



Sandford Hill Primary School

Weekly Newsletter



Issue 2 - Friday 11th September 2026

Tel: 01782 235781

Email: parent@sandfordhill.org.uk

Parent Transition

Next Thursday, 17th September, we will be holding our first transition event of the academic year. The session will begin at 9:10 a.m., once all pupils have been registered, and will finish at 10:00 a.m. As a reminder, we have included below details of where each classroom is located to help you find your way on the morning. We look forward to welcoming you all!

Year	Teacher	Classroom
R1	Miss Hodgson	Classroom Codes G = ground floor; F = first floor. Numbers start from the first classroom nearest the front of the school along the corridor to the back of the school. FB and RB = blocks at the front and rear of the school; L/R = Left or Right classroom as you walk through the main door.
R2	Mrs Poole	
Y1/G3	Mrs Smith	
Y1/G4	Mrs Johnson	
Y2/G1	Miss Humphries	
Y2/G2	Miss Lockett	
Y3/F3	Mr Farr	
Y3/F4	Miss Gerrard	
Y4/RBL	Mr Frost	
Y4/RBR	Mrs Frost	
Y5/FBL	Mr Alcock	
Y5/FBR	Mrs Carney	
Y6/F1	Mrs Hassall	
Y6/F2	Miss Gregory	

Notices

- **Clubs** - Clubs for the Autumn term will start next week please see the club description for the dates your child will need to attend. There will be no clubs the W/C 19th October and the W/C 2nd November.

Reading Champions

We are delighted to announce that the following children have been chosen as our Reading Champions for this academic year.



Elliot L, Theo T, Lottie N, Panyin B, Mathew W, Layla C, Freya H, Isabella K, Jessica R, Lola-Mae F, Henry F, Megan W, Lacie-Mae H, Faith A and Gabriela P. Our Reading Champions will play an important role in promoting and celebrating reading across the school, encouraging others to discover the joy of books and reading. We are sure they will be fantastic ambassadors and will do a brilliant job.

Macmillan Coffee Morning

On Friday 25th September, we will be hosting a coffee morning for parents and carers at school from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. in support of Macmillan Cancer Support. There will be plenty of tea, coffee and, of course, lots of delicious cakes! We were absolutely overwhelmed by the fantastic turnout last year and would love to welcome you again this year.

Admissions

Below are the key dates for admissions this year:

Nursery—Applications open on Tuesday 1st December and close on Friday 26th February.

Reception—Applications open on Monday 2nd November and close on Friday 15th January 2027.

Secondary—Applications are now open and will close on Friday 31st October 2026

PE Days

Reception—Monday

Y1—Tuesday and Friday

Y2—Tuesday and Friday

Y3—Tuesday and Wednesday

Y4—Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (Optional uniform or PE Kit for swimming)
Kit Optional)

Y5—Monday, Wednesday and Friday (Optional uniform or PE Kit for swimming)

Y6—Tuesday and Wednesday



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

This week, our school attendance is **95.7%**

Our school attendance target is 96%

Attendance

Good attendance is essential for pupils to make the most of their learning and reach their full potential. At Sandford Hill Primary School, our school attendance target is 96%. We kindly ask parents to report absences as early as possible via the Arbor app and, where applicable, provide medical evidence for any appointments or absences during school hours. Please be aware that 10 unauthorised sessions (equivalent to 5 full school days) within a 10-week period will result in a referral to Education Welfare, and a penalty notice may be issued. Unauthorised absences include holidays taken during term time, lateness after 9:20am, and absences where medical evidence has not been provided or where overall attendance is already low.

If you would like to discuss how we can work together to improve your child's attendance, please contact the school office who will put you through to a member of the attendance team. Thank you for your continued support in promoting excellent attendance.

This weeks attendance winner are:



N4 with 100%



Class	Attendance	Points	Total
N1	73.77%	1	1
N2	78.00%	2	2
N3	91.43%	3	3
N4	100.00%	10	10
R1	99.61%	9	9
R2	98.11%	7	7
Y1/G3	94.62%	4	4
Y1/G4	97.31%	6	6
Y2/G1	98.26%	8	8
Y2/G2	95.77%	5	5
Y3/F3	96.00%	4	4
Y3/F4	97.14%	6	6
Y4/RBL	95.71%	3	3
Y4/RBR	96.67%	5	5
Y5/FBL	95.00%	2	2
Y5/FBR	92.14%	1	1
Y6/F1	97.33%	7	7
Y6/F2	98.62%	8	8



Harvest appeal

Harvert Appeal

Stoke-on-Trent Foodbank has shared its Harvest Appeal, and we would like to support this important cause. Please see the shopping list to the left for items that are currently needed. Any donations, no matter how big or small, would be greatly appreciated and will help support local families and individuals in need. Please send donations to your child's classroom by Tuesday 6th October. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Shopping list

Tinned meat/fish
Tinned veg/fruit
Cooking sauces
Coffee
Milk (UHT or powdered)
Cereals
Fruit juice (long-life)
Tinned pudding
Jam
Instant mashed potato

Fluenz

The School Age Immunisation Team will be visiting the school again on **Monday 5th October** to deliver nasal flu vaccinations to pupils in **Reception through to Year 6**. You will receive communication from The School Age Immunisation Team soon regarding how to give consent, explain what the vaccine is for. Please contact the Immunisation Team if you have any further questions.

