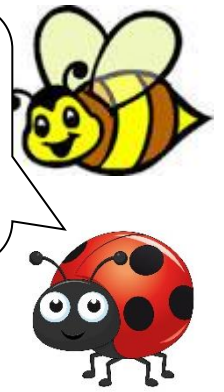


Dear Ladybirds and Bumblebees,

We hope you enjoyed your first few 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 2nd September 2024

Dear Parents/carers,

Firstly, we would like to welcome you all to Sandgate Primary School. The children have had a fantastic first few 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'.

At the end of the week, you will have found a home-school diary and a 'sharing' reading book in your child's bookbag. The sharing books will then be sent home on a Monday and are for you to enjoy reading with your child for the week. They will then be changed the following Monday. Next week, the children will begin to learn new sounds in Phonics. You will then find sound specific books will be sent home as well to support your child to recognise the sounds and begin to learn to blend. Please read with your child as often as possible and note this in the home school diary, including any comments about how they got on with the book. Initially, we will be changing their reading book three times a week. 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. The diary can also be used to inform us of anything that is going on with your child. For example, a different adult collecting for a play date, a bad night's sleep or a dentist appointment.

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 **Monday 23rd September at 5.30pm** which will provide you with all the information you need.



You will have also received a letter this week about Marvellous Me, an online communication between school and home. Once you have signed up to the APP you will be able to access information about activities your child has been involved in at school and rewards they have earned. We hope this will be a valuable tool for both you and your child and an opportunity to discuss and celebrate their achievements at school.

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. 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).
- At home time, the children can sometimes find it hard to locate their book bag in their book. Attaching a key ring is a great way to help them with this!
- In Foundation, we ask that the children do not bring in toys from home as we wouldn't want 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**.

Dates for your diaries

Wednesday 11th September – 'Meet the Teacher' - 3.15- 3.45pm or 5.00-5.30pm

Monday 23rd September - Phonics workshop - 5.30pm

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