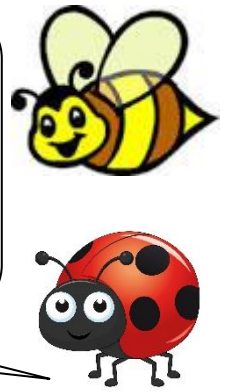


Dear Ladybirds and Bumblebees,

We hope you enjoyed your first two days at school! We are very busy thinking of lots of fun home-learning challenges to set you this year. You will find your first challenge here next week.

Have a great weekend!

Love Buzz and Lottie



Week beginning 4th September 2023

Dear Parents/carers,

Firstly, we would like to welcome you all to Sandgate Primary School. It was wonderful to meet you all properly this week; thank you for your hospitality during the home visits. The children have had a fantastic first two days at school and we have been blown away by their enthusiasm and ability to get stuck straight in! They seem to have thoroughly enjoyed exploring their new learning environments and the activities available to them, which have been based on the story we are currently learning: 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'.

You will have found a home-school diary and a reading book in your child's bookbag this week. At this stage, the books will have very few or no words. This is because we would like the children to tell their own stories using the pictures. Please read with your child as often as possible and note this in the home school diary. Please include any comments about how they got on with the book and when they have completed the book so that we know when to change it. This will be supplemented by us reading with your child at school. We will change the children's books as often as needed. The home-school diary and reading book should come into school in the book bag each day and we will ensure they are sent home again each evening.

From next week, you will also find a pack containing the sounds and rainbow word(s) we have been learning at school. These are for you to use at home, to practise quick recall with your child. This only needs to be for a few minutes each day and can be done as a game. Please don't worry if you are unsure of the sounds and how we teach phonics as we have our parent phonics workshop coming up on **Wednesday 27th September at 5:30pm** when will provide you with all the information you need.

Just a few things to make you aware of:

- The school will text parents to inform them if their child has had any type of **bump to the head**. This is purely to keep parents informed. If the injury is of a serious nature we will telephone you immediately. The text will be a standard message: "Your child has bumped their head today. Appropriate first aid has been administered". They will also bring home a first aid slip which gives further details.
- Birthdays are a special time that the children should enjoy with their friends and classmates. In previous years children were often bringing in sweets or cakes to share and, while this is a very generous thought, we do promote healthy eating in school. It is important that children still have the opportunity to celebrate their birthday in school, so we now ask that instead of sweets and cakes (which will no longer be handed out) children can donate a **book** to the class. The school will provide a presentation name plate for the inside cover and the book will be shared with the class. This is a lovely, lasting reminder for the children of their birthdays.
- Please send your child in with water bottle each day (containing only water, not juice or squash).
- In Foundation, we ask that the children do not bring in toys from home as we wouldn't like them to get lost amongst the resources we have here. We are always happy for children to bring in a book to share at story time if they wish though.
- Please make sure everything is named, including shoes, tights and socks.
- Play equipment – Please note that the play equipment in our Foundation playground is only to be used by the children during the school day, rather than used at the end of the day. Thank you in advance for your support with this.
- We are a **nut free** school, so any items in packed lunches should **not contain any form of nuts**.

We look forward to seeing all of the children on Monday morning when they will stay at school for lunch. Please collect your child at 12.45pm. This is the same on Tuesday and Wednesday. Children will then start full time on Thursday from 8.30am-3.10pm.

Have a lovely weekend and should you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask either by writing in your child's home-school diary, speaking to us at the end of the day or calling the school office.

The Foundation Team