B	Leighton B-H	Liam-Junior B-J	Gracieleigh D	Lennie-Michael O
Y1/G4	Deondrei P	Willow O	Mohammed A	Ella-Grace W	Poppy-Rose B
Y2/G1	Freya M	Amelia-Rose S	George H	Reggie B	Ollie S
Y2/G2	Lyla-Rose B	Devansh M	Mylo B	Freddie B-W	Isla B
Y3/F3	Delilah M-J	Calla-Jane F	Kaxson R	Lily M	Evie-Leigh E
Y3/F4	Noor A	Kacy-Kristen B	Hugo C	Lyla T	Harrison W
Y4/RBL	Quinn-Rose B	Joseph C	Archie D	Lucas W	Emily L
Y4/RBR	Archie H	Briar B	Emily-Rose F	Pyper J	Nevaeh S
Y5/FBL	Benjamin B	Sinmiloluwa K	Kakra B	William L	Charlotte W
Y5/FBR	Travis M	Jessica R	Gabriela P	Josiah D	Roxanna W
Y6/F1	Cooper W	Sophie G	Keaton M	Mia G	Kaiden A
Y6/F2	Millie H	Chavindu B	Nina B	Darci-Jade C	Jaxon H

Meals are served drink and a range of desserts (biscuit/cake/fruit/crackers) are available daily.

# Menu

Jacket Potatoes/Filled Sandwiches available daily (Y1 to Year 6)

## Week Commencing 19th January 2026

Day	Nursery	Reception—Year 6
Mon	Spaghetti Bolognese with Crusty Bread	Spaghetti Bolognese with Crusty Bread
Tue	Chicken Korma with Rice and Naan	Chicken Korma with Rice and Naan
Wed	Cheesy Potato Bake with Waffles and Beans or Sweetcorn	Cheesy Potato Bake with Waffles and Beans or Sweetcorn
Thu	Cod Bites with Chips and Pea or Beans	Cod Bites with Chips and Pea or Beans
Fri	Crispy Chicken Wrap with Twisty Fries and Beans or Salad	Crispy Chicken Wrap with Twisty Fries and Beans or Salad

## Week Commencing 26th January 2026

Day	Nursery	Reception—Year 6
Mon	Meat and Potato Pie with Mash and Country Veg	Meat and Potato Pie or Sausage with Mash and Country Veg
Tue	Chicken Nuggets with Potato Puffs and Carrot Batons or beans	Chicken Nuggets with Potato Puffs and Carrot Batons or beans
Wed	Cheesy Baguette with Hash Browns and Beans or Sweetcorn	Cheesy Baguette with Hash Browns and Beans or Sweetcorn
Thu	Chicken with Sweet and Sour Sauce with Chips, Noodle and Green Beans	Chicken with Sweet and Sour Sauce with Chips, Noodle and Green Beans
Fri	Cheese Whirl with Twisty Fries and Beans or Sweetcorn	Cheese Whirl or Mac 'N' Cheese with Twisty Fries and Beans or Sweetcorn

## Week Commencing 2nd February 2026

Day	Nursery	Reception—Year 6
Mon	Southern Fried Chicken Goujons with Pommes and Corn on the Cob or Beans	Southern Fried Chicken Goujons with Pommes and Corn on the Cob or Beans
Tue	Roast Chicken Dinner	Roast chicken or Cottage Pie with Yorkie Puds
Wed	Spaghetti Parmigiana with Garlic Bread	Spaghetti Parmigiana with Garlic Bread
Thu	Chicken Balls with Curry Sauce, Rice and Green Beans or Sweetcorn	Chicken Balls with Curry Sauce, Rice and Green Beans or Sweetcorn
Fri	Battered Fish and Chips with Peas or Beans	Battered Fish and Chips with Peas or Beans

All dietary requirements will be catered for. We will endeavour to offer all pupils their first choice but if they do not like the options or an item runs out, jacket potatoes and sandwiches will be offered as an alternative.

## JANUARY '26

**19/01** — Halle Orchestra to visit  
— Nursery  
— Y6 Maths Workshop 3:30pm

**20/01** — Y5 trip to Jodrell Bank

**22/01** — Mr Frost's Class Assembly  
at 9:10am

## JANUARY '26

**27/01** — F1/1 to Peak Wildlife Park

**28/01** — Y3/F3 Gladstone Pottery Mus  
— F1/3 to Peak Wildlife Park

**29/01** — Y3/F4 Gladstone Pottery Mus.  
— Mrs Johnson's Class Assembly  
at 9:10am  
— F1/2 to Peak Wildlife Park

## FEBRUARY '26

**03/02** — Y4/RBR River Dane Trip

**05/02** — Y4/RBL River Dane Trip  
— Mrs Smith's Class Assembly 9:10am

**13/02** — Staff Inset Day

**W/C 16/02** — February Half Term

**27/02** — Swimming starts for Y3 & Y6

## MARCH '26

**05/03** — Y6 SATs Information Evening  
— Miss Gerrard's Class Assembly  
at 9:10am

**09/03** — Y4 Recorder Festival

**11/03** — Nursery and Y6 Group Photos

**24 & 26/03** — Open Evening