PARENTAL SESSIONS & ASSEMBLY DATES

Parental sessions will start at 9:10am and end at 10:00am

Transition Morning - 17/09

Fabulous Females - 11/03

Marvellous Males - 17/06

Class Assemblies

Doors will open at 9:00am and will begin at approximately 9:10am

Miss Hodgson - 29/04

Mrs Poole - 20/05

Mrs Johnson - 28/01

Mrs Smith - 04/02

Miss Humphries - 22/04

Miss Lockett - 08/10

Mr Farr - 18/03

Miss Gerrard - 04/03

Mr Frost - 21/01

Mrs Frost - 14/01

Mr Alcock - 13/10 (St Marys and Chad Church)

Mrs Carney - 11/02

Mrs Hassall - 15/10

Miss Gregory - 15/10

Christmas Assemblies

Doors will open at 9:00am and will begin at approximately 9:10am

Miss Hodgson, N1 (Strawberry Group) and N2 (Pear Group) - 07/12

Mrs Poole, N3 (Orange Group) and N4 (Apple Group) - 08/12

Year 1 - 09/12

Year 2 - 10/12

Year 3 - 11/12

Year 4 - 15/12

Year 5 - 16/12

Year 6 - 17/12

SEPT '26

16/09 - Stanley Head Meeting (5:00pm)

17/09 - Parent Transition Morning (9:10am - 10:00am)

25/09 - Macmillan Coffee Morning (9:00-10:00am)

25/09 - Swimming Starts (Y4&5)

28/09 to 02/10 - Y6 Visit To Stanley Head

OCT '26

05/10 - Nasal Flu Vaccination

19TH & 21ST - Parents Evening

22/10 - Individual/Family Photos

23/10 - Pupils Last Day

24/10 - Staff Inset Day

W/C 24/10 - October Half Term

31/10 - Secondary School Applications Deadline

NOV '26

02/11 - Pupils Return To School

02/11 - Applications for Reception Open



We are an Operation Encompass School

For further information, please come and see us.



STAFFORDSHIRE
POLICE

Operation Encompass is a national scheme that operates jointly between schools and all police forces.

“ Children who live in homes where there is domestic abuse, or who experience domestic abuse in their own teenage relationships, can be negatively impacted by this experience. ”

“ We have ensured that a member of our staff, (Designated Safeguarding Lead) known as a Key Adult, has been trained about Operation Encompass procedures. This allows us to use the information that has been confidentially shared with us by the police, to understand how a child may be impacted by domestic abuse and to then offer support to the child/ren in our care. ”

“ This information means that we can understand a child's behaviour and support that child in whatever way they may need or want. ”

“ Children who experience domestic abuse are recognised as victims of domestic abuse in their own right¹. ”

“ Operation Encompass means that our school will be told, prior to the start of the next school day, when police have attended an incident of domestic abuse where there is a child or young person who attends our school who is related to any of those involved in the incident. ”

“ We are keen to offer the very best support possible to all our pupils and we believe that being part of Operation Encompass helps us to do this. ”

¹ Domestic Abuse Act 2021

Sandford Hill Primary School is nut free. Please do not send pupils into school with any type of nuts for their breaktime snack or in their lunchbox.

Safe from choking

A child who's choking can't breathe, so there's no sound to alert you.

As scary as this sounds, you can stop this happening. It takes some simple steps.

Why do children choke?

- ✋ Children can choke at any age. Young children are at greater risk.
- ✋ Their narrow airways are more easily blocked.
- ✋ Anything smaller than a 2p can choke them.



Instead of this...do this



Instead of this...do this



Food

- ✋ Choking on food isn't just about young children not chewing properly. It takes time to learn to breathe, chew and swallow in harmony.
- ✋ Until then, they need you to cut up or avoid anything that could block their airway. And to teach them to sit still to eat.

Size and shape matter

- ✋ Cut lengthways and quarters – grapes, blueberries, strawberries, cherries and small tomatoes.
- ✋ Remove skin, pips or stones from fruits or vegetables.
- ✋ Cut thin strips – sausages, cheese, vegetables and large fruit like melon, apple, carrot, cucumber and mango.
- ✋ Steam, mash or grate foods to soften them – carrots, chickpeas, butter beans.
- ✋ Cut strips and remove bones, skin or fat – meat and fish.
- ✋ Toast bread – to stop doughy balls. Cut all bread into narrow strips.

Save for later

- ✋ Round hard sweets, including mini eggs and lollipops
- ✋ Whole grapes and nuts
- ✋ Globes of peanut butter
- ✋ Popcorn
- ✋ Marshmallows
- ✋ Jelly cubes



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 14th Sept 2026

	Nursery	Reception – Year 6
Mon	Spaghetti Bolognese with Crusty Bread	Spaghetti Bolognese with Crusty Bread
Tue	Chicken Korma with Rice and Naan Bread	Chicken Korma with Rice and Naan Bread
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 Peas or Beans	Cod Bites with Chips and Peas 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 21st Sept 2026

	Nursery – Reception	Year 1 – Year 6
Mon	Meat & Potato Pie with Mash and Country Veg	Meat & 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 Black Bean Sauce with Chips, Noodles and Green Beans	Chicken with Black Bean Sauce with Chips, Noodles 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 28th Sept 2026

	Nursery	Reception – Year 6
Mon	Chicken Nuggets with Pommes and Corn on the Cob or Beans	Chicken Nuggets 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. Please use this menu as a guide. There may have to be changes prior to/in the week depending upon product availability.

Allergen information available upon request.