

Sandy Lane News!

April 2022



Resilience, Excellence, Self-awareness , Passion, Empathy, Communication, Teamwork

School Fundraising

Yet again the children and our families have done an amazing job in raising money for Comic Relief with a grant total of £373.18 going to this very worthy charity!!



A message from Mrs Newsome

Dear Families,

I hope you are all well and have been able to enjoy the early spring weather last week, as I write this it is now snowing outside!! Only in England could we have such crazy weather. With only one week to go until the Easter holiday I hope the sun will return again and you and your children can enjoy the break.

This half term has proved to be a very difficult one with some of the highest rates of school absence we have ever seen, I know that after COVID we have all maybe come more susceptible to catching colds and other mild illnesses. Please can I ask parents to send their children to school wherever possible, as you will all be aware they have already missed so much in the last 2 year, everyday really does count more than ever and if they are not here they are missing out on crucial learning. We will be holding an emergency parent meeting to discuss the importance of good attendance and effects not being in school and being late to school can have on their ability to do well in their older years.

I know that many of our families will be starting to think about the start of Ramadan which begins this year on Saturday 2nd April. We will be celebrating Eid-ul-Fitr with the children once we return back to school on after the Spring Bank holiday on Wednesday 4th May, please look out for more information from your child's class teacher.

Sandy Lane Nursery

We are very excited to be opening the door to our new school nursery on Monday 25th April., we are hoping that we will be able to invite parents and their children who will be attending in for a sneaky peek next week. The school are also very excited by the plans for the development of the Foundation Stage over the summer holidays and I look forward to sharing these with you next half term.

Diary Dates

- Class assembly dates - **Larch Class** - Tuesday 15th March
- Entertainments Evening - Tuesday 5th April
- Pupil Reports go out - Friday 8th April
- School Closes—Friday 8th April
- School Opens—Monday 25th April
- New Nursery Opens—Monday 25th April
- Other class assemblies
- Trips etc

Crossing Patrol

Bradford council are looking to recruit a new crossing patrol person, which is great news for the school. They have asked us to send out the contact number for anyone who may be interested in the role.

Please contact Sue Heaton on 01274 439458 if this is something you would be interested in. Thank you

Holidays

School works under the guidance of the government when looking at holiday requests. We are not allowed to authorise any holidays in school time. Since September alone we have fined 16 families. Please do not book to go away in term time, the children have 13 weeks holiday a year and all family holidays need to be taken during this times.

Healthy Lunch

Please send you child to school with a healthy lunch and snack. This may be a cheese sandwich, fruit, yoghurt and small biscuit. They should not be sent with sweets, chocolate, chicken nuggets, chips, burgers etc. Lunch staff will be sending letters home to parents if they feel the lunches are not a healthy option.



Attendance

The schools attendance level is at 92.5% this is well below the national expectation of 96%. Children must not be kept off school for minor illnesses.

Missing a few days of school here and there may not seem a big deal, but research shows that it can have a significant impact on children's learning.

Children who miss a substantial amount of school fall behind their peers, and struggle to catch up.

Most of the work they miss is never made up, which can lead to big gaps in their learning.

Poor attendance often starts at primary school, and children who fall into this pattern are likely to underachieve at secondary school. Pupils who miss between 10% and 20% of school (that's 19 to 38 days per year) stand only a 35% chance of achieving five or more good GCSEs, compared to 73% of those who miss fewer than 5% of school days.

Lateness

The school day starts at 8.55am, children must be in school by this time, the doors open at 8.45am to ensure children can be in school for the start of the day and ready to start their lessons.

Below you will find a article I found suggesting way the to improve lateness:

It may seem like 10 minutes isn't really that much, but for the typical school day of 6.5 hours, a student who is only 10 minutes late every day will miss **30 hours** of school time that year. If a child is 10 minutes late getting to school, it is more like 20 minutes until they are actually learning. The impact on the class as a whole is even larger. If two kids are late, one by 5 minutes and one by 10 minutes, then the class schedule might get pushed back. That means the teacher will need to alter something else during the day to account for time the class lost helping a late student catch up.

The occasional tardy is nearly inevitable. Things happen to all of us. Coffee spills and shoes get lost. Conversations need to happen. There are a million things that can cause people to run behind. Ideally our daily routines would include time to account for mishaps to minimize tardiness. If you are finding that your child is late one or more times per week, though, you may need to change your routine to ensure a successful start to your day. Here are a few suggestions that may help.

- 1) Pack bags/lunchboxes the night before.** The last thing you want to be doing as you are rushing out the door is trying to find lost homework. Make sure everyone's bags are ready to go and prepare home lunches as much as you can. Also fill their water bottles ahead of time and store in the refrigerator.
- 2) Lay clothes out.** Seems too simple to make a difference, but hunting down matching socks or pants without holes in the knees is quite the time consumer. Not only that, but you won't have to worry that you didn't notice your child was wearing shorts in negative degree weather until after you arrived at school.
- 3) Set up a "last stop" area.** Pick any available area near the door you typically leave through and put everything there for the day: bags, phones, homework, and especially coats and shoes. There are no last-minute distractions this way.
- 4) Play a family favourite music list.** Music can get people moving and can even turn a mood around. Pick upbeat songs that everyone enjoys. Play the same set each day so that everyone starts to recognise the cues and where they should be. For example, when the second song ends, breakfast is over. The third song ending means teeth should be brushed, and when the last song starts, they should be heading to get their coats and backpacks on.
- 5) If all else fails, wake up earlier.** Not the most enjoyable solution, but sometimes drastic measures are needed.

Meet the Governors

Sue Duffy – Chair of Governors

I am a mother of 4 and grandmother of 6. I came to work and live in Bradford 19 years ago. I am educated to degree level and hold a number of professional qualifications including Youth and Community Work and Assessment / Moderation.

For most of my working life, 40 years, I have been involved in the informal education of children, young people and communities in the voluntary and statutory sectors. This work has involved me in all aspects of the strategic and operational management and development of services. I also have extensive experience of working with very diverse communities involving them in the design and delivery of services.

I retired from full-time Youth and Community work in 2014 and was looking for another way of engaging my passions of providing learning opportunities that enable individuals to meet their full potential and increasing their voice and influence. I was delighted to be asked if I would consider joining the governing body of Sandy Lane Primary School as being a school governor would allow me to utilise my skills and experience for the benefit of the school, the children and their parents.

I am currently acting as the external moderator for the Professional Practice elements of Bradford Colleges Youth and Community work degree and as an Elected Member for Thornton, Allerton and Sandy Lane.

In 2016 I became the Chair of Governors and have since had the privilege of working with our governing body, Executive Head Teacher, Senior Leadership team and all staff members who contribute to our school, with the aspiration of becoming an outstanding school.

Jacky Payne—Vice Chair

My husband and I have just moved into the area. I was born in Yorkshire and my two sons and first grandchild live in Leeds. I have been involved in schools all my working life as a teacher, advisory teacher and head teacher. My last post was as head teacher of a primary school in Warwickshire. I loved my job not only in the classroom and when sharing my skills to develop other teachers but also when working with parents and the local community.

I retired in 2008 then worked as a volunteer in Ethiopia in their Ministry of Education for one year.

I have enjoyed a full and active retirement, travelling, cooking, gardening and dabbling in creative hobbies such as sewing, needlepoint and photography.

I was pleased to be invited to be a governor at Sandy Lane. In some small measure I would like to be able to use my experience and skills to support the school. I hope I can contribute to helping the school provide the best possible education for all its pupils